

April Fools' Day or April Fool's Day?



April Fools' Day or April Fool's Day is an annual custom in many Western countries on the 1st of April consisting of practical jokes, hoaxes, and pranks.

Jokesters often expose their actions by shouting "April Fool[s]!" at the recipient. Mass media can be involved with these pranks, which may be revealed as such the following day. The custom of setting aside a day for playing harmless pranks upon one's neighbor has been relatively common in the world historically.

Origins of April Fools' Day

Some historians speculate that April Fools' Day dates back to 1582, when France switched from the Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar, as called for by the Council of Trent in 1563. In the Julian Calendar, as in the Hindu calendar, the new year began with the spring equinox around April 1.

History of April Fools' Day

April Fools' Day spread throughout Britain during the 18th century. In Scotland, the tradition became a two-day event, starting with "hunting the gowk," in which people were sent on phony errands (gowk is a word for cuckoo bird, a symbol for fool) and followed by Tailie Day, which involved pranks played on people's derrieres, such as pinning fake tails or "kick me" signs on them.

Some Legendary April Fools Day Hi-jinks!

April Fools' Day back in 1980 that the BBC announced a big change. **Big Ben's clock face** was being changed to digital, and the first person to get back to the network could win the clock hands.

In 1992, National Public Radio ran a spot with **Nixon saying that he was running for president** again. It was very convincing, but it was not Nixon, only an actor. It was a very effective prank.

April Fools' Day announcement by the **Boston Public Garden** with a warning for people not to use their cell phones to take photos of the well-known sculptures in the garden because the light emitted would damage and erode the sculptures. It was just right – very strange but kind of believable.

Ever heard of a spaghetti tree? The BBC fooled viewers in 1957 with a news report on a bumper spaghetti harvest in Switzerland! Anchored by Richard Dimbleby on the program "Panorama," the segment showed women harvesting spaghetti from trees. People were so convinced, the BBC got flooded with requests to buy their own plants. The next day, they had to come clean, but it remains in the Hall of Fame of April Fool's Day pranks.

In 1962, Swedish TV aired a prank claiming that placing **nylon stockings over black-and-white TV screens** would turn them into color. The segment seemed highly scientific, fooling many viewers into trying it themselves. This prank was one of the most famous April Fools Day pranks in Sweden, in which the gullibility of the public and the power of television were evident.

In 1996, **Taco Bell** played a memorable April Fool's Day joke by buying a full-page ad in several major newspapers, claiming they had bought the Liberty Bell to help reduce the national debt. The ad said that they would rename it the "Taco Liberty Bell." The prank caused a huge stir, with many people concerned over the sale of the national symbol. The U.S. National Park Service finally had to clarify that it was just a joke. This easy prank remains one of the most famous corporate April Fool's Day stunts.

In 2018, Tesla CEO Elon Musk surprised us with a fake tequila brand related to his company "**Teslaquila**,". The joke caused a stir, with many asking if Tesla was branching into the alcohol industry. Elon who is known for loving to joke around, kept people guessing during the whole day. Later, the joke became a reality when Tesla launched a limited edition Tesla Tequila in 2020, which sold out quickly.

Google loves a good April Fools joke! They've fooled us with everything from "**Google Nose**," a search engine for smells, to "**Google Gnome**," a smart yard device. They also created a fake partnership with Nintendo that promised you could catch Pokémon on Google Maps. Who wouldn't love to catch a Pikachu while checking the bus route?

Likewise, they also added "**Google Mic Drop**," an email feature with a GIF of a minion dropping a mic, which backfired due to its misuse. They are also famous for teased concepts like "**Google Fiber to the Pole**" for faster internet via utility poles and "**Google Tulip**," enabling users to communicate with plants.

Sources: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/April_Fools%27_Day, history.com/articles/april-fools-day, rutgers.edu/news/how-did-april-fools-day-get-started, and yohomobile.com/fun-facts-for-april-fools-day

Grilled Cheese is the BEST!



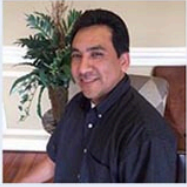
National Grilled Cheese Month

National Grilled Cheese Month in April celebrates gooey, warm, cheesy, grilled cheese sandwiches which are a staple for people all over the world. Some as-yet-anonymous grilled cheese sandwich lovers likely founded this day as a tribute to their favorite food, and people have embraced these celebrations with fervor. There's even a special National Grilled Cheese Sandwich Day in April to make the celebrations extra special.

Source: ationaltoday.com/national-grilled-cheese-month/

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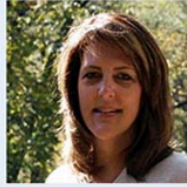
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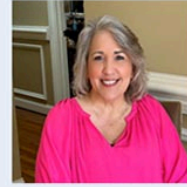
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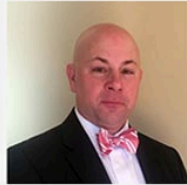
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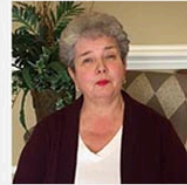
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