

A close-up photograph of the Texas Longhorns mascot, a brown and white stuffed longhorn wearing a yellow hat with an orange band and an orange jersey with "TEXAS" printed on it. The mascot's right hand is raised, showing its black-tipped hooves. The background is a blurred crowd of spectators.

# Texas Longhorns

 **beanstack originals**





# Texas Longhorns

Get the lowdown on the University of Texas at Austin's iconic longhorn steer.



Not all animal mascots need sharp teeth and claws to be intimidating. Texas is a big state, and the University of Texas at Austin picked a mascot to match: one ton of brawny beef, topped with 10 feet of sharp horns. His name is Bevo, and when he gets moving, nothing can stand in his way!

## Roaming the Wild West

Bevo is a Texas longhorn, a breed of cattle brought to the Americas by Spanish explorers more than 500 years ago. The longhorns were supposed to provide meat for Spanish settlers, but some of the animals escaped and ran wild. Centuries later, American ranchers found the great-great-grand-calves of those cattle grazing in the desert. The herds were able to survive on little food and water, even in extreme heat. No wonder the longhorn has a reputation for being tough!

### FUN FACT

**Bull-eve it! Some diehard Texas fans pay hundreds of dollars for a sleepover in Bevo's barn.**

Nobody knows for sure how Bevo got his name, but the most likely explanation is that he was named after "Beeve"—a term used for cattle that are fattened up for eating. Luckily for Bevo, his job as the UT mascot means

that he'll never become anyone's steak dinner. When he's not watching games, Bevo lives in comfort at the Sunrise Ranch.



## Texas Longhorns



A herd of Texas longhorns graze together in a grassy pasture.

### Hook ‘em Horns

He may look fierce, but Bevo is raised to be calm and gentle, even at noisy sports events. He loves to lie on his back and get belly rubs from his handlers. Before every game, he poses for photos with students and kids. Bevo almost never misbehaves—except in 2019, when he charged the University of Georgia Bulldog and chased the mascot down the field!

It’s hard to bring an 1,800-pound steer onto a crowded basketball court. At March Madness games, Bevo waits outside, and a costumed bull mascot named Hook ‘Em leads the Texas cheers. In the stands, fans show their love for the school with a hand gesture called “Hook ‘em Horns,” sticking out their pointer and pinky fingers to symbolize a longhorn’s impressive head.

Just like hardy cattle in the desert, the Texas Longhorns basketball teams are tough survivors in the NCAA Tournament, often making the Sweet Sixteen or better. The UT women won a national championship in 1986, led by Hall of Famer Clarissa Davis. The most famous men’s player from UT is NBA superstar Kevin Durant.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

**Longhorn horns never stop growing. The world record for the longest set of horns belongs to a steer named Poncho Via, whose horns are more than 11 feet across!**