



# KRAFTWERK



## Timeline

1970	1974	1975	1981	2009
Ralf and Florian meet and form electronic band <i>Kraftwerk</i>	The band reach number 5 in the U.S. charts with <i>Autobahn</i>	They begin performing as a four-piece	They reach number 1 in the U.K. charts with <i>The Model</i>	They perform at the velodrome in Manchester

## Key Songs

Ruckzuck	1970 - Kraftwerk's early songs used traditional instruments (flute, violin, organ and drums).
Autobahn	1975 - Made to have the feel of the motorway (autobahn in German).
Trans-Europe Express	1975 - A song with danceable machine rhythms.
The Robots	1978 - This song had a focus on technology and robots, even including simple robots performing live.
The Model	1981 - A song about the busy life of modelling.
Tour de France	2003 - Their song about a love of cycling.

## The Importance of Kraftwerk

### Electronic Music

They liked rock, punk and funk music but moved towards electronic music eventually. They were excited by technology and its links with art. They wanted their music to celebrate the modern world.

### Technology

Kraftwerk created their own electronic devices to use as instruments. They created a vocoder (changing the pitch and sounds of the voice). They also created their own drum machines.

## Key Events

### Cycling

They love cycling and recorded an album called 'Tour de France' which used bicycle gears, chains and a cyclist breathing in the music. They played the Manchester Velodrome in 2009 with G.B. cyclists circling the track during the show.

### 3D Shows

In 2017, They created a show where the everyone had to wear 3D glasses as the group played animations on a giant screen behind them.



## DID YOU KNOW?



The name Kraftwerk means 'Power Plant' in German.

