

# CHRIS DEALS WITH IT

episode notes




## EP 65 - Friday The 13th

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*It's Friday the 13th, and I devote an episode to exploring this quirky number that I feel a deep connection to.*

### Why 13

- As a kid I loved numbers and math, and came to identify deeply with 13.
- My family has a strange history with the #13:
  - My parents' first date was to see the movie *Friday The 13th*
  - They were given room #13 on their honeymoon.
  - I was born 9 months later, on Friday the 13th.
  - My sister was also born on Friday the 13th.

### Fun facts about #13

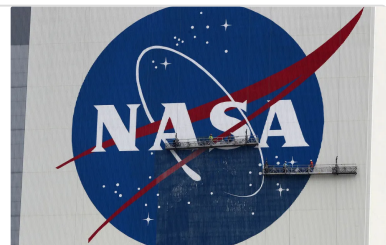
- 13 is a prime number

- It's part of the Fibonacci sequence where each # is the sum of the previous 2 numbers:
  - 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21 etc...
- A 13-sided polygon is called a tridecagon
- It's the atomic # for Aluminum
- For my fellow gamers: There are 13 ranks in each suit of a deck of standard playing cards
- In a tarot deck: Card XIII is the card of death
- In astrology there are 12 signs of the Zodiac, but Earth actually passes through 13 constellations.
  - I'll save you the wikipedia search: It's called Ophiuchus (serpent bearer)

NASA Elegantly Shuts Down Those New Zodiac Star Theories

Sorry NASA has not changed your star sign with a 13th zodiac sign

**T** <https://time.com/5867647/nasa-zodiac-star/>



- In Germany, 13 (*dreizehn*) is the first compound number, according to old tradition this makes it the first number written in digits; the numbers 0 (*null*) through 12 (*zwölf*) would be spelled out.
- Back here in the USA - our nation was formed from 13 colonies, which is why there are 13 stripes on our flag

## Unlucky?

- Fear of the number 13 is called *triskaidekaphobia*
  - Sufferers try to avoid bad luck by keeping away from anything numbered or labelled thirteen.
  - In countries where 13 is considered unlucky, manufacturers often use another way of numbering or labelling to avoid the number, such as in hotels and tall buildings.

### Thirteenth floor - Wikipedia

The thirteenth floor is a designation of a level of a multi-level building that is often omitted in countries where the number 13 is considered unlucky.

W [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thirteenth\\_floor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thirteenth_floor)



- Some believe the #13 unlucky because Judas, the disciple who betrayed Jesus, was the 13th to sit at the table.
- Some years have 13 full moons instead of 12 - back in the day this posed problems for monks in charge of religious calendars.
  - 2023 was the last month with a 13th moon. The next isn't until 2048

## The practical uses of numbers

- I add 13 cents for added personality for monetary transactions. Such as gifts or donations via check or Venmo.
  - Sometimes I'll use other numbers if it's a friend with their own hockey number, or a birthdate, or their age.
- I've snuck 13 into every creative work I've ever made
- In sports: A player's # often has lots of meaning. Could be a way of honoring someone - a parent, mentor, or a player you looked up to and want to emulate