

# HERCULES

Who was he? Son of Zeus and Alcmene, a mortal. He was the strongest man in the world! So tough in fact that he strangled two snakes when he was only a baby.

**Bravest bash:** Completing 12 terrible tasks, including killing a fanged horse, a nine-headed serpent, a beastly boar, a three-headed dog and a massive lion, which he skinned to make a cloak. He also had to divert a river to flush away a mountain of cow poo and steal some golden apples.



## ZEUS

When the three big brothers drew lots for who got what, Zeus got the top job – ruler of the land and sky. Of all the groovy gods, Zeus was the grooviest. When he wasn't flirting with women he was frying somebody with a thunderbolt. He could do anything. ANYTHING! He started a lot of stuff, like the Olympics...

Name: Alcmene

Address: A palace, somewhere in Greece

Appearance: Beautiful queen

Report: Alcmene was married when Zeus fell in love with her. She refused to have anything to do with him – no kisses and no cuddles. So Zeus cheated – he really, really cheated. He changed his shape so he looked exactly like Alcmene's husband! Then he got a kiss and a cuddle. When the real husband came home Alcmene got a bit of a shock. Probably thought she was seeing double. Alcmene had a baby and called him Heracles – Zeus's wife was furious and gave Heracles a really tough time. (But that's another story.)



## HERA

Hera eventually became Zeus' wife, but she wasn't happy about it.

Zeus was always running off with other women, so it's not surprising his wife was upset. She once helped other gods revolt against Zeus by giving him a potion. When Zeus woke up, he chained Hera to the sky. Nice guy!