**Slapstick Comedy**

**Definition**
A form of comedy normally acted with exaggerated physical activity. ‘Slapstick’ originates from the theatre device used to make a slapping sound when the performer is struck.

**History**
Slapstick humour’s history is measured in centuries. It dates back to Shakespearean times. Shakespeare incorporated a lot of chases and beatings into his plays. Slapstick comedy’s popularity died down during WWII because depression hit hard and people became serious and didn’t want to indulge in comedy. When sound was introduced to slapstick people lost interest as the action wasn’t the main focus anymore. Fast forward to today and slapstick humour is all over our TV’s and in cinemas.

**Why it’s Funny**
Humans have a tendency to find other people’s misfortunes humorous. Slapstick has a lot of absurd and exaggerated actions. The characters in slapstick are normally weird or have odd personalities.

**Slapstick masters:**
There were many slapstick comedians through time, to name a few, Charlie Chaplin, the Three Stooges, Mr Bean, Looney Tunes and Tom and Jerry.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0me2Z4YDsi8&app=desktop

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