

The **Chrysler Building** is an Art Deco skyscraper in New York City, located on the east side of Manhattan at the intersection of 42nd Street and Lexington Avenue. The Chrysler Building is the world's tallest brick building. The Chrysler Building is a classic example of Art Deco architecture and considered by many contemporary architects to be one of the finest buildings in New York City. In 2007, it was ranked ninth on the *List of America's Favorite Architecture* by the American Institute of Architects.

### **History**

The Chrysler Building was designed by architect William Van Alen to house the Chrysler Corporation. Despite a frantic pace (the building was erected at an average rate of four floors per week), no workers died during the construction of this skyscraper.

### **Design beginnings**

The height of the skyscraper was also originally designed to be 246 metres (807 ft). However, the design proved to be too advanced and costly for building contractor William H. Reynolds, who disapproved of Van Alen's original plan. The design and lease were then sold to Walter P. Chrysler, who worked with Van Alen and redesigned the skyscraper for additional stories; it was eventually revised to be 282 metres (925 ft) tall. As Walter Chrysler was the chairman of the Chrysler Automobile Corporation, various architectural details and especially the building's were modeled after Chrysler automobile products.

### **Construction**

Construction commenced on September 19, 1928. In total, almost 400,000 rivets were used and approximately 3,826,000 bricks were manually laid, to create the non-loadbearing walls of the skyscraper. Contractors, builder and engineers were joined by other building-services experts to coordinate construction. Construction was completed on May 28, 1930, Van Alen's satisfaction in these accomplishments was likely muted by Walter Chrysler's later refusal to pay the balance of his architectural fee. In less than a year after it opened to the public on May 27, 1931, the Chrysler Building was surpassed in height by the Empire State Building.

### **Architecture**

The building is constructed of masonry, with a steel frame, and metal cladding. In total, the building currently contains 3,862 windows on its facade and 4 banks of 8 elevators designed by the Otis Elevator Corporation. The building was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1976. The Chrysler Building is also well renowned and recognised for its terraced crown. The Chrysler Building's distinctive profile has inspired similar skyscrapers worldwide, including One Liberty Place in Philadelphia.

### **Cultural depictions**

As an iconic part of the New York City skyline, the Chrysler Building has been depicted countless times in almost every medium film, photography, video games, art, advertising, music, literature, and even fashion, as its use quickly establishes without doubt the location in which the depicted events are occurring.

**adapted from Wikipedia**

### **1. Read the text and answer the following questions :**

- 1. Name of the building :** .....
- 2. Location :** .....
- 3. Characteristic :** .....
- 4. Type of architecture :** .....
- 5. Name of the architect :** .....
- 6. Height :** .....
- 7. Name of the owner :** .....
- 8. Construction - beginning :** .....

9. - end : .....
10. Number of rivets used : .....
11. Number of bricks used : .....
12. Name of a higher building : .....
13. Number of windows : .....
14. Total number of elevators : .....
15. Symbol of New York used in (2 examples) : .....

2. Certains de tes camarades de classe sont allés en voyage scolaire à New York, tu as réalisé l'interview de l'un (e) d'entre eux à leur retour pour écrire un article en anglais sur le Chrysler Building pour le journal du collège. Rédige les questions, les réponses, de ta/ton camarade puis tu exprimeras ton étonnement (tellement, si). Tu finiras par te demander combien sa construction à couté.

1. âge / 2. hauteur / 3. nombres de rivets utilisés / 4. nombre de briques utilisées / 5. nombre de fenêtres / 6. nombre d'ascenceurs.

1. Journalist : .....  
 Classmate : .....  
 Journalist : .....
2. Journalist : .....  
 Classmate : .....  
 Journalist : .....
3. Journalist : .....  
 Classmate : .....  
 Journalist : .....
4. Journalist : .....  
 Classmate : .....  
 Journalist : .....
5. Journalist : .....  
 Classmate : .....  
 Journalist : .....
6. Journalist : .....  
 Classmate : .....  
 Journalist : .....
7. Journalist : .....

**Correction :**

**1. Read the text and answer the following questions :**

1. Name of the building : It's name is Chrisler Building.
  2. Location : It is on the east side of Manhattan at the intersection of 42nd street and Lexington Avenue.
  3. Characteristic : It is the world's tallest brick building.
  4. Type of architecture : It is a classic example of Art Deco architecture.
  5. Name of the architect : His name is William Van Alen.
  6. Height : The height of the skyscraper is 246 metres.
  7. Name of the owner : The owner is Walter Chrysler.
  8. Construction - begining : It commenced on September 19, 1928.
  9. - end : It was finished on May 28, 1930.
  10. Number of rivets used : They used 400,000 rivets.
  11. Number of bricks used : They used 3,836,000 bricks.
  12. Name of a higher building : It's name is the Empire State Building.
  13. Number of windows : It has 3862 windows.
  14. Total number of elevators : He has 32 elevators.
  15. Symbol of New York used in (2 examples) : The city skyline and the Chrysler Building.
- 2. certains de tes camarades de classe sont allés en voyage scolaire à New york, tu as réalisé**

**l'interview de l'un (e) d'entre eux à leur retour pour écrire un article en anglais sur le Chrysler Building pour le journal du collège. Rédige les questions, les réponses, de ta/ton camarade puis tu exprimeras ton étonnement (tellement, si). Tu finiras par te demander combien sa construction a coûté.**

**1. âge / 2. hauteur / 3. nombre de rivets utilisés / 4. nombre de briques utilisées / 5. nombre de fenêtres / 6. nombre d'ascenceurs.**

**1. Journalist : How old is the Chrysler Building?**

**Classmate : It is 78 years old.**

**Journalist : The Chrysler Building are so old !**

**2. Journalist : How high is he?**

**Classmate : It is 246 metres.**

**journalist : The Chrysler Building are so high !**

**3. Journalist : How many rivets are used?**

**Classmate : They used 400,000 rivets.**

**Journalist : They used much of rivets !**

**4. Journalist : How many bricks are used?**

**Classmate : They used 3,826,000 bricks.**

**Journalist : They used much of bricks !**

**5. Journalist : How many windows have he?**

**Classmate : The Chrysler Building has 3862 windows.**

**Journalist : The Chrysler Building has so many windows !**

**6. Journalist : How many elevators have it?**

**Classmate : The Chrysler Building have 32 elevators.**

**Journalist : He have so many elevators !**

**7. Journalist : I want to know how much built the Chrysler Building.**