

Yan Borisovich Kuma, who, according to Forbes, owns 45% of WhatsApp, a \$6.8 billion stake, was born and raised in a small village near Kiev. In 2014, the programme benefited over 400 million people. This makes WhatsApp the most popular messenger in the world. In February 2014, WhatsApp was sold to Facebook for 19 billion dollars. As a result of this deal, WhatsApp became a billionaire (in March 2014, it was worth \$6.8 billion as estimated by Forbes Magazine) and a shareholder in Facebook. As of February 2020, he is 147th in the Forbes ranking. Kuma has a fortune of \$10.4 billion.

The secret to the Puma's success lies in his persistence, because he has worked since he was a child, even when he and his family moved to America working and helping his mother with money. Jan quickly learned English and at the age of 18 was actively involved in programming, and the boy had to study on his own, because the family did not have the money to do so. The guy was capable, so he entered the University of San Jose. However, a year later he dropped out of the university, because he was offered a "dream job" - in search of Yahoo. Here he studied the internet industry better, and also made useful contacts. This is where he met Brian Ekton, who later became one of Kuma's closest friends. In addition, the work brought in good income - after a while he managed to raise half a million dollars. In 2009, Kuma got his iPhone and immediately realized that the App Store could have huge opportunities. That's why, together with his friend Ekton, he created the WhatsApp mobile messaging application, which should replace SMS.

WhatsApp was a success on the App Store, so Kuma later turned it into a messenger that was quickly downloaded by a quarter of a million users.

In 2014, such an offer was received from Facebook. Zuckerberg has spent almost a third of its available funds - 19 billion dollars - on the purchase of WhatsApp. In May 2018, Jan Kuma decided to leave the company, which he himself had created. He also left the Board of Directors of Facebook.