



# Months and Weeks

## TWELVE MONTHS

### Months of the Year

January:

Januarius, in honor of the Roman god Janus, god of beginnings.

February:

Februarius, in honor of Februa, the Roman festival of general expiation and purification. It was an an-of-the-year celebration when February was the last month of the year.



March:

Martius, in honor of Mars, the Roman god of war. The ancient Romans insisted that all wars cease during the time of celebration between the old and new years. Since March was the first month of the new year in ancient Rome, some historians believe the Romans named March after Mars, the Roman god of war.

April:

Some say April (Aprilis) got its name from the Latin word meaning "second" since April was the second month on the ancient calendar. Others claim it comes from "aperire" (aoerio) a Latin word meaning "to open," because it represents the opening of buds and flowers in spring. Still others think April (Averil or Avril) was named after the Greek goddess Aphrodite.

May:

Maius, in honor of Maia, the Greek goddess of spring (growth).

June:

Junius, in honor of the Roman goddess Juno, queen of the gods and patroness of marriage and weddings.

July:

Julius, in honor of Roman emperor Julius Caesar. The original name was Quintilis, fifth month in the early Roman calendar.

August:

Augustus, in honor of Roman emperor Augustus Caesar. The original name was Sextilis, sixth month in the early Roman calendar.

September:

Septembre, seventh (septem) month in the early Roman calendar.

October:

Octobre, eighth (octo) month in the early Roman calendar.

November:

Novembre, ninth (novem) month of the early Roman calendar.



December:  
Decembre, tenth (decem) month of the early Roman calendar.

Notes:

The months September, October, November, and December are derived from the Latin words for the numerals 7, 8, 9, and 10. They were the 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th months of the old Roman calendar before July and August were inserted ahead of them.

In 1582, Pope Gregory adjusted the calendar, so most western nations began celebrating the start of the year on January 1. This new calendar became known as the "Gregorian calendar."

However, England and the American colonies continued to celebrate the new year on the date of the spring equinox in March. It was not until 1752 that the British and their colonies finally adopted the Gregorian calendar.



## SEVEN DAYS

### Days of the Week

Overview:

The Babylonians named the days after the five planetary bodies known to them (Tuesday through Saturday) and after the Sun and Moon (Sunday and Monday). This custom was later adopted by the Romans. Emperor Constantine established the seven-day week in the Roman calendar and designated Sunday and Monday as the first two days of the week. The other weekday names in English are derived from Anglo-Saxon names for gods in Teutonic mythology. Tuesday comes from Tiu, or Tiw, the Anglo-Saxon name for Tyr, the Norse god of war. Tyr was one of the sons of Odin, or Woden, the supreme deity after whom Wednesday is named. Similarly, Thursday originates from Thor, the god of thunder. Friday is derived from Frigga, the wife of Odin, representing love and beauty. Saturday comes from Saturn, the ancient Roman god of fun and feasting.



Sunday:

The day of the sun, in honor of the sun god (Apollo).

Monday:

The day of the moon, in honor of the moon god (Diana).

Tuesday:

The planet Mars (Ares), in honor of Mars, the god of war. The Saxons named this day after their god Tiw and called it Tiw's day. "Tuesday" comes from the name of this Saxon god.

Wednesday:

The planet Mercury (Hermes), later named in honor of the Teutonic god Wedn or Woden.

Thursday:

The planet Jupiter (Zeus, the chief god), later named in honor of the Teutonic thunder god Thor.

Friday:

The planet Venus (Aphrodite, goddess of love), later named in honor of the Teutonic goddess Frigg or Freia.

Saturday:

The planet Saturn, in honor of the Roman god Saturn (Cronos).

### Other Origin Notes

Sunday: Old English Sunnandag, meaning "Sun's Day". This is a translation of the Latin phrase Dies Solis. In both West Germanic and North Germanic mythology, the Sun is personified as Sunna/Sol.

Monday: Old English Monandag, meaning "Moon's Day". This is equivalent to the Latin name Dies Lunae. In North Germanic mythology, the Moon is personified as Mani.

Tuesday: Old English Tiwesdag, meaning "Tiw's Day". Tiw (Norse Tyr) was a one-handed god associated with single combat and pledges in Norse mythology and also attested prominently in wider Germanic paganism. The name of the day is also related to the Latin name Dies Martis, "Day of Mars".



## MONTHS

*English | French | Spanish*

Januay | Janvier | Enero  
 February | Fevrier | Febrero  
 March | Mars | Marzo  
 April | Avril | Abril  
 May | Mai | Mayo  
 July | Juillet | Julio  
 August | Aout | Agosto  
 September | Septembre | Septiembre  
 October | Octobre | Octubre  
 November | Novembre | Noviembre

## DAYS

*English | French | Spanish*

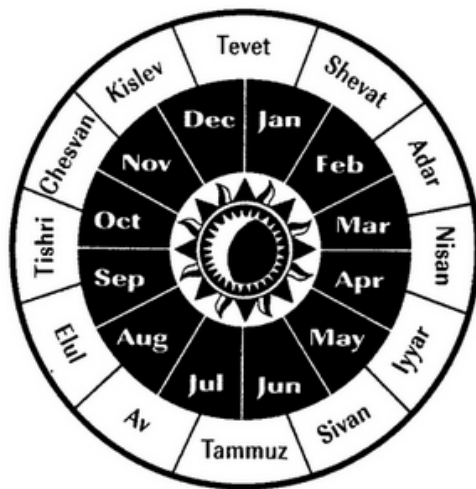
Sunday | Dimanche | Domingo  
 Monday | Lundi | Lunes  
 Tuesday | Mardi | Martes  
 Wednesday | Mercredi | Miercoles  
 Thursday | Jeudi | Jueves  
 Friday | Vendredi | Viernes  
 Saturday | Samedi | Sabado

**Wednesday:** Old English Wodnesdag, meaning the day of the Germanic god Woden (known as Odinn among the North Germanic peoples), and a prominent god of the Anglo-Saxons (and other Germanic peoples) in England until about the seventh century. It is also vaguely related to the Latin counterpart Dies Mercurii, "Day of Mercury". The Icelandic Midvikur, German Mittwoch, Low German Middeweek and Finnish Keskiiviikko all mean mid-week.

**Thursday:** Old English Thunresdæg, meaning Thunor's Day'. Thunor means thunder or its personification, the Norse god Thor. Similarly Dutch Donderdag, German Donnerstag (Thunder's Day), Finnish Torstai, and Scandinavian Torsdag (Thor's Day). Thor's day corresponds to Latin Dies Iovis, "Day of Jupiter".

**Friday:** Old English Frigedag, meaning the day of the Anglo-Saxon goddess Frige. The Norse name for the planet Venus was Friggjarstjarna, 'Frigg's star'. It is based on the Latin Dies Veneris, "Day of Venus."

**Saturday:** named after the Roman god Saturn associated with the Titan Cronus, father of Zeus and many Olympians. Its original Anglo-Saxon rendering was Saturnesdag. In Latin, it was Dies Saturni, "Day of Saturn". The Scandinavian Lordag deviates significantly as it has no reference to either the Norse or the Roman pantheon. It derives from Old Norse laugardagr, literally "washing-day". The German Sonnabend and the Low German Sunnavend mean "Sunday Eve", the German word Samstag derives from the name for Shabbat.



## HEBREW CALENDAR

*Months of the Year*

Nisan	Av	Kislev
Iyyar	Elul	Tevet
Sivan	Tishrei	Shevat
Tammuz	Marcheshvan	Adar

*Days of the Week*

Yom Rishon - Sunday  
 Yom Sheni - Monday  
 Yom Shlishi - Tuesday  
 Yom Revi'i - Wednesday  
 Yom Chamishi - Thursday  
 Yom Shishi - Friday  
 Yom Shabbat - Saturday

## NATIVE AMERICAN MOONS

January - Snow Moon  
February - Hunger Moon  
March - Crow Moon  
April - Wild Goose Moon  
May - Planting Moon  
June - Rose Moon  
July - Thunder Moon  
August - Green Corn Moon  
September - Hunting Moon  
October - Leaf Falling Moon  
November - Ice Forming Moon  
December - Long Night Moon



## CHEROKEE CALENDAR

### SEASONS

Spring - Gageyl  
Summer - Gagi  
Early Autumn - Guyu  
Late Autumn - Ulagahustu  
Winter - Galu

### MONTHS

January: Unolvtana, Unálatūni (Windblown)  
February: Kagali, Gugali (Bone Moon, Fixed Stars and Moon Month)  
March: Anvhyi (Strawberry Month)  
April: Kawohni, Kuwani (Ducks Return Month)  
May: Anisgvti, Ansgvti (Planting Moon, Making Pottery Month)  
June: Dehaluyi (Planting Corn Moon, Blackberry Month)  
July: Kuyegwona (Ripe Corn Moon, Huckleberry Month)  
August: Galoni (Fruit Moon, Wild Grapes Month, Green Corn Ceremony)  
September: Dulisdi (Nut Moon, Bounding Bush Feast)  
October: Dunihiidi, Duninhdi (Harvestime Month, Great New Moon Ceremony)  
November: Nvdadequa, Nvdadeqwa (Big Moon Month)  
December: Vsdgiyi, Vskihyi (Snow Moon)



## LAKOTA MOON CALENDAR

### SPRING | Wetu

*Moons of Renewal and Growth*

Magaksicaagli Wi - Moon When Ducks Return  
Wihakata Cepapi Wi - Moon of Making Fat  
Wojupi Wi - Moon When Leaves are Green

### SUMMER | Blokétu

*Warm Moons*

Wipazuka Wast Win - Moon of June Berries  
Canpasapa Wi - Moon When Chokecherries Are Ripe  
Wasuton Wi - Moon of Harvest

### AUTUMN | Ptanyetu

*Moons of Change*

Canwapegi Wi - Moon When Leaves Turn Brown  
Canwapekasna Wi - Moon When Wind Shakes off Leaves  
Waniyetu Wi - Moon of Rutting Deer

### WINTER | Waniyetu

*Cold and Dark Moons*

Wanicokan Wi - Moon When Deer Sheds Horns  
Wiotehika Wi - Hard Moon  
Cannapopa Wi - Moon When Trees Crack From Cold  
Istawicayazan Wi - Moon of Sore Eyes (Snow Blindness)

