

# My idol.



**VIKTOR AXELSEN**

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# Biography.

Viktor Axelsen (born January 4, 1994), also known by his Chinese name An Sailong, is a Danish badminton player and the current men's singles world champion. He earned his first European crown in May 2016 beating compatriot and defending champion Jan Ø. Jørgensen with 21–11, 21–16 in the final. He was the 2010 World Junior Champion, beating Korea's Kang Ji-wook in the final to become the first ever European player to hold the title. In 2011, he lost the world junior title to Malaysia's Zulfadli Zulkiffli, coming in second place. In the 2017 BWF World Championships held in Glasgow, Scotland, he became the World Champion by beating Lin Dan in straight games.

# Career.

- Axelsen was born in Odense. In October 2010 he claimed his first international senior title at the age of just sixteen, winning the Cyprus International. A few weeks later he entered his first Super Series event in singles, the Denmark Open 2010; making it through the qualifying stages before losing out to compatriot and eventual winner Jan Ø. Jørgensen in the second round. He won the 2010 BWF World Junior Championships in Guadalajara, Mexico.



# 2011.



- Axelsen secured gold at the European Junior Championships, defeating teammate Rasmus Fladberg 21–8 17–21 21–13 in the final. He took a silver medal at the 2011 BWF World Junior Championships.

# 2014.

- Axelsen has won the Swiss Open Grand Prix Gold in early month of 2014 beating China's Tian Houwei in the final 21–7, 16–21, 25–23. Axelsen won a bronze medal at the 2014 BWF World Championships and also a bronze medal again at the 2014 European Badminton Championships.



# 2016.

- Axelsen earned his first European crown in May 2016 beating compatriot and defending champion Jan Ø. Jørgensen with 21–11, 21–16 in the final of the 25th edition of the European Championships, the first in France at La Roche sur Yon. Viktor Axelsen was also part of the historic Danish team winning the first ever Thomas Cup title in 2016. Axelsen won five of his six played singles matches in the team tournament, also against Indonesia's experienced player Tommy Sugiarto in the final (21–17, 21–18) setting up a dramatic and historic 3–2 victory for Denmark over Indonesia. In the 2016 Rio Olympics, Viktor won the bronze medal by beating Lin Dan from China 21–15, 12–21, 21–17. Misbun Sidek was his personal trainer 6 months before the Olympics in Rio.



# 2017.

- Axelsen won the World Championship in Glasgow in two sets against Lin Dan (22:20, 21:16) and became the third Danish Player to ever become a world champion (Peter Rasmussen 1997 in Glasgow & Flemming Delfs 1977 in Sweden). Axelsen, with a record of 4-3, is the only top twenty player to hold a winning record against Lin Dan, head-to-head.
- Axelsen followed up his victory in Glasgow by winning the finals of the Japan Open tournament in Tokyo over Lee Chong Wei of Malaysia in three sets on September 23, propelling him to the top of the BWF World Rankings.

Thanks for attention.

