

<https://vimeo.com/81748242>

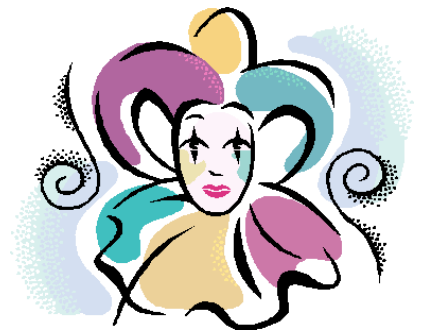
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Srsrus7ojjU>



## ASK HISTORY.COM: APRIL FOOL'S DAY

Watch the video about APRIL FOOL'S DAY and decide if the statements below are TRUE or FALSE.

- 1) April Fool's Day is an official holiday.
- 2) It's a beloved holiday among the pranksters all over the world.
- 3) Nobody really knows when, where or how April Fool's Day got started.
- 4) There is a common theory that the tradition dates all the way back to 15<sup>th</sup>-century France when Pope Gregory the 13<sup>th</sup> issued the Papal bull introducing a new calendar system for Europe, the Gregorian Calendar.
- 5) The Gregorian Calendar set the start of the year on January, 1<sup>st</sup> instead of the beginning of spring in late March or early April.
- 6) News travelled very fast in medieval France.
- 7) Many people in rural areas continued to celebrate the New Year in the spring and they became known as April fools.
- 8) The 'Calendar Change Theory' has no demerits.
- 9) In fact, many people in France had already started celebrating New Year on January, 1<sup>st</sup>, long before 1582.
- 10) Before the Gregorian Calendar, New Year had not been connected with Easter holiday.
- 11) Some theories date the origins of April Fool's Day centuries earlier to the ancient Roman festival celebrated in the spring such as Hilaria.
- 12) Eastern cultures have their own version of this tradition including Holi in Indonesia, a festival of colours.
- 13) Beginning with 1700s English pranksters were celebrating April, 1<sup>st</sup> by playing tricks such as pinning false tails on unsuspecting people or sending them on fake errands.
- 14) As the holiday became popular, newspapers, radio and TV stations started publishing and broadcasting fake stories as a part of tradition.
- 15) One of history's most famous hoaxes took place in 1957 when the BBC fooled lots of people into belief that many people in Sweden grew spaghetti on trees.
- 16) In the USA in 1998 gullible fast food customers were fooled by a left-handed burger, a burger specifically tailored to left-handed people.
- 17) April Fool's Day may soon be a thing of the past because recently governments across the globe began moving to officially outlaw the holiday because of poor worker productivity on this day.



Happy  
April Fools  
Day!

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## KEYS

### ASK HISTORY.COM: APRIL FOOL'S DAY

Watch the video about APRIL FOOL'S DAY and decide if the statements below are TRUE or FALSE.

- 1) April Fool's Day is an official holiday. – F
- 2) It's a beloved holiday among the pranksters all over the world. – T
- 3) Nobody really knows when, where or how April Fool's Day got started. – T
- 4) There is a common theory that the tradition dates all the way back to 15<sup>th</sup>-century France when Pope Gregory the 13<sup>th</sup> issued the Papal bull introducing a new calendar system for Europe, the Gregorian Calendar. – F
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- 6) News travelled very fast in medieval France. – F
- 7) Many people in rural areas continued to celebrate the New Year in the spring and they became known as April fools. – T
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- 16) In the USA in 1998 gullible fast food customers were fooled by a left-handed burger, a burger specifically tailored to left-handed people. – T
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