

# PERSPECTIVES OF THE DAY

## CHANGING PERSPECTIVES

### NATIONAL DAY

#### National Polka Dot Day

January 22<sup>nd</sup> is National Polka Dot Day! This day is a

WHAT'S A GHOSTS FAVORITE  
DESSERT?  
I SCREAM!

national day for the popular print that has been around for ages. Polka dots have been around since the Middle Ages, but without fabric machines the garments often looked irregular with patterns resembling pox or sickness. This made people avoid the pattern until the Industrial Revolution

and the invention of the sewing machine which created more

appealing spaced dots. During the 19<sup>th</sup> century, European immigrants brought Polka dancing to the United States, with participants often donning clothing with the polka dot pattern. While the name hadn't yet solidified, the pattern was often called dotted-Swiss, lunares (Spanish), quince



#### TODAY IN HISTORY

- IN 1938, PULITZER PRIZE WINNING STAGE PLAY OUR TOWN PREMIERS IN NEW JERSEY.
- IN 1951, FIDEL CASTRO IS EJECTED FROM A BASEBALL GAME FOR HITTING A BATTER.
- IN 1953, THE CRUCIBLE STAGE PLAY PREMIERS IN NYC.
- IN 1959, BUDDY HOLLY RECORDS HIS LAST FIVE SONGS INCLUDING PEGGY SUE AND CRYING, WAITING, HOPING.
- IN 1968, ARETHA FRANKLIN RELEASES HER 14<sup>TH</sup> STUDIO ALBUM LADY SOUL.
- IN 1973, GEORGE FOREMAN TKOS JOE FRAZIER IN TWO ROUNDS.

(French), or thalertupfen (German). Polka dots gained even more popularity during the Roaring 20s when Miss America of 1926, Norma Smallwood, wore a polka dot swimsuit. In media, polka dots were popularized by famous cartoon character Minnie Mouse. This first appeared in 1928 title card animations for the short film Plane Crazy. Shirley Temple wore the same type of red with white polka dot dress for her film

Stand Up and Cheer. Even Marilyn Monroe sported a polka dot dress in Seven Year Itch. In 1943, Twentieth Century Fox released Technicolor musical film called The Gangs All Here, which featured a large production musical number called 'The Polka-Dot Polka' which referenced the 19<sup>th</sup> century polka dot craze. Marvel Comics created a character in 1962 called Polka-Dot Man who uses different sized and colored polka dots

as a superpower. Polka dots were even expressed in music, with songs like 'Itsy Bitsy Teeny Weeny Yellow Polka Dot Bikini' by Brian Hyland and 'Polka Dots and Moonbeams' by Frank Sinatra.

Observe today by donning your favorite polka-dot items without any worry of clashing patterns, do some research or go to a museum that has exhibits on fashion!

**But let justice roll on like a river,  
righteousness like a never-failing stream!**

**-Amos 5:24**

## TODAY'S INTERESTING FACT

### Interesting Fact

Today is also National Hot Sauce Day!

People have been using chili peppers and other hot spices for thousands of years. In the United States, the first commercially bottled hot sauce has said to be around since 1807 in Massachusetts. While hot sauces of the 1800s aren't typically around anymore, Tabasco sauce made by the McIlhenny Company in 1868 is one of the survivors and still one of the most popular hot sauces in the US. Most hot sauces are made with some form of chili pepper and sometimes as little additive as vinegar and salt, or sometimes with lots of other fruits, veggies, and spices. Over time, manufacturers experimented with different flavors and peppers to change the amount of hotness in the sauces. Hotter peppers on the Scoville scale such as Habanero, Scotch bonnet, or the extremely spicy ghost pepper have been used to change the spice levels.

## TRIVIA

### Trivia

What hot sauce became the best hot sauce of 2025?

- A: Valentina
- B: Franks RedHot
- C: Tabasco
- D: Louisiana