

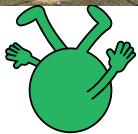
# CHINESE NEW YEAR

PAGE 1 - ORIGIN



## WHEN IS IT?

The exact date of the Chinese New Year is determined by the lunar calendar, which is different from the Gregorian calendar we use today. This means that the date of the Chinese New Year is not the same for each year. In 2021, the Chinese New Year will be on February 12th; in 2020, however, it was on January 25th.



## ORIGIN

According to tales and legends, the Chinese New Year started with a monster called the "Nian". Nian would go to the village and eat the villagers once a year during spring, and people were afraid of it. One year, an old man came to the village and said that he has a way to prevent this disaster. At night, the old man set off firecrackers and put up red papers to scare Nian off. The villagers then learned that Nian is afraid of the color red and loud noises, so when new year is approaching, they would wear red clothes and use firecrackers to scare Nian off. This tradition continued till this day.



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## PAGE 2 - TRADITIONS



### TRADITIONAL CLOTHING

The traditional way to dress for Chinese New Year is to wear a qipao or a cheongsam frock, traditionally you would wear this in red.



### TRADITIONAL GIFTS

Fruit baskets are a common and proper gift for your Chinese hosts. Giving a box of oranges or a box of apples is recommended because apples and oranges respectively symbolize safety and fortune. Also, it's tradition to give the gift of a bright, beautiful red envelope (known as hóngbāo) to your friends and family. The red color symbolizes good luck and prosperity in Chinese cultures.

### TRADITIONAL FOOD

1. Dumplings
2. Sweet rice balls (tang yuan)
3. Spring rolls
4. good fortune fruit
5. Glutinous rice cake (niangao)
6. Longevity noodles

