

Fastest Centuries in International Cricket Across Formats

Cricket has evolved dramatically over the years. While patience and technique once defined greatness, modern cricket celebrates aggression, innovation, and fearless stroke play. Nothing captures this transformation better than the fastest centuries in international cricket. Across Tests, ODIs, and T20Is, certain batters have rewritten record books by reaching three figures in breathtaking fashion. Let's take a detailed look at the **fastest centuries across formats** that continue to amaze fans worldwide.



Fastest Century in Test Cricket

Brendon McCullum – 54 Balls (New Zealand vs Australia, 2016)

Test cricket is traditionally known for endurance and long innings, making fast centuries extremely rare. However, **Brendon McCullum** shattered conventions in his final Test

match. Facing Australia in Christchurch, the former New Zealand captain smashed a sensational century off just **54 balls**, the fastest in Test history.

McCullum's innings was filled with audacious shots, fearless intent, and pure power, perfectly symbolising the changing mindset of Test cricket.

Why it stands out:

Scoring at such a pace in the longest format, against a world-class bowling attack, makes this record truly extraordinary.

Know More: [New Zealand Cricket Team Schedule and Fixtures](#)

Fastest Century in One Day Internationals (ODIs)

AB de Villiers – 31 Balls (South Africa vs West Indies, 2015)

When talking about batting genius, **AB de Villiers** is in a league of his own. In 2015, he stunned the cricketing world by scoring an ODI century in just **31 balls**, the fastest ever in the format.

Playing against West Indies, de Villiers unleashed a wide range of shots – scoops, pulls, reverse hits – leaving bowlers clueless. He eventually scored 149 runs, turning the match into a spectacle.

Why it stands out:

ODIs balance aggression with structure, making a 31-ball century almost unimaginable even in today's era.

Fastest Century in T20 Internationals

David Miller & Rohit Sharma – 35 Balls (Joint Record)

The shortest international format is built for explosive batting, yet scoring a century remains a major achievement. **David Miller** (South Africa) and **Rohit Sharma** (India) jointly hold the record for the fastest T20I century, both reaching the milestone in **35 balls**.

Miller's knock showcased raw power, while Rohit's innings was a blend of elegance and brutal hitting – proving there's more than one way to dominate T20 cricket.

Why it stands out:

Even in T20Is, bowlers usually have the upper hand – making a 35-ball hundred an elite feat.

Fastest Centuries by Indian Cricketers

Indian batters have also left a strong mark on this elite list:

- **Rohit Sharma** – Fastest T20I century (35 balls)
- **Virat Kohli** – Among the quickest ODI centuries for India
- **Yuvraj Singh** – Known for explosive batting that changed limited-overs cricket

India's growing dominance in white-ball formats is closely linked to this attacking mindset.

Fastest Centuries in World Cup History

Kevin O'Brien – 50 Balls (2011 World Cup)

One of the most iconic World Cup moments came when **Kevin O'Brien** smashed a 50-ball century against England in 2011. Chasing a massive target, Ireland pulled off one of the greatest upsets in World Cup history.

Why it stands out:

A fast century under World Cup pressure, against a top team, elevated this knock to legendary status.

What Makes These Records So Special?

Fast centuries are not just about power – they demand:

- Exceptional hand-eye coordination

- Fearless decision-making
- Deep understanding of bowlers
- Mental toughness under pressure

These innings often change the momentum of a match within minutes, making them unforgettable for fans.

To Know More About: [India Cricket Team Schedule](#)

Conclusion

From Brendon McCullum redefining Test cricket to AB de Villiers revolutionising ODI batting and T20 specialists pushing boundaries, the **fastest centuries in international cricket across formats** reflect the game's evolution. These records are milestones of modern cricket – showcasing how skill, courage, and innovation can turn matches on their head.

As formats continue to evolve and batters become even more aggressive, fans eagerly wait to see whether these astonishing records will ever be broken.