

Widely attributed to sportswriter and columnist John J. Fitz Gerald, New York City's nickname "The Big Apple" refers to the horse racing circuits that were popular (and lucrative) in the 1920s, indicating New York's racecourses as the ultimate prize. Since then, the term was popularized by jazz musicians in the 1930s who referred to New York as the best gig. The nickname became even more popular after an ad campaign in the 1970s cemented the association with New York City.

