



A scrooge is a derogatory word for **a person who is stingy with money**. The word comes from the name of **Ebenezer Scrooge**, the main character of the 1843 novella ***A Christmas Carol*** by **Charles Dickens**. At the beginning of the novella, Scrooge is a cold-hearted miser who despises Christmas.

Dickens describes him thus: "The cold within him froze his old features, nipped his pointed nose, shrivelled his cheek, stiffened his gait; made his eyes red, his thin lips blue; and spoke out shrewdly in his grating voice." His last name has come into the English language as **a byword for miserliness and misanthropy**. The tale of his redemption by the three Ghosts of Christmas (Ghost of Christmas Past, Ghost of Christmas Present, and Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come) has become a defining tale of the Christmas holiday in the English-speaking world. Ebenezer Scrooge is arguably both one of the most famous characters created by Dickens and one of the most famous in English literature. Scrooge's catchphrase, **"Bah! Humbug!"** is often used to express disgust with many of the modern Christmas traditions.