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# Rafael Nadal From El Nino To Supremo

Rafael Nadal the fiery Spaniard has held the tennis world in his thrall since 2001 when he became professional. This left handed player had earned well in excess of \$45 million in prize money. He continues to set new records with his brilliant and flamboyant playing style each time he walks onto the court.

An Olympic Gold medalist he has stamped his superiority on the French Open and has won it six times. Nadal won The Australian Open once, US Open once and Wimbledon twice. He's one of 2 players to have won all four Grand Slams and an Olympic Gold Gong.

This 25 year old tennis player is hailed as one of the greatest players ever. On clay he could be a phenomenon which has earned him the title of the best clay court player in history. His pro playing record is very galvanizing and when a person considers his fresh age he will be winning tournaments and setting records for many a year to come.

In every way he's an achiever. Rafael Nadal started his tennis career when an uncle introduced him to the game at the age of three. And as they say in the classics the rest is history. At the age of eight he won a regional contest in the under-12 championships and at 12 he took the Spanish and Western European tennis titles in his class.

In May 2001 he beat Pat Rastner a previous Grand Slam Champ in a clay court exhibition match and became professional in that year. When he was 17 he conquered Roger Federer for the very first time. Their clashes around the planet in Grand Slams, Davis Cup and other world famous ATP Contests have been titanic and nearly Olympian sometimes.

In 2003 he was awarded ATP's Newcomer of the Year Award and in 2005 at the age of 19 he played in the French Open for the first time and went on to win. This extraordinary accomplishment was to be followed with four uninterrupted wins at Roland Garros. From 2005 thru to 2011 he has dominated the professional tennis circuit around the world and his wins have included each major worldwide event.

Rafael [Nadal](#) brought a hint of his own with a trademark of biting a trophy when he won. Known as El Nino 'The Kid ' when he first arrived on the scene he has since proven and claimed the pet name of 'Supremo ' and long may he reign.

Matt Harmon has been an avid tennis player for 25 years. His passion is to highlight and follow the greatest tennis players of all time like [Rafael Nadal](#), also known as [Rafa](#).

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