

# Happy New Year!

## When Is New Year?

In most countries, New Year is from midnight on 31st December to 1st January. New Year is celebrated in many different ways including parties, time with family and friends and watching firework displays.

## New Year Traditions

For some people, New Year is a time to think about what they have done in the last year. It may also be a time to think about things that they would like to improve over the coming year. People often make New Year's resolutions linked to things they want to achieve or change over the next 12 months.

## New Year around the UK

### New Year in England

- One of the main focuses at New Year is Big Ben at the Houses of Parliament.
- On 1st January, there is a New Year Parade in London which has happened every year since 1987.



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## New Year in Ireland

- Many people in Ireland enjoy celebrating New Year with their friends and families.
- Large firework displays are attended in some of the larger cities, including Belfast and Dublin.

## New Year in Scotland

- New Year is known as Hogmanay in Scotland.
- First-footing is a tradition where people go to one another's homes to bring a gift of whisky and coal, to bring good fortune to the house for the next year.

## New Year in Wales

- New Year is known as Calennig in Wales.
- On New Year's Eve, the Nos Galan road race is held. It is a 5km run on Mountain Ash. Many people take part, including elite runners and families.



# Happy New Year Questions

1. When is New Year celebrated in most countries?

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2. Name two different ways that people celebrate New Year in the UK.

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3. When was the first New Year Parade in London?

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4. Which gifts are given as part of the 'first-footing' in Scotland?

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5. How long is the Nos Galan road race?

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6. Where does the Nos Galan road race take place?

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7. What is 'Hogmanay'?

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8. What are your New Year's resolutions for this year?

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