**Tyler Perry: American actor, filmmaker and playwright**

**Tyler Perry** (born **Emmitt Perry Jr.**; September 13, 1969)[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tyler_Perry" \l "cite_note-BiographyCom-1) is an American actor, filmmaker,[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tyler_Perry#cite_note-2) and playwright. He is the creator and performer of [Mabel "Madea" Simmons](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Madea), a tough elderly woman, and also portrays her brother Joe Simmons and her nephew Brian Simmons.[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tyler_Perry#cite_note-google1-3)[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tyler_Perry#cite_note-4)[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tyler_Perry#cite_note-5) Perry's films vary in style from orthodox filmmaking techniques to filmed productions of live stage plays, many of which have been subsequently adapted into feature films. Madea's first appearance was in Perry's play [*I Can Do Bad All by Myself*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/I_Can_Do_Bad_All_by_Myself_(play)) (1999) staged in Chicago.

Perry wrote and produced many stage plays during the 1990s and early 2000s. His breakthrough performance came in 2005 with the film [*Diary of a Mad Black Woman*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diary_of_a_Mad_Black_Woman), which he wrote and produced as an adaptation of his [stage play of the same name](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diary_of_a_Mad_Black_Woman_(play)). He also developed numerous television series, most notably [*Tyler Perry's House of Payne*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tyler_Perry%27s_House_of_Payne), which ran for eight seasons on [TBS](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/TBS_(American_TV_channel)) from 2006 to 2012. In 2011, [*Forbes*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forbes) listed him as the highest-paid man in entertainment, earning $130 million between May 2010 and May 2011.[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tyler_Perry#cite_note-aitken1-6) In 2012, Perry struck an exclusive multi-year partnership with [Oprah Winfrey](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oprah_Winfrey) and her [Oprah Winfrey Network](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oprah_Winfrey_Network) (OWN). The deal featured scripted projects such as [*The Haves and the Have Nots*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Haves_and_the_Have_Nots_(TV_series)).[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tyler_Perry#cite_note-oprah-7) In 2019, he produced the political drama series [*The Oval*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Oval_(TV_series)) for [BET](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BET). (read more)

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