

## **Anderson** .Paak

Anderson .Paak had a rough childhood with his South Korean born mother and African American father. His father was addicted to drugs and alcohol before being sent to prison for domestic abuse. Anderson .Paak was surrounded by music as a child, first as a drummer in his church's band. He later started to record music in his bedroom. As an adult he was fired from his job which left him homeless and broke. He applied for many jobs, but they all turned him down. Then a rapper

named Dumbfounded hired him as an assistant in charge as a videographer, writer, producer, and editor. That was where he got his first big break and caught the eye of Dr. Dre who signed him in 2016 to his record label, Aftermath Entertainment. In that same year, Anderson founded the Brandon Anderson Foundation to support and uplift communities through access to arts and education. One of his music videos, "Lockedown" (2020), is about the recovery from a protest that escalated in violence. In 2021, Anderson .Paak partnered with Bruno Mars to form the super musical duo "Silk Sonic," and their album *An Evening with Silk Sonic* (2021) won them four Grammy awards, including Record of the Year and Song of the Year. A fun fact about Anderson .Paak is that the dot in his stage name represents all the details he put into his work.

Note: Some songs listed might have explicit content; listener discretion advised.