

GALACTIC TICK DAY CALENDAR

Celebrate our solar system's orbit around the Milky Way!



How is a “Galactic Tick” calculated?

Galactic Tick Day begins with the question, “How can we celebrate our orbit around the Milky Way galaxy?”

Just as the earth orbits our sun once a year, our solar system orbits the Milky Way galaxy approximately every 225 million years. That’s a long time between celebrations, so celebrating once per orbit the way we celebrate New Year’s Day wouldn’t be so exciting.

The solution is to give meaning to a seemingly arbitrarily smaller units of time - and likewise shorter movements around our galaxy reminiscent of the “tick” of a clock hand. Just as a day can be divided into seconds, The 225 million-year galactic orbit can be divided into “Galactic Ticks” - 1/100th of an arcsecond, which works out to 1.7361 Earth years.

That’s how often, but the next question is when to celebrate! Just as the Gregorian calendar marks year 0 with the birth of Christ, Galactic Tick Day needs a Galactic Tick 0 from which all other Galactic Tick Days can be referenced. Since Galactic Tick Day is symbolically tied to cosmic awareness, the day that Hans Lippershey patented the first telescope is a natural fit. That day is October 2nd, 1608, the first Galactic Tick Day.

Here are the dates for the past few and next several Galactic Tick Days:

Apr 10, 2013	Dec 15, 2021	Nov 24, 2028
Sep 29, 2016	Sep 10, 2023	Aug 20, 2030
Jun 26, 2018	Jun 05, 2025	May 15, 2032
Mar 21, 2020	Mar 01, 2027	Feb 09, 2034

Interested? Why not share!

Galactic Tick Day is a chance to collectively reflect on our cosmic togetherness, so sharing is at the heart of how to celebrate. Share the fact that you’re recognizing and reflecting on Galactic Tick Day. Share a meal with friends. Share a new perspective. Share. Share. Share!