



THE GODS OF DAYS

Why do we live with a seven day week?

The answer is because we still regulate our lives by a septimal law that Mesopotamian star-gazers framed, and local warlords imposed, more than 40 centuries ago. Our weekdays and weekends and weeks off, our dress-down Fridays, hectic Saturday nights, Sundays sacred or profane, and Monday-morning blues all have their origin in something that happened around 2350BC. To the Sumerians, ultimately, we owe not only the week but also the 60-minute hour.

Sargon I, King of Akkad, having conquered Ur and the other cities of Sumeria, then instituted a seven-day week, the first to be recorded. Ur was probably using weeks, less formally, long before Sargon came marching in. The Sumerians were great innovators in matters of time. It is to them, ultimately, that we owe not only the week but also the 60-minute hour. Such things came easily to people who based their maths not on a decimal system but on a sexagesimal one.

Why were these clever chaps, who went for 60 because it is divisible by 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 12, 15, 20 and 30, fascinated by stubbornly indivisible seven? In ancient Egypt and ancient China, “weeks” of ten days were long in use—much more understandable, as people have ten fingers to count on, not seven. (And yet you have to wonder, if the Pharaohs’ long week was intended to drive their workforce harder, whether it provoked the Exodus?) Above all, why should the Sumerian system have not merely endured but become an almost universal conqueror? Ur’s posterity now sways regions Sargon never knew. Its lead has been slavishly followed by Babylonians, Greeks, Romans, Hindus ancient and modern, Muslims and most of the present inhabitants of Europe and the Americas. Even China surrendered a good thousand years ago. The year, the day and (not quite so obviously) the month are natural divisions of time. The week is an oddity. The moon’s four phases are a near miss, but still a misfit, for weeks. You will be in trouble (like H.G. Wells’s “The Man Who Could Work Miracles”) if you try to make the moon perform every 28 days, instead of its usual 29½ and a bit.

The Sumerians had a better reason for their septimalism. They worshiped seven gods whom they could see in the sky. Reverently, they named the days of their week for these seven heavenly bodies. So do most of us today. Greeks, Slavs, and many Jews and Muslims, although loyal to Ur’s seven-day week, have shaken off its planet-gods; but a great majority of Christians and of Hindus, and virtually all “unbelievers”, still pay their respects daily to the Sumerian seven—under changed names, of course. For the Sumerians themselves, seven was a very special number. They conceived of a seven-branched Tree of Life, and of seven heavens, that were passed to Babylon and symbolized there in seven-tiered ziggurats, or hanging gardens. Sumeria’s Gilgamesh epic describes the rite of passage through which Enkidu the ape-man became human, thanks to the obliging Shamhat: While the two of them together were making love, He forgot the wild where he was born. For seven days and seven nights Enkidu was erect and coupled with Shamhat. In spite of all that, Ur’s seventh day was not holy. On the contrary, it represented danger and darkness. It was risky to do anything at such a time. So it became a day of rest.

Ever since the time when Abraham trekked westward from Ur, Mesopotamian influences had helped to form Hebrew traditions. The Jews got the story of the Flood from Sumeria. They got the seven-day-week idea early enough to use it in the account of the Creation given in Genesis. But there may have been some garbling in the transmission. The Sumerians would not have depicted the Creator as just sitting back, satisfied, on the seventh day; to them, he would seem to have stopped work, wisely, because anything attempted on that day must end in tears. The week reached India from Mesopotamia more than 2,000 years ago, in time to get into some of the Hindu scriptures. But the Hindus’ creation stories were far more complex than Hebrew ones. They never accepted a Sabbath; their scriptural

references to the week, as in the Brahmapurāṇa, were almost casual: When Brahma had fashioned this universe, he placed his seed in Savitri, his best wife. When she was ready to give birth, she bore the year, the month, the days of the week, the seven Pleiades. The Hindus were keen sky-watchers and sometimes keen septimalists. They had noted the Pleiades (Kṛttikā). Noting also the Great Bear’s seven stars, they identified them with the Seven Sages who survived the Flood, combined these starry sevens, and made the Pleiades the wives of the Sages. Yet, in their absorbent way, they happily adopted the seven planet-gods who arrived with the original Sumerian week. And, in their retentive way, they held on to them. In modern Hindi, as in ancient Sanskrit, the planets we call Mars and Mercury are Mangal and Budh. The days called Tuesday and Wednesday in English, and mardi and mercredi in French, are Mangalvar and Budhvar. Elsewhere, new names have been showered on the old gods and their planets. Yet, to an astonishing extent, they have retained their identities—and kept their places in the order of the days of the week.

Which Day is the Day of Rest?

For the Jews, the Sabbath (Saturday) is the day of rest and worship. On this day God rested after creating the world. Most Christians have made Sunday their day of rest and worship, because Jesus rose from the dead on a Sunday. Muslims use Friday as their day of rest and worship. The Qur’an calls Friday a holy day, the “king of days.”

What Is the First Day of the Week?

The Bible clearly makes the Sabbath the last day of the week, but does not share how that corresponds to our 7 day week. Yet through extra-biblical sources it is possible to determine that the Sabbath at the time of Christ corresponds to our current ‘Saturday.’ Therefore it is common Jewish and Christian practice to regard Sunday as the first day of the week (as is also evident from the Portuguese names for the week days). However, the fact that, for example, Russian uses the name “second” for Tuesday, indicates that some nations regard Monday as the first day. In international standard ISO-8601 the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) has decreed that Monday shall be the first day of the week.

Sumaria's Weekdays has faced many challenges...

The French Revolution brought in a ten-day “week” whose days were, literally, numbered (the experiment lasted, officially, for 12 years, but never really took). As soon as the Bolsheviks seized power in Russia in 1917 they tried, but failed, to imitate the French revolutionaries. Later, for 11 years starting in 1929, Stalin imposed first five-day and then six-day weeks on the Soviet Union. The elimination of Sunday, with its strong religious associations, was one purpose of his experiments. They all failed, abjectly. Warned by this, the communist regimes established in other countries after 1945 did not even try to tamper with the Ur-old seven-day week. The ancient Egyptians used a 10-day week. The Maya calendar uses a 13 and a 20-day week. Slavs used week of nine days before adopting Christianity.

Enter Ishtar and Venus and the Other Gods

The first recorded change came when the Sumerian week-system was transposed into the Semitic language spoken in the Babylonian empire. The day-names used in Babylon around 700BC (running as if from our Sunday to our Saturday) were: Shamash (Sun), Sin (Moon), Nergal (god of war), Nabu (god of scribes), Marduk (supreme god), Ishtar (goddess of love) and Ninurta (god of farming). They had simply replaced their Sumerian predecessors; for example, Ishtar had succeeded Inanna both as a planet and as the presiding deity of love. The seven-day system has leapt blithely from one religious base to another, from Ur of

the Chaldeans to Israel and to Islam. By the time the Romans had adopted the system, the planet-gods wore names more familiar to us: (in the same order) Sol, Luna, Mars, Mercurius, Jupiter, Venus, Saturnus. But their identities remained almost intact. This is further confirmed by pagan peoples who were incorporated into the Roman empire. By the age of Augustus, Romans were aware of “seven day systems” because they had expanded their empire to the middle east. Native pagans named days after seven visible planets and associated planets with gods (e.g., Mercury, Saturn) and the French week preserves many of these names:

- * Monday - lundi - The moon's day
- * Tuesday - mardi - Mars' day
- * Wednesday - mercredi - Mercury's day
- * Thursday - jeudi - Jupiter's day
- * Friday - vendredi - Venus' day
- * Saturday - samedi - Saturn's day
- * Sunday - dimanche - Sun god's day or possibly from the Roman “Di” which referred the 12 great gods of the pantheon.

Romans tended to accept local systems as they took over countries. Roman leaders, diplomats and soldiers, accordingly, would have become increasingly familiar with 7 day week as they established ‘eastern empire.’ They would also have not tried to impose Roman 8 day system on local inhabitants of eastern provinces. Evidence of use of 7 day weeks in Italy appears by end of Republic. By 200 CE, it appears to have been commonly used throughout Roman empire.

The name-chain Inanna-Ishtar-Astarte-Aphrodite had led to Venus. Nergal lived on in Mars. Aptly, the god of scribes had mutated into the heavenly messenger, Mercurius. In English and the other Germanic languages, Mars, Mercurius, Jupiter and Venus were, in time, renamed in honor of Teutonic gods. From Tiw, Woden, Thor and Freya came the names of our weekdays from Tuesday to Friday. Even so, the chain remained unbroken. Although English Wednesday and Scandinavian Onsdag salute the god Woden or Odin, this came about only because he was identified with Mercurius. Similarly, the love-goddess Freya took the place of Venus—and her place in the weekly sequence. Among Europe's Romance and Celtic languages, the Sumarian idea of naming days from planet-gods is obvious. Mercurius is as recognizable in the French mercredi as in Romanian Mercuri or Welsh Mercher. The Slav languages, however, taking a lead from Greek, prefer numbering systems. (Five, in Russian, is pyat; Friday is Pyatnitsa. In Greek, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday are Deutera, Trito and Tetarti; i.e., second, third and fourth.) Saturnus, alone among the planet-gods, resisted Germanization.

And Saturday was “different” from other weekdays long before the two-day weekend developed. In ancient Rome it became somewhat inauspicious. Then it was, for a time, the Sabbath, both for Jews and for many early Christians. It is still Sabato in Italian, Sabado in Spanish, Sobota or Subota in the Slav languages. Over the naming of Sunday some confusion has crept in, for which Constantine the Great is much to blame. In 321AD, when he ordered the cities of his empire to rest on this day, his edict was related to the sun, rather than to Christianity. Three centuries earlier, Augustus had officially recognized the week, with its Sumerian-style planet-gods. Dies solis, the sun's day, was mildly auspicious, but

only the Christians made it really special as their day for congregational prayer, linked with the Resurrection and called the Lord's Day. Constantine chose to boost that day while invoking not Christ but the Unconquered Sun (the emperor himself, at that point, saw the two deities as one). He thereby gratified Christians without offending sun-worshippers. So it was a shrewd move, at the time. But it left the naming of the day in schism. In its Germanic versions it is now strictly the Sun's day (Sonntag, Zondag, etc). But it is given to the Lord (Latin dominus, Greek kyrios) in Romance languages (Domingo, Domenica, dimanche) and Greek (Kyriaki), and the Celts are split, Welsh Dydd Sul confronting Gaelic De Domhnaic. Most striking of all Sunday's names is the Russian Voskresenye (“Resurrection”), which endured through long years of imposed atheism.

Today

Sumeria's 4,400-year-old feat of cultural imperialism is triumphantly intact and more assured of universal acceptance than ever. How can this be explained? Seven is a thoroughly awkward number. It gives us a year of 52 weeks (another awkward number), plus the annoying extra one or two days which force us to keep buying new calendars. The seven-day system's ability to challenge and, in time, overlay all others has always rested on its religious inspiration, not on its practical value. It has leapt blithely from one religious base to another, from Ur of the Chaldeans to Israel, then on to Christendom, to Islam. It infiltrated the Roman empire before Christianity and reached India many centuries before the first Muslim invaders. European colonizers spread it through the Americas, but in the Old World, wherever Hindu or Muslim influences had penetrated, even the earliest European explorers found it was there before them. Today, most of the human race takes it for granted that their activities are recorded in weeks. There are two groups: those who feel that the week has real religious significance and that there is something holy about one day in seven, and those who have no such feeling. In neither group will you find many people who know how the week came into existence, or came to matter. “Men of old” knew. They could read it in the heavens. In a song of great antiquity like “Green grow the rushes O”, it was natural, perhaps unavoidable, to include the line “Seven for the seven stars in the sky”. They are all still there: Sun, Moon, Mars, Mercury, Jupiter, Venus, Saturn. We may send out spacecraft to ring them round, but we ourselves are still held in the grip of the Seven.



Mercury associated with Odin & Nabu

The week of seven days was adopted in Rome somewhere about 400 AD, and spread into Europe, but had been recognized as a period of time long before that in the east. It was probably chosen to give one day each to each of the seven planets known in antiquity. In the southern countries of Europe, the days of the week were named after the gods of the Greeks and Romans. In the English language, as well as in the languages of some of the countries of northern Europe, the gods of the north have given their names to the days.

The Ashanti and some other peoples of West Africa gave a child a special name according to the day of the week on which he was born. The habit was brought to the American South and Caribbean through slavery, where names such as Quashee (Sunday), Cudjo (Monday) and Cufee (Friday) were common.

Monday's child is fair of face,
 Tuesday's child is full of grace,
 Wednesday's child is full of woe,
 Thursday's child has far to go,
 Friday's child is loving and giving,
 Saturday's child works hard for a living,
 But the child that works hard on the Sabbath Day,
 is blithe and bonny, good and gay



Sunday - the first day of the week. The name Sunday comes from the Old English *sunnandæg*, meaning "day of the Sun". From prehistoric times to the close of the fifth century of the Christian era, the worship of the sun was dominant. Sunday celebrates the sun god, Ra, Helios, Apollo, Ogmios, Mithrias, the sun goddess, Phoebe. The metal gold, as dedicated in the symbols of alchemy, is associated with the sun god and Sunday. In the year 321, Constantine the Great ruled that the first day of the week, 'the venerable day of the sun', should be a day of rest. The sun's old association with the first day is responsible for the fact that the Lord's Day of Christianity bears the pagan name of Sunday.



Monday - the second day of the week, day of moon goddess, Selene, Luna and Mani. Derived from *Lunae Dies*, day of the moon, the name reflects the ancient observance of feast days dedicated to the moon goddess or planet. The metal silver, dedicated to the moon for its silvery light, is associated with Monday. Monday: The name Monday comes from the Old English *Munandæg*, meaning "day of the Moon". This is likely based off of a translation of the Latin name *dies Lunae*.

Tuesday - the third day of the week. Tuesday comes from the Old English *Tiwesdæg*, meaning "Tyr's day." In the Roman calendar the corresponding day was *dies Martis*, the day of Mars, associated with Ares. This day is derived from Tyr or Tir, the god of honorable war, the wrestler and the son of Odin, the Norse god of war and his wife Frigga, the earth mother. His emblem is the sword, and in olden days the people paid him great homage. Tuesday was named in his honor. The metal iron, dedicated to Mars and interpreted as his spear and shield, is an attribute of Tuesday.

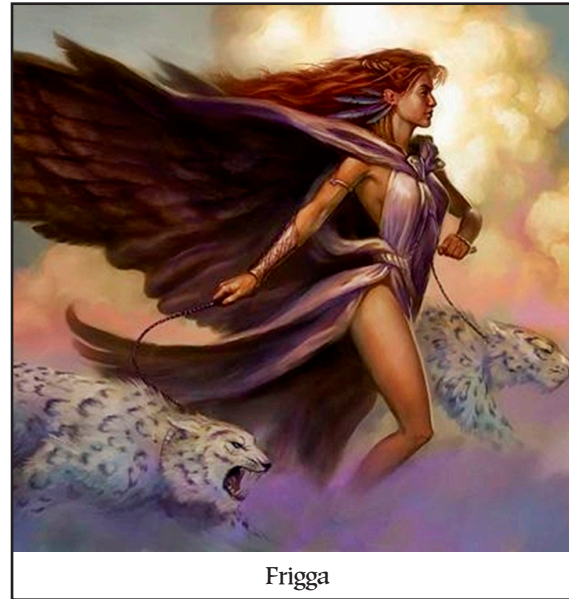


Tyr



Woden

Wednesday - the fourth day of the week, corresponds to the Roman Dies Mercurii. This name comes from the Old English Wodnesdæg meaning the day of the Germanic god Woden (Wodan), more commonly known as Odin, who was the highest god in Norse mythology, and a prominent god of the Anglo-Saxons in England until about the seventh century. It is based on Latin dies Mercurii, "Day of Mercury". The connection between Mercury and Odin is more strained than the other day connections. The explanation is that both Odin and Mercury were considered leaders of souls, in their respective mythologies. Also, in Norse myth, Odin, like Mercury, is associated with poetic and musical inspiration.



Frigga

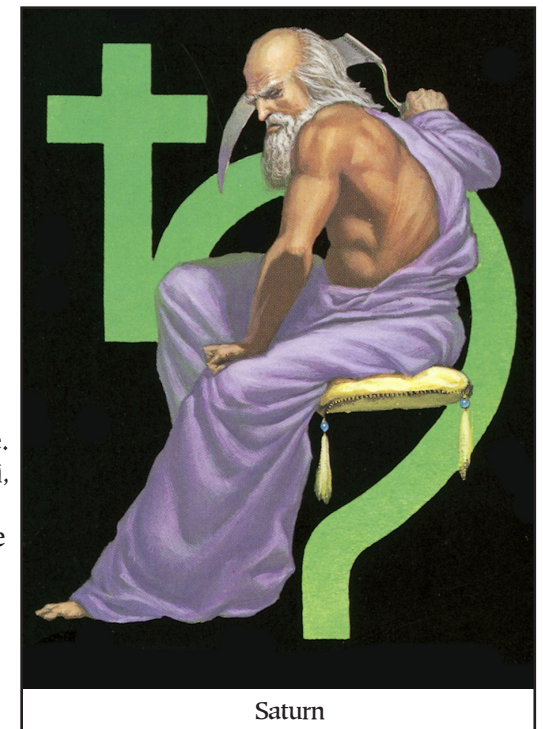
Friday - the sixth day of the week. The name is derived from frigidæg, meaning the day of Frige, the Germanic goddess of beauty and Odin's wife. She is a later renamed to the Norse goddess Frigg, but also potentially connected to the Goddess Freyja. Frigga is considered to be the mother of all, and the goddess who presides over marriage. The name means loving or beloved. The corresponding Latin name is Dies Veneris, a day dedicated to Venus, the goddess of love.

Thursday - the fifth day of the week. It derives its name from the Middle English Thorsday, or Thursdaye, corresponding to the Roman dies Jovis. Thor, the god of strength and thunder, defender and soldier in war, son of Odin, is the counterpart of Jupiter or Jove. Thor is one of the twelve great gods of northern mythology. He is the only god who cannot cross from earth to heaven upon the rainbow, for he is so heavy and powerful that the gods fear it will break under his weight. It was said that whenever Thor threw his hammer, the noise of thunder is heard through the heavens. Thursday was sacred to Thor. The metal tin is associated with the thunderbolt of Jupiter (Zeus in Greek myth) and is an attribute of Thursday.



Thor

Saturday - The only day of the week to retain its Roman origin in English, named after the Roman god Saturn associated with the Titan Cronos, father of Zeus and many Olympians. It corresponds to the Roman dies Saturni, or day of Saturn, the Roman god of agriculture. Saturday is also represented by Loki, the Norse god of tricks and chaos. The metal lead is associated with the scythe of Saturn, and is therefore an attribute of Saturday.



Saturn

Seven Day Week Attributes and Cultural References

What do the names of the days of the week mean? An answer to this question is closely linked to the language and culture. Whereas most languages use the same names for the months (with a few Slavonic languages as notable exceptions), there is great variety in names that various languages use for the days of the week. Most cultures ascribe the days of the week to the seven planets which correspond to the modern Sun, Moon, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn. The seven planet system given to the days of the week predates ancient Mesopotamian, Chinese and the Vedic cultures. A few examples will be given here:

Day/Language	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Old Norse	Mánadagr - Moon's Day	Tysdagr - Tyr's Day	Óðinsdagr - Woden's Day	Tórsdagur - Thor's Day	Frjádagr - Freya's Day	Laugardagr - Loki's Day or Washing Day	Sunnudagr - Sun's Day
Portuguese	Segunda-feira - Second Day	Terça-feira - Third Day	Quarta-feira - Fourth Day	Quinta-feira - Fifth Day	Sexta-feira - Sixth Day	Sabado - Resting Day	Domingo - Lord's Day
French	Lundi - Day of the Moon	Mardi - Day of Mars	Mercredi - Day of Mercury	Jeudi - Day of Jupiter	Vendredi - Day of Venus	Samedi - Day of Saturn	Dimanche - Day of the Sun
Roman	dies lunae - Day of the Moon	dies Martis - Day of Mars	dies Mercurii - Day of Mercury	dies Jovis - Day of Jupiter	dies Veneris - Day of Venus	dies Saturni - Day of Saturn	dies solis - Day of the Sun
Greek	heméra Selenes - Day of the Moon Goddess Selene	heméra Áreos - Day of the War God Aries	heméra Hermou - Day of the Knowledge God Hermes	heméra Diós - Day of the Sky God Zeus	heméra Aphrodíte - Day of the Love Goddess Aphrodite	heméra Krónou - Day of the Time God Chronos	heméra Helíou - Day of the Sun God Helios
Babylonian	ud Sin - Day of the Moon God Sin	ud Nergel - Day of the Death God Nergel	ud Nabu - Day of the Wisdom God Nabu	ud Anu - Day of the Sky God Anu or Marduk	ud Ishtar - Day of the Love Goddess Ishtar or Inanna	ud Ninurta - Day of the Farm/War God Ninurta	ud Shamash - Day of the Sun God Shamash
Russian	Ponedelnik - Do Nothing Day	Vtornik - Second Day	Sreda - Middle Day	Chetverg - Forth Day	Pyatnitsa - Fifth Day	Subbota - Rest Day	Voskresenye - Resurrection Day
Japanese	Getsuyobi - Moon Day	Kayobi - Fire Day	Suiyobi - Water Day	Mokuyobi - Wood Day	Kin'yobi - Gold Day	Doyobi - Earth Day	Nichiyobi - Sun Day
Sanskrit	Soma vasara - Moon Day	Maṅgala vasara - Mars Day	Bhudda vasara - Wise Day or Mercury Day	Guru vasara - Teacher Day or Jupiter Day	Sukra vasara - Venus Day	Sani vasara - Saturn Day	Ravi vasara - Sun Day
Hebrew	Yom Shaynee - Second Day	Yom Shlee'shee - Third Day	Yom Reeve'e - Forth Day	Yom Khah'mee'shee - Fifth Day	Yom Ha'shee'shee - Sixth Day	Shabbat - Rest	Yom Reeshone - First Day

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Abkhaz	Aԁәаҭь (Aԁәaxʼ)	Aԁаи (Aԁаәš)	Aԁаи (Aԁаәš)	Aԁынаи (Aԁs' aš)	Aԁәиш (Aԁәәš)	Aԁагиш (Asabš)	Aԁәрыш (Amčyš)
Afrikaans	Maandag 'moon day'	Dinsdag 'thing day'	Woensdag 'Wodin's day'	Donderdag 'Thor's day'	Vrydag 'Frige's day'	Saterdag 'Saturn's day'	Sondag 'sun day'
Albanian	e hënë 'of moon'	e martë 'of mars'	e mërkurë 'of mercury'	e enjte 'of Enlil'e (local deity identified with Zeus)	e premte 'of Venus'	e shtunë 'of sabath'	e diel 'of sun'
Alsatian	Mandi	Zischdi	Mittwuch	Dunnerschdi	Fridi	Sâmschdi	Sunddi
Amharic	ሰኞ (senyo)	ማኅበርኛ (maksenyo)	፲ቡዕ (rob)	ሐሙስ (hamus)	ባርብ (arb)	ቀንዳሜ (kidami)	እኩል (ehud)
Arabic (Modern Standard)	يوم الاثنين (yaum al-itnayn)	يوم الثلاثاء (yaum at-talāthā)	يوم الأربعاء (yaum al-arbaʿā)	يوم الخميس (yaum al-khamis)	يوم الجمعة (yaum al-jumʿā)	يوم السبت (yaum as-sabt)	الأحد (yaum al-ahad)
Arabic (Egyptian)	الاثنين (I-etnen)	الثلاثاء (et-talāt)	الاربعاء (I-arbaʿ)	الخميس (el-khamēs)	الجمعة (el-gomʿā)	السبت (es-sabt)	الحد (el-hadd)
Arabic (Moroccan)	يوم الإثنين (nhar letnin)	يوم الثلاثاء (nhar tllat)	يوم الأربعاء (nhar larb)	يوم الخميس (nhar lekhmīs)	يوم الجمعة (nhar zzhemʿa)	يوم السبت (nhar ssabt)	يوم الأحد (nhar lhedd)
Aragonese	Luns	Martes	Miércols	Chuebes	Biernes	Sabado	Domingo
Aranese	deluns	dimars	dimèrcles	dijaus	diuendres	dissabte	dimenge
Armenian	Երեքուշաբթի (Yereghoshapti)	Երեքշաբթի (Yerekshapti)	Չորեքշաբթի (Chorekshapti)	Հինգշաբթի (Hinkshapti)	Ուրբաթ (Ourpat)	Շաբաթ (Shapat)	Կիրակի (Giragi)
Asturian	Ilunes	martes	miércoles	xueves	vienres	sábadu	domingu
Azerbaijani	Bazar ertəsi	Çərşənbə axşamı	Çərşənbə	Cümə axşamı	Cümə	Şənbə	Bazar
Basque	astelehena	asteartea	asteazkena	osteguna	ostirala	larunbata	iganda
Belarussian	панядзелак (panjadzielak)	аўторак (aŭtorak)	серада (sierada)	чацьвер (čacvier)	пятніца (pjatnica)	сыбота (sybota)	нядзеля (njadzleja)
Bosnian	ponedjeljak	utorak	srijeda	cxetvrtak	petak	subota	nedjelja
Breton	dilun 'moon day'	dimeurz 'Mars day'	dimerher 'Mercury day'	diriaou 'Jupiter day'	digwener 'Venus day'	disadorn 'Saturn day'	disul 'sun day'
Bulgarian	понеделник (ponedelnik)	вторник (vtornik)	сряда (srjada)	четвъртък (četvǎrtǎk)	петък (petǎk)	събота (sabota)	неделя (nedelja)
Catalan	dilluns	dimarts	dimenes	dijous	divendres	dissabte	diuenge
Chechen	Оршот (Orshot)	Шинара (Shinara)	Kхаара (Qaara)	Eapa (Eara)	ПӀераска (P'eraska)	Шот (Shot)	КӀтраде (K'trade)
Cherokee	ᏌᏊᏚᏗᏴᏚᏃ (Unadodquaṣvni)	ᏌᏊᏚᏗ ᏒᏚᏂ (Tsaline Iga)	ᏌᏊᏚᏗ ᏒᏚᏂ (Tsngvine Iga)	ᏌᏊᏚᏗ ᏒᏚᏂ (Tsngvine Iga)	ᏌᏊᏚᏗ ᏒᏚᏂ (Tsunglosdi)	ᏌᏊᏚᏗ ᏒᏚᏂ (Unododawidenä)	ᏌᏊᏚᏗ ᏒᏚᏂ (Unododquaṣgvi)
Chinese (Cantonese)	星期一 (singkeih yat) 禮拜一 (láiibaai yat)	星期二 (singkeih yih) 禮拜二 (láiibaai yih)	星期三 (singkàih saam) 禮拜三 (láiibaai saam)	星期四 (singkàih sei) 禮拜四 (láiibaai sei)	星期五 (singkàih ngh) 禮拜五 (láiibaai ngh)	星期六 (singkàih lukh) 禮拜六 (láiibaai lukh)	星期日 (singkàih yaht) 禮拜(日) (láiibaai yaht)
Chinese (Hakka)	拜一 (bai ⁵ -jit ³)	拜二 (bai ⁵ -ngit ⁵)	拜三 (bai ⁵ -sam ¹)	拜四 (bai ⁵ -si ⁵)	拜五 (bai ⁵ -ng ³)	拜六 (bai ⁵ -luk ⁷)	禮拜日 (lei ² -bai ⁵ -ngit ⁷)
Chinese (Mandarin)	星期一 (xíngqīyī) 禮拜一 (lǐbàiyī)	星期二 (xíngqī'èr) 禮拜二 (lǐbài'èr)	星期三 (xíngqī'sān) 禮拜三 (lǐbài'sān)	星期四 (xíngqī'sì) 禮拜四 (lǐbài'sì)	星期五 (xíngqī'wú) 禮拜五 (lǐbài'wú)	星期六 (xíngqī'lù) 禮拜六 (lǐbài'lù)	星期日/天 (xíngqī'rì/tiān) 禮拜日/天 (lǐbài'rì/tiān)
Chinese (Taiwanese)	拜一 (pai ³ -it)	拜二 (pai ³ -ji ⁷)	拜三 (pai ³ -sa ⁷)	拜四 (pai ³ -si ⁹)	拜五 (pai ³ -go ⁷)	拜六 (pai ³ -lak ⁸)	禮拜日 (lei ² -pai ³ -jit ⁸)
Cornish	dy' Lun 'moon day'	dy' Meurth 'Mars day'	dy' Mergher 'Mercury day'	dy' Yow 'Jupiter day'	dy' Gwener 'Venus day'	dy' Sador'n 'Saturn day'	dy' Sul 'sun day'
Corsican	luni	marti	marcuri	ghjovi	venneri	sabbatu	duomenica
Croatian	ponedjeljak 'first day after no activities'	utorak 'second day after no activities'	srijeda 'middle'	četvrtak 'fourth working day'	petak 'fifth working day'	subota 'Sabbath'	nedjelja 'no activities'
Czech	pondělí	úterý	středa	čtvrtek	pátek	sobota	nedele
Danish	mandag	tirsdag	onsdag	torsdag	fredag	lordag	sondag
Dġernésiais	lundi	mardi	méquerdi	jeudi	venderdi	samedi	dinnmanche
Drehu	Thupene hmi	Drai ange dic	Drai menu	Drai kaco	Drai katru	Drai meci xen	Drai hmritrótr
Dutch	maandag	dinsdag	woensdag	donderdag	vrijdag	zaterdag	zondag
Dzongkha	འགར་མིག་དཔལ་	འགར་ལྷག་པ་	འགར་ལཱ་པ་	འགར་པ་མངམ་	འགར་ཤེན་པ་	འགར་ཉི་མ་	འགར་ལྷ་པ་
Estonian	esmaspäev	teisipäev	kolmapäev	neljapäev	reed	laupäev	pühapäev
Faroese	mánadagur	ţýsdagur	hósdagur	friggjadagur	leygdagur	sunnudagur	punningdagur
Fijian	Móniti	Tústii	Vukelulu	Lotulevu	Vakarabuka	Vakarauwai	Sigatabu

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
French	lundi 'moon day'	mardi 'Mars day'	mercredi 'Mercury day'	jeudi 'Jupiter day'	vendredi 'Venus day'	samedi 'day of the Sabbath'	dimanche 'day of the Lord'
Frisian (North)	monnendei	tirsdei	winsdei	tûrsdei	frideisennin	sennin	sennedei
Frisian (Saterfrisian)	Moundai	Tâisdai	Midwiek	Tuunsdai	Frâindai	Snâiwende	Sundai
Frisian (West)	Moandei	Tiisdei	Woansdei	Tongersdei	Freed	Sneon	Snein
Friulian	lunis	martars	miercus	joibe	vinars	sâbide	domenie
Galician	luns	martes	mércores	xoves	venres	sábado	domingo
Ganda	Kazooba / Bbalaza	Walumbe / Lwakubiri	Mukasa / Lwakusatu	Kiwanuka / Lwakuna	Nnagawonye / Lwakutaano	Wamunyi / Lwamukaaga	Wangu / Ssande
Georgian	ორშაბათი (oršabat'i)	სამშაბათი (samsabat'i)	ოთხშაბათი (ot'xšabat'i)	ხუთშაბათი (xut'šabat'i)	პარასკევი (paraskevi)	შაბათი (šabat'i)	კვირა (kvira)
German	Montag 'moon day'	Dienstag 'Thing(sus) day' (a god identified with Mars)	Mittwoch 'midweek'	Donnerstag 'thunder (Thor's) day'	Freitag 'Frige's day'	Samstag 'Saturn day'	Sonntag 'sun day'
German (Swiss)	Määntig	Zischtig	Mittwuch	Dunschtig	Früitag	Samschtig	Sunntig
German (Swabian)	Mendich	Denschdich	Mittich	Donnerschtich	Fräidich	Samschdich	Sonndich
Greek (Ancient)	ἡμέρα Σελήνης (héméra Selénēs)	ἡμέρα Ἄρεως (héméra Áreos)	ἡμέρα Ἑρμοῦ (héméra Hermou)	ἡμέρα Διός (héméra Díos)	ἡμέρα Ἀφροδίτης (héméra Aphrodítēs)	ἡμέρα Κρόνου (héméra Krónou)	ἡμέρα Ἠλίου (héméra Héliou)
Greek (Modern)	Δευτέρα (Deytéra)	Τρίτη (Trítē)	Τετάρτη (Tetártē)	Πέμπτη (Pémpťē)	Παρασκευή (Paraskeyé)	Σάββατο (Sávvalo)	Κυριακή (Kyriaké)
Greenlandic	ataasingorneq	marlunnorneq	pingasunnorneq	sisamanngorneq	tallimannorneq	arfininnorneq	sapaat
Gujarati	સોમવાર (somvār)	મંગળવાર (maṅgaḷvār)	બુધવાર (bud'vār)	ગુરુવાર (guru'vār)	શુક્રવાર (śukra'vār)	શનિવાર (śaṇi'vār)	રવિવાર (ra'vīvār)
Haitian Creole	lendi	madi	mèkredi	dijedi	vandredi	samdi	dimanch
Hebrew	יום שני (yôm šeni)	יום שלישי (yôm šliši)	יום רביעי (yôm rv'i)	יום חמישי (yôm hamiši)	יום שישי (yôm šiši)	יום שבת (yôm šabat)	יום ראשון (yôm r'šōn)
Hindi	सोमवार (somvār)	मंगलवार (mamaṅgalvār)	बुधवार (budhvār)	गुरुवार (guruvār)	शुक्रवार (śukravār)	शनिवार (śanivār)	रविवार (ravivār)
Hungarian	hétfő	kedd	szierda	csütörtök	péntek	szombat	vasárnap
Icelandic	mánudagur	þriðjudagur	miðvikudagur	fimmtudagur	föstudagur	laugardagur	sunnudagur
Indonesian	Senin	Selasa	Rabu	Kamis	Jumat	Sabtu	Minggu
Irish (Gaelic)	Dé Luan 'moon day'	Dé Mairt 'Mars' day '	Dé Céadaoin 'day of the first fast'	Déardaoin 'day between fasts'	Dé h-Aoine 'day of the (primary) fast'	Dé Sathairn 'Saturn's day'	Dé Domhnaigh 'Lord's day'
Italian	lunedì	martedì	mercoledì	giovedì	venerdì	sabato	domenica
Japanese	月曜日 (getsuyōbi)	火曜日 (kayōbi)	水曜日 (suiyōbi)	木曜日 (mokuyōbi)	金曜日 (kinyōbi)	土曜日 (doyōbi)	日曜日 (nichiyōbi)
Jèrriais	Lundi	Mardi	Mêcredi	Jeudi	Vendrédi	Sanm'di	Dinmanche
Kapampangan	Lunes	Martes	Miercules	Huebes	Biernes	Sabado	Domingo
Kashubian	Pòniédzòlk	Wtòrk	Strzoda	Czwòrtk	Piàtk	Sòbòta	Niedzela
Kazakh	дүйсенбі (Düysenbi)	сейсенбі (Seysenbi)	сәрсенбі (Särsenbi)	бейсенбі (Beysenbi)	жұма (Juma)	сәнбі (Senbi)	жексенбі (Zheksenbe)
Khoekhoe (Nama)	mantaxtses #gurotses	denstaxtses lgamĩtses	wunstaxtses Inonalĩtses	donertaxtses hakallĩtses	fraltaxtses korollĩtses	satertaxtses Inanilĩtses	sontaxtses hullĩtses
Korean	월요일 (weuryoil)	화요일 (hwayoil)	수요일 (suyoil)	목요일 (mokyoil)	금요일 (geumyoil)	토요일 (toyoil)	일요일 (ilyoil)
Ladino	לונס (Lunes)	מארטיס (Martes)	מירקוליס (Mierkoles)	לואוב'יס (Djueves)	ב'ירניס (Viernes)	שבת (Shabat)	אלחד (Alhad)
Lakota	Anpétu thókáhe	Anpétu núnpa	Anpétu yámni	Anpétu tópa	Anpétu záptan	Owárgyžuzažapi	Anpétu wakšíŋpa
Latin	diēs Iūnae	diēs martis	diēs mercurī	diēs iovis	diēs veneris	diēs saturnī	diēs solis
Latin (Church)	secunda feria	tertia feria	quarta feria / media hebdomas	quinta feria	sexta feria	sabbatum	(dies) dominica
Latin (Vulgar)	lunae dies	martis dies	mercurii dies	iovis dies	veneris dies	sabbatum	dominicus
Latvian	pirmdiena	otrdiena	trešdiena	ceturtdiena	piektdiena	sestdiena	svētdiena
Ligurian	lōnedi	martedì	mercoledì	zœggia	venardi	sabbu	dumènnega
Limburchish	Maensdig	Daensdig	Goonsdig	Dönderdig	Vriedig	Zaoterdig	Zöndig

Days of the Week in the Modern Languages, *cont...*

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Lithuanian	Pirmadienis	Antradienis	Trečiadienis	Ketvirtadienis	Penktadienis	Šeštadienis	Sekmadienis
Livonian	ežžõmpäva	tuoznapäva	kuolmõndpäva	neljõndpäva	brēcig	püolpäva	piväpäva
Low German	Maandag	Dingsdag	Middeweken	Dunnersdag	Freedag	Saterdag	Sünndag
Luxembourgish	Méindeg	Dänschdeg	Méttwoch	Donneschdeg	Freideg	Samschdeg	Sonndeg
Macedonian	Понеделник (Ponedelnik)	Вторник (Vtornik)	Среда (Sreda)	Четврток (Chetvrtok)	Петок (Petok)	Сабота (Sabota)	Недела (Nedela)
Malay	Isnin	Selasa	Rabu	Khamis	Jumaat	Sabtu	Ahad
Maltese	it-Tnejn	it-Tlieta	I-Erbgha	il-Ħamis	il-Gimgha	is-Sibt	il-Ħadd
Manx	Jelhune	Jemaurt	Jecrean	Jerdein	Jeheiney	Jesam	Jedoonee
Maori	rāhine	rātū	rāapa	rāpare	rāmere	rāhoro	rātapu
Marshallese	Jabōt	Mānde	Juje	Wōnje	Taije	Bōraide	Jādede
Mongolian	даваа (davaa)	мягмар (myagmar)	лхагва (ikhgva)	пүрэв (pürev)	баасан (baasan)	бямба (byamba)	ням (nyam)
Neapolitan	lunneri	marteri	miercuri	gioveri	viernari	sàbbato	dummeneca
Nepali	सोमबार (Sombar)	मंगलबार (Mangalbar)	बुधबार (Budhbar)	बिहीबार (Bihibar)	शुक्रबार >r />(Shukrabar)	शनिबार (Shanibar)	आइतबार (Aitabar)
Normand	lundi	mardi	mercrédi	jéudi	vendrédi	sammedi	dimmaunche
Norweigan (Bokmål)	mandag	tirsdag	onsdag	torsdag	fredag	lordag	søndag
Norweigan (Nynorsk)	måndag	tysdag	onsdag	torsdag	fredag	laurdag	sundag
Occitan	diluns	dimars	dimècres	dijòus	divendres	dissabte	dimenge
Old English	Mōnandæg 'moon day'	Tīwesdæg 'Tiw's day'	Wōdnesdæg 'Woden's day'	Punnesdæg 'Thor's day'	Frīgedæg 'Frige's day'	Sæternesdæg 'Saturn's day'	Sunnandæg 'sun day'
Old Norse	Mánadagr	Týsdagr	Óðinsdagr	Þórsdagr	Frjádagr	Laugardagr	Sunnudagr
Papiamentu	djaluna	djamaris	djarason	djaweps	djablèrna	djasabra	djadomingo
Persian	دوشنبه (doshanbeh)	سه‌شنبه (seshanbeh)	چهارشنبه (chaharshanbeh)	پنجشنبه (panjshanbeh)	جمعه (jom'e)	شنبه (shanbeh)	یکشنبه (yekshanbeh)
Plautdietsch	Moondag	Dinjsdag	Meddweakj	Donnadag	Friedag	Sinnovend	Sinndag
Poitevin	léndi	mardi	mécrdi	jheùdi	vendrdi	sémedi	dimenche
Polish	poniedziałek	wtorek	środa	czwartek	piątek	sobota	niedziela
Portuguese	segunda-feira	terça-feira	quarta-feira	quinta-feira	sexta-feira	sábado	domingo
Provençal	dilun	dimars	dimèdre	dijòu	dissate	dimenche	
Quechua	Killachau	Atipachau	Qoyllurchau	Illapachau	Ch'askachau	K'uychichau	Intichu
Rapanui	ra'ā pō tahi	ra'ā pō rua	ra'ā pō toru	ra'ā pō ho	ra'ā pō rima	ra'ā pō ono	ra'ā pō hitu
Romanian	luni	marți	miercuri	joi	vineri	sîmbătă	duminică
Russian	понеделник (ponedel'nik)	вторник (vtornik)	среда (sreda)	четверг (chetverk)	пятница (pyatnitsa)	суббота (subbota)	воскресенье (voskresen'ye)
Samoan	Aso Gafua	Aso Lua	Aso Lulu	Aso Tofi	Aso Faraile	Aso To'ona'i	Aso Sā
Sanskrit	इन्द्रवासरम् (indu vāsaram)	भौमवासरम् (bhauma vāsaram)	सौम्यवासरम् (saumya vāsaram)	गुरुवासरम् (guru vāsaram)	भृगुवासरम् (bhrgu vāsaram)	शिवरवासरम् (sthira vāsaram)	भानुवासरम् (bhānu vāsaram)
Sardinian	lunis	martis	mércuris	giòvia	chenábura	sáppadu	dumíniga
Saraiki	سَوَارِ اَچنڌر وار (Sowar)	مَنگوار (Mungal'Var)	بُدوار (Budh'Var)	خَمیس (Khamees)	رَہوارِ زَہوار (Zum'ma/VaDavar)	چَہنڌر (Chahn'r Chahn'r)	آرتوار (Adat'var)
Scots	Monanday	Tysday	Wadensday	Fuirsday	Friday	Seturday	Sunday
Scottish Gaelic	Diluain 'moon day'	Dimàirt 'Mar's day'	Diciadain 'day of the first fast'	Diardaoin 'day between fasts'	Dihaoine 'day of the (primary fast)'	Disatharna 'Saturn's day'	Didòmhnaich 'Lord's day' Là na Sàbaid 'Sabbath day'
Serbian	Понедељак (ponedeljak)	Уторак (utorak)	Среда (sreda)	Четвртак (četvrtak)	Петак (petak)	Субота (subota)	Недеља (nedelja)
Sercquiais	lúdi	mardi	mekrèdi	djôdi	vâdrûdi	samdi	dîmâch
Sesotho	Mantaha	Labobedi	Laboraro	Labone	Labohlano	Moqebelo	Sontaha
Slovak	pondelok	utorok	streda	štvrtok	piatok	sobota	nedeľa
Slovenian	Ponedeljek	Torek	Sreda	Četrtek	Petek	Sobota	Nedelja
Sorbian	póndzela	wutora	srjeda	štwórk	pjatk	sobota	njedzela
Spanish	lunes	martes	miércoles	jueves	viernes	sábado	domingo
Swahili	jumatatu	jumanne	jumatano	alhamisi	ijumaa	jumamosi	jumapili
Swedish	måndag	tisdag	onsdag	torsdag	fredag	lördag	söndag

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Tagalog	Lunes	Martes	Miyerkules	Huwebes	Biyernes	Sabado	Lingo
Tahtitian	Moniré	Mahana Piti	Mahana Toru	Mahana Maha	Mahana Pae	Mahana Mā'a	Tāpati
Tamil	திங்கல் (tingkal)	செவ்வாய் (cevvāy)	புதன் (putan)	வியாழன் (viyāḷan)	வெள்ளி (vell)	சனி (caṇi)	ஞாயிறு (ṇayāṭṭu)
Thai	วันจันทร์ (wan chan)	วันอังคาร (wan angkân)	วันพุธ (wan phut)	วันพฤหัสบดี (wan paruhat)	วันศุกร์ (wan suk)	วันเสาร์ (wan sao)	วันอาทิตย์ (wan a-tit)
Tibetan	གནང་ཇུག་པ་ (gza' zla ba)	གནང་མིག་མར་ (gza' mig mar)	གནང་ལྷག་པ་ (gza' lhag pa)	གནང་ཕུར་བུ་ (gza' phur bu)	གནང་པ་སངས་ (gza' pa sangs)	གནང་སྤེན་པ་ (gza' spen pa)	གནང་རྒྱུ་མ་ (gza' nyi ma)
Tok Pisin	Mande	Tunde	Trinde	Fonde	Fraide	Sarere	Sande
Tsonga	Musumbhunuku	Ravumbirhi	Ravunharhu	Ravumune	Ravunthanu	Mugqivela	Sonto
Turkish	Pazartesi	Salı	Çarşamba	Perşembe	Cuma	Cumartesi	Pazar
Tuvaluan	Aso Gafua	Aso Lua	Aso Tolu	Aso Fā	Aso Lima	Aso Ono	Aso Tapu / Aso Sā
Ukrainian	понеділок (ponedilok)	вівторок (vivtorok)	середа (sereda)	четвер (chetver)	п'ятниця (p'jatyncja)	субота (subota)	неділя (nedilya)
Urdu	پير (pīr)	منگل (mangal)	بدھ (buddh)	جمعرات (jum'eh'rāt)	جمعہ (jum'ah)	ہفت (hafta)	اتوار (itvār)
Uzbek	Dushanba	Seshanba	Chorshanba	Payshanba	Juma	Shanba	Yakshanba
Venda	Musumbuluwo	ḽavhuvhili	ḽavhuru	ḽavhupa	ḽavhutanu	Mugivhela	Swondaha
Vietnamese	thứ hai (次仁)	thứ ba (次三)	thứ tư (次四)	thứ năm (次五)	thứ sáu (次六)	thứ bảy (次七)	chủ nhật (主日)
Võro	iispäiv	tõõsõpäiv	kolmapäiv	neläpäiv	niidi	puulpäiv	pühäpäiv
Walloon	londi	mårdi	mierkidi	djudi	vèndri	semdi	dimenge
Welsh	dydd Llun 'moon day'	dydd Mawrth 'Mars day'	dydd Mercher 'Mercury day'	dydd Iau 'Jupiter day'	dydd Gwener 'Venus day'	dydd Sadwrn 'Saturn day'	dydd Sul 'sun day'
Yiddish	מאָנטיק (montik)	דינסטיק (dinstik)	מיטוואך (mitvokh)	דאנערשטיק (donershtik)	פרייטיק (fraytik)	שבת (shabes)	זונטיק (zuntik)
Zulu	uMombuluko	uLwesibili	uLwesithathu	uLwesine	uLewishlanu	uMgqibelo	iSonto

Days of the Week in Constructed Languages

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Esperanto	lundo	mardo	merkredo	ĵaŭdo	vendredo	sabato	dimanĉo
Folkspraak	Maandag	Densdag	Midwich	Dorsdag	Freidag	Samstag	Saandag
Ido	lundio	mardio	merkurdio	jovdio	venerdio	saturdio	sundio
Interlingua	lunedì	martedì	mercuridì	jovedì	venerdì	saturdì	sabbato
Interlingue	lunedì	mardì	mercurdì	jovedì	venerdì	saturdì	soledì
Interglossa	di bi / luna-di	di tri / mars-di	di tetra / merkuri-di	di penta / bronto-di	di sixa / veneri-di	di seti / satura-di / sabato	di mo
Lingua Franca Nova	Lundi	Martedi	Mercurdi	Jovedi	Venerdi	Saturdi	Soldi
Lojban	lurdei	fagdei	jaurdei	mudydei	jemdei	tedydei	soldei
Talossan	Lüneçi	Maitzi	Márcuri	Xhúadi	Viénerçi/Chenapura	Sáturi	Súladi
Volapük	teüdel	kilüdel	folüdel	lulüdel	mälüdel	velüdel	balüdel