

DO YOU BELIEVE IN
'GOOD LUCK' OR
'BAD LUCK'?

NEVER WALK UNDER A LADDER

There are many theories behind why it is 'bad luck' to walk under a ladder.

Ancient Egyptians were afraid they would see a God climbing the ladder and be cursed.



IF YOU SPILL SALT, THROW SOME OVER YOUR SHOULDER

In ancient times, salt was worth more than gold. Spilling salt was a sign of bad luck that would attract evil spirits. By throwing salt over your left shoulder, you hit the evil spirit and confuse/blind it.



BREAKING A MIRROR = 7 YEARS BAD LUCK

Many cultures have superstitions around breaking a mirror. In ancient Rome, people believed a broken mirror could reflect and 'trap' your spirit. It would take 7 years for your soul to 'reset' and become whole again!



UNLUCKY NUMBERS

For many North Americans, the number 13 is seen as unlucky. In China, some think number 4 is a negative number.

Are there any numbers you have heard are lucky or unlucky?



DON'T WHISTLE INDOORS OR AT NIGHT

In some Indigenous cultures in North America, whistling at night attracts dangerous creatures (such as Wendigo). In Lithuania, whistling indoors is forbidden because it 'summons evil'.



DON'T GET A HAIRCUT ON A SATURDAY

In some cultures, including India, getting a haircut on a Saturday is bad luck.

Cutting your nails at night is also considered bad luck.



DON'T CHEW GUM AT NIGHT

In Turkey, chewing gum at night is forbidden. This is because of a story where chewing gum turns into the flesh of ghosts at night.



LADIES, NEVER EAT GOAT MEAT

In certain villages in Rwanda, women are discouraged from eating goat meat. Some people believe that eating goat meat will make you grow a huge beard!



INSULT A BABY AND SAY THEY ARE UGLY

In some parts of Serbia, people are encouraged to say newborn babies are ugly.

Calling a baby cute, beautiful, or handsome is thought to bring bad luck.



STEP ON A MANHOLE COVER (ONLY SOMETIMES)

In Sweden, some people believe that stepping on a manhole cover is good luck! Only if it has a 'K' on it (*kallvatten*, or 'clean water').

Manholes with an 'A' on them are bad luck (*avloppsvatten*, or 'sewage').



NEVER WALK BACKWARDS

In Portugal, some people believe that walking backwards brings you bad luck



