

New Year's Day is celebrated all across the world and dates back many centuries. This day is the perfect time for new beginnings which is why New Year's resolutions are so popular. Learn a little bit about the history of this holiday in this article and see if your resolutions are amongst the most popular ones in the U.S.

New Year History & Celebrations

Can you believe that "2100" is just around the corner?



How fast the years go by!

New Year's Day is one of the oldest and most widely celebrated holidays in the world.

It was first observed in ancient Babylon about 4000 years ago. In the years around 2000 BC, the Babylonian New Year began with the first New Moon after the first day of spring. The beginning of spring was a very logical time to start a new year. The Babylonian New Year celebration lasted for eleven days and each day had its own particular schedule of celebration.

The Romans continued to observe the New Year in early March but their calendar was continually changed by various emperors. Soon the calendar became out of synchronization with the sun. In 153 BC, the Roman senate declared January 1 to be the beginning of the New Year in order to set the calendar right. However, the calendar continued to be tampered with until Julius Caesar, in 46 BC, established the Julian calendar. Once again, January 1 was established as the New Year.

January is named after the Roman god Janus, who was always shown as having two heads. He looked back to the last year and forward to the new one.

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This year consider throwing a New Year's Eve party in your own home for family and friends. You can have the Times Square Dick Clark special on TV for the big countdown. Many party supply stores now carry New Year's party boxes that include tableware, hats and blowers for all of your guests. So kick the New Year off with a fun celebration!

[Holiday Gifts & Gift Baskets](#) is your one-stop shop for holiday shopping throughout the year. With ideas for kids of any age and adults too, you are sure to find a great present on our site. We feature only the most unique holiday gift baskets, gourmet food, and more, with easy online ordering and toll free customer service available 24 hours a day. For our corporate customers, we have an easy to use bulk order form and we even offer several customization options and corporate discounts. Contact us for details.

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Celebrate New Year's in style this year with our festive bouquet just for the occasion.

Our gourmet butter-crème cookies are baked fresh and hand-decorated daily. Tastefully arranged in a container, each cookie is approximately 4-5" tall, depending on cookie shape or design.

Note - The 3 & 5 cookie gifts are arranged in a white ceramic coffee mug.

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Today, the majority of people begin the celebrations on the night before New Year's Day. Many people hold parties and festivities which last well into the night and early morning hours of New Year's Day. It is tradition to greet the New Year at midnight and celebrate the first minutes of the year accompanied by family and friends. Horns are blown at midnight, people hug and kiss to begin the New Year and drink a toast to the year ahead.

The time of new beginnings and a New Year for most people begin with making New Year's resolutions, which is a way of wishing away the past in exchange for hopes and changes of the future. Many of us look over our lives and ourselves and resolve to make changes. Some of us will succeed, some of us will fail, and some of us will never move beyond the planning stage.

Some of the top New Year's resolutions are:

- 1) Lose weight.
- 2) Exercise.
- 3) Spend more time with family and friends.
- 4) Quit a bad habit.
- 5) Enjoy life to the fullest.
- 6) Manage finances better.
- 7) Eat healthier.

In a matter of a few weeks another year will be coming to a close. For some people it is a blessing and for others it is a sad occasion.

However, a new year and new beginnings are upon us. Let us resolve to make ourselves the best we can be and let's leave Father Time in the past!

Celebrate new beginnings and the New Year by sending holiday gift baskets to friends and family. We have gifts for any reason and season! In the New Year ahead, you can be assured that we have something for everyone on your gift-giving list and any occasion such as birthdays, new baby, wedding and anniversary, and special holidays.