

CHRISTMAS TRIVIA - PRINTABLE QUIZ (2026 EDITION)

How Many Days Until Christmas

Instructions:

1. Read each question aloud or hand out this sheet.
2. Use the answer sheet to write team or individual answers.
3. Check the answer key after each round or at the end.

===== QUESTIONS =====

EASY CHRISTMAS TRIVIA

-- Santa Claus Basics --

1. What color is Santa's suit in the modern classic image?
2. Where does Santa Claus traditionally live?
3. How many reindeer pull Santa's sleigh including Rudolph?
4. What vehicle does Santa use on Christmas Eve?
5. What famous laugh is Santa known for?

-- Christmas Symbols --

6. What are the two traditional Christmas colors?
7. What do people traditionally hang by the fireplace for gifts?
8. What is commonly placed on top of a Christmas tree?
9. What striped holiday candy is shaped like a shepherd's crook?
10. Under what plant do people traditionally kiss at Christmas?

-- Popular Christmas Songs --

11. Which song starts with "Jingle bells, jingle bells"?
12. Which singer made "All I Want for Christmas Is You" famous?
13. Which classic carol begins with "Silent night"?
14. What song tells the story of a red-nosed reindeer?
15. Which festive song invites everyone to deck the halls?

-- Dates and Traditions --

16. On what date is Christmas celebrated in most countries?
17. What do we call December 24?
18. How many Sundays are in the Advent season?
19. What do many families exchange on Christmas morning?
20. What edible holiday house do families often decorate?

MEDIUM DIFFICULTY TRIVIA

-- Christmas History --

21. Which ancient Roman festival is often linked to later Christmas season customs?
22. In what year did the United States make Christmas a federal holiday?
23. Which historical bishop inspired many Santa Claus legends?
24. In which century did Victorian family Christmas traditions grow rapidly?
25. Who wrote "A Christmas Carol"?
26. In what year was the first commercial Christmas card sold in Britain?
27. Which city is often cited for one of the earliest recorded Christmas celebrations in 336 CE?
28. Which saint popularized live Nativity scenes in the 13th century?

-- Christmas Food and Drinks --

29. What core ingredients define classic eggnog?
30. Which tall sweet bread from Italy is popular at Christmas?
31. Which fruit-filled bread is a traditional German Christmas treat?
32. Which British dessert is often flamed with brandy at Christmas dinner?
33. What is the German market name for hot spiced wine?
34. Which holiday pie in Britain historically included minced meat and dried fruit?

it?

35. What flavor is most strongly associated with candy canes?

-- Carols and Music --

36. The melody of "Carol of the Bells" is adapted from which Ukrainian song?

37. "O Holy Night" was originally written in which language?

38. Who wrote the lyrics of "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"?

39. Which dessert is requested in "We Wish You a Merry Christmas"?

40. Which carol was first performed in 1818 in Austria?

41. What is the Latin title of "O Come, All Ye Faithful"?

42. "Joy to the World" is based on which biblical psalm?

43. In "The Twelve Days of Christmas", what is the first gift?

-- Christmas in Literature --

44. What is the full name of the miser in "A Christmas Carol"?

45. Name one spirit who visits Scrooge on Christmas Eve.

46. Who wrote "How the Grinch Stole Christmas!"?

47. What is the young heroine's name in many versions of "The Nutcracker"?

48. Who is traditionally credited with writing "A Visit from St. Nicholas"?

49. In "The Gift of the Magi", what does Della sell to buy a gift?

50. Which poem begins with the words "Twas the night before Christmas"?

HARD CHRISTMAS TRIVIA

-- Obscure Christmas History --

51. Which political movement in England banned Christmas celebrations in 1647?

52. Which American city outlawed Christmas observance from 1659 to 1681?

53. Which U.S. state first recognized Christmas as an official holiday in 1836?

54. In which year did George Washington cross the Delaware during a Christmas campaign?

55. Which artist painted the famous Coca-Cola Santa campaign images starting in 1931?

56. What material were some early artificial Christmas trees in Germany made from?

57. In what year did workers place the first tree at Rockefeller Center?

58. Who invented Christmas crackers in Victorian England?

59. Which country issued one of the first postage stamps marked specifically for Christmas in 1898?

60. Which December feast day honors St. Nicholas in many Christian traditions?

-- Christmas Etymology --

61. The word "Christmas" comes from which Old English phrase?

62. The word "Noel" is related to which Latin root meaning birth?

63. What does "Advent" mean from its Latin origin?

64. The word "Yule" is generally traced to which linguistic tradition?

65. Before referring to Christmas songs, what did the word "carol" often mean?

66. What does the toast "wassail" roughly mean?

67. The word "Nativity" comes from Latin "nativitas". What does it mean?

-- Religious Christmas Knowledge --

68. Which two Gospels contain Nativity narratives?

69. In Christian tradition, in which town was Jesus born?

70. Which gift from the Magi is associated with kingship?

71. Which gift from the Magi is a fragrant resin used in worship?

72. Which gift from the Magi is associated with suffering and burial symbolism?

73. Does the Bible explicitly state the exact number of wise men?

74. What celestial sign guided the Magi in Matthew's Nativity account?

75. Which feast on January 6 commemorates the revelation to the Magi?

-- Records and Statistics --

76. Which military command has tracked Santa since 1955?

77. Which Christmas song is widely cited as the best-selling single of all time?

78. How many total gifts are given across all verses of "The Twelve Days of Christmas"?

79. Which Christmas song was first broadcast from space in 1965?

80. In traditional counting, how many days are in the Christmas season from Dec 25 to Jan 5?

CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD

-- European Traditions --

81. Which country is credited with popularizing the Advent calendar?

82. Which country is known for St. Lucia processions on December 13?

83. In Italy, which gift-bringing figure visits children before Epiphany?

84. What is Spain's famous Christmas-season lottery called?

85. Which table item in the UK often snaps open and contains a paper crown?

86. What household item do some Norwegians traditionally hide on Christmas Eve?

87. Which decoration inspired by folk legend is common on some Ukrainian Christmas trees?

-- Asian Celebrations --

88. In Japan, what fast-food meal became a popular Christmas tradition?

89. What are the dawn masses in the Philippines before Christmas called?

90. In South Korea, Christmas is recognized as what type of day?

91. In parts of India, Christians may decorate which tropical trees for Christmas?

92. In China, which fruit is often exchanged on Christmas Eve due to wordplay?

-- American Customs --

93. In Mexico, what nine-night procession reenacts Mary and Joseph seeking shelter?

94. What famous New York event marks the U.S. Christmas season each year?

95. Which Canadian city hosts one of the longest-running Santa Claus parades?

96. In Caracas, Venezuela, some people travel to early Christmas mass using what?

-- Unique Global Traditions --

97. How many Yule Lads visit children in Icelandic Christmas folklore?

98. In Catalonia, what smiling log character is part of Christmas celebrations?

99. In Australia and New Zealand, Christmas takes place during which season?

100. In a Czech Christmas custom, what item do single women toss to predict marriage luck?

CHRISTMAS MOVIE TRIVIA

-- Classic and Modern Christmas Movies --

101. In "Home Alone", what is Kevin's last name?

102. Which actor plays Buddy in "Elf"?

103. In "The Polar Express", who voices multiple key characters?

104. Which film includes the line "Every time a bell rings, an angel gets his wings"?

105. What is the name of the Grinch's dog?

-- Movie Deep Cuts --

106. In "A Christmas Story", what present does Ralphie desperately want?

107. What skyscraper is the main setting in "Die Hard"?

108. Who plays the British Prime Minister in "Love Actually"?

109. Who is the Pumpkin King in "The Nightmare Before Christmas"?

110. What is the family surname in "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation"?

===== ANSWER KEY =====

1. Red with white trim.

Fun Fact: Santa wore different colors in older art, but red became globally i

conic in the 20th century.

2. The North Pole.

Fun Fact: Different cultures place Santa in different regions, but North Pole became the dominant modern tradition.

3. Nine reindeer.

Fun Fact: Rudolph was introduced in 1939 and later joined the original team of eight reindeer.

4. A flying sleigh.

Fun Fact: In legend, the sleigh allows Santa to deliver gifts around the world in one night.

5. Ho ho ho.

Fun Fact: That cheerful phrase became a shorthand for Santa in stories, songs, and films.

6. Red and green.

Fun Fact: These colors are linked to winter evergreens and long-standing church and folk symbolism.

7. Stockings.

Fun Fact: The stocking tradition is often connected to stories about St. Nicholas giving coins in secret.

8. A star or an angel.

Fun Fact: The star references Bethlehem, while angels represent the Nativity announcement.

9. Candy cane.

Fun Fact: The cane shape is associated with shepherd imagery and has become a global Christmas icon.

10. Mistletoe.

Fun Fact: Mistletoe customs predate modern Christmas and were folded into winter celebration traditions.

11. Jingle Bells.

Fun Fact: The song became one of the most recognizable holiday songs in the English-speaking world.

12. Mariah Carey.

Fun Fact: The song is a modern Christmas staple and returns to charts every holiday season.

13. Silent Night.

Fun Fact: It was first performed in Austria in 1818 and translated into hundreds of languages.

14. Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer.

Fun Fact: The song helped make Rudolph one of the most beloved characters in Christmas pop culture.

15. Deck the Halls.

Fun Fact: Its familiar refrain is adapted from an older Welsh melody.

16. December 25.

Fun Fact: Some Christian traditions celebrate on other dates based on different church calendars.

17. Christmas Eve.

Fun Fact: Many families use Christmas Eve for church services, meals, and gift traditions.

18. Four Sundays.

Fun Fact: Advent is a period of preparation in many Christian communities before Christmas Day.

19. Gifts.

Fun Fact: Gift exchange became widespread through a mix of religious, cultural, and commercial influences.

20. A gingerbread house.

Fun Fact: Gingerbread house decorating became especially popular in Europe and North America.

21. Saturnalia.

Fun Fact: Saturnalia featured feasting and gift-giving, both common in modern holiday celebrations.

22. 1870.

Fun Fact: Congress established Christmas as a federal holiday during the pres

idency of Ulysses S. Grant.

23. St. Nicholas of Myra.

Fun Fact: He was known for generosity, especially gifts for children and families in need.

24. The 19th century.

Fun Fact: Victorian media and literature helped shape familiar traditions like cards and decorated trees.

25. Charles Dickens.

Fun Fact: Published in 1843, it strongly influenced modern ideas about charity and Christmas spirit.

26. 1843.

Fun Fact: Sir Henry Cole commissioned the card, helping launch a lasting holiday greeting tradition.

27. Rome.

Fun Fact: Records from the 4th century are part of how scholars trace early Christmas observance.

28. St. Francis of Assisi.

Fun Fact: His 1223 Nativity representation influenced many later church and community displays.

29. Eggs, milk, cream, and sugar.

Fun Fact: Many recipes also include spices like nutmeg and optional spirits depending on region.

30. Panettone.

Fun Fact: Panettone originated in Milan and is now sold worldwide during the holiday season.

31. Stollen.

Fun Fact: Dresden Stollen is one of the most famous regional versions.

32. Christmas pudding.

Fun Fact: The flaming presentation became a dramatic holiday table ritual in many families.

33. Gluhwein.

Fun Fact: Mulled wine styles vary, but warming spices are common across European winter markets.

34. Mince pie.

Fun Fact: Modern mince pies are usually sweet, but older recipes were more savory.

35. Peppermint.

Fun Fact: Peppermint flavor became standard in many countries thanks to 19th and 20th century confectionery trends.

36. Shchedryk.

Fun Fact: Composer Mykola Leontovych wrote the melody before it received English Christmas lyrics.

37. French.

Fun Fact: Its original title was "Cantique de Noel".

38. Charles Wesley.

Fun Fact: The tune commonly used today came later than Wesley's original text.

39. Figgy pudding.

Fun Fact: The lyric reflects old English holiday food traditions and playful wassailing customs.

40. Silent Night.

Fun Fact: The song premiered in Oberndorf and later became one of the most translated carols.

41. Adeste Fideles.

Fun Fact: Both the Latin and English versions are still widely performed in church services.

42. Psalm 98.

Fun Fact: Isaac Watts wrote the text as a Christian hymn inspired by scripture themes.

43. A partridge in a pear tree.

Fun Fact: The song is cumulative, so each verse repeats and adds one new gift.

44. Ebenezer Scrooge.
Fun Fact: Scrooge became a universal word for someone miserly or ungenerous.
45. The Ghost of Christmas Past.
Fun Fact: The three spirits are Past, Present, and Yet to Come.
46. Dr. Seuss.
Fun Fact: The story first appeared in 1957 and later became a major TV and film franchise.
47. Clara.
Fun Fact: Some adaptations use the name Marie, depending on translation and staging.
48. Clement Clarke Moore.
Fun Fact: The poem helped define popular imagery of Santa and his reindeer.
49. Her hair.
Fun Fact: The story is a classic lesson in love, sacrifice, and irony.
50. A Visit from St. Nicholas.
Fun Fact: Its opening line is one of the most quoted lines in holiday literature.
51. The Puritan-led Parliament.
Fun Fact: Many Puritans viewed festive celebrations as excessive and sought stricter religious observance.
52. Boston.
Fun Fact: Colonial Massachusetts enforced fines for certain Christmas festivities during that period.
53. Alabama.
Fun Fact: State-level recognition arrived decades before federal recognition in 1870.
54. 1776.
Fun Fact: The crossing led to the pivotal Battle of Trenton in the American Revolutionary War.
55. Haddon Sundblom.
Fun Fact: His artwork strongly shaped the modern popular image of Santa in red.
56. Dyed goose feathers.
Fun Fact: These were used as a reusable alternative when evergreen branches were scarce.
57. 1931.
Fun Fact: The annual Rockefeller tree lighting later became a major New York holiday event.
58. Tom Smith.
Fun Fact: He developed crackers in the 1840s, combining candy packaging with novelty gifts.
59. Canada.
Fun Fact: The stamp included "XMAS 1898" and is often cited in postal Christmas history.
60. December 6.
Fun Fact: St. Nicholas Day remains a key celebration in parts of Europe.
61. Cristes mæsse (Christ's Mass).
Fun Fact: The term reflects the religious service celebrating the birth of Christ.
62. Natalis.
Fun Fact: Related words appear across Romance languages in Christmas vocabulary.
63. Coming or arrival.
Fun Fact: In Christian calendars, Advent marks preparation for the arrival of Christ.
64. Old Norse.
Fun Fact: Yule terms and customs were blended into later Christmas celebrations in parts of Europe.
65. A festive dance song, often in a circle.
Fun Fact: Over time, the term shifted toward religious and seasonal singing.
66. Be in good health.
Fun Fact: The phrase comes from older greeting traditions linked to communal

drinking rituals.

67. Birth.

Fun Fact: Nativity scenes and texts focus specifically on the birth story of Jesus.

68. Matthew and Luke.

Fun Fact: These two accounts include different details and theological emphases.

69. Bethlehem.

Fun Fact: Bethlehem plays a central symbolic role in both scripture and Christmas hymnody.

70. Gold.

Fun Fact: Gold symbolized royalty and honor in many ancient cultures.

71. Frankincense.

Fun Fact: Frankincense was used in temple and ritual settings in the ancient world.

72. Myrrh.

Fun Fact: Myrrh had both medicinal and ceremonial uses in antiquity.

73. No.

Fun Fact: The tradition of three wise men likely comes from the three listed gifts.

74. The Star of Bethlehem.

Fun Fact: The star remains one of the most enduring symbols in Christmas art.

75. Epiphany.

Fun Fact: In many traditions, Epiphany concludes key phases of the Christmas season.

76. NORAD.

Fun Fact: The program began after a newspaper ad misprinted a phone number linked to military operations.

77. White Christmas by Bing Crosby.

Fun Fact: Its long-term global sales made it one of the most commercially successful recordings ever.

78. 364 gifts.

Fun Fact: Because the song is cumulative, each day repeats earlier gifts and increases the total rapidly.

79. Jingle Bells.

Fun Fact: Astronauts on Gemini 6A played it in a famous lighthearted holiday moment.

80. Twelve days.

Fun Fact: This period precedes Epiphany in many Christian liturgical traditions.

81. Germany.

Fun Fact: Early versions used chalk marks or devotional images before modern printed calendars.

82. Sweden.

Fun Fact: Children often wear white robes and candle crowns in the tradition.

83. La Befana.

Fun Fact: La Befana is a beloved folk character tied to January 6 celebration in Italy.

84. El Gordo.

Fun Fact: The drawing on December 22 is one of the most anticipated annual events in Spain.

85. A Christmas cracker.

Fun Fact: Crackers typically include a joke, a small toy, and a paper hat.

86. Brooms.

Fun Fact: The custom comes from old folklore about spirits and witchcraft during winter nights.

87. Spider web ornaments.

Fun Fact: The story symbolizes hope, luck, and transformation in Ukrainian holiday folklore.

88. KFC fried chicken meals.

Fun Fact: A successful marketing campaign in the 1970s helped establish this modern custom.

89. Simbang Gabi.

Fun Fact: The novena usually runs for nine days and is followed by festive food gatherings.

90. A public holiday.

Fun Fact: It is one of the few East Asian countries where Christmas is a national holiday.

91. Mango or banana trees.

Fun Fact: Local plant availability influences how Christmas decorations are adapted by region.

92. Apples.

Fun Fact: The custom links to the pronunciation of peace and Christmas Eve greetings in Mandarin.

93. Las Posadas.

Fun Fact: Families and neighborhoods often host processions, songs, and shared meals.

94. The Rockefeller Center tree lighting.

Fun Fact: It is broadcast widely and attracts large crowds in Manhattan each holiday season.

95. Toronto.

Fun Fact: Toronto's parade tradition dates back to the early 20th century.

96. Roller skates.

Fun Fact: The custom is so established that some streets are closed to cars in the morning.

97. Thirteen.

Fun Fact: They arrive one by one in the days leading up to Christmas.

98. Caga Tio.

Fun Fact: Children traditionally care for and then tap the log to receive small treats.

99. Summer.

Fun Fact: Beach gatherings and barbecues are common in these Southern Hemisphere celebrations.

100. A shoe.

Fun Fact: If it lands a certain way, folklore says marriage may come in the next year.

101. McCallister.

Fun Fact: The film became one of the most watched family holiday movies worldwide.

102. Will Ferrell.

Fun Fact: Buddy's fish-out-of-water story helped make Elf a modern Christmas classic.

103. Tom Hanks.

Fun Fact: He voiced the conductor and several other characters in the same film.

104. It's a Wonderful Life.

Fun Fact: The movie's ending message remains one of the most quoted in holiday cinema.

105. Max.

Fun Fact: Max appears in multiple Grinch adaptations and is often shown as loyal but long-suffering.

106. A Red Ryder BB gun.

Fun Fact: The quote about shooting your eye out became the movie's signature warning joke.

107. Nakatomi Plaza.

Fun Fact: Its Christmas Eve office party setting keeps Die Hard in many holiday watchlists.

108. Hugh Grant.

Fun Fact: The film interweaves multiple storylines and remains a seasonal rom-com favorite.

109. Jack Skellington.

Fun Fact: The film blends Halloween and Christmas themes, making it popular in both seasons.

110. Griswold.

Fun Fact: Clark Griswold's over-the-top holiday chaos made the movie a comedy staple.