

## Welcome to the Internet SIG



# St. Patrick



A hopefully fun look on how the internet looks at:

Saint Patrick  
(and his day)

# St. Patrick Discussion Topics

- The Truth About St. Patrick
- St. Patrick's Day Celebrations
- All About Leprechauns (and their gold)
- St. Patrick Graphic Downloads
- St. Patrick Sound Downloads
- St. Patrick Websites

# Patrick Wasn't Irish



Though he made his mark by bringing Christianity to Ireland in the year 432, Patrick wasn't Irish.

He was born to Roman parents in Scotland or Wales in the late 4th century.

# Saint Maewyn's Day?

According to Irish legend, St. Patrick wasn't originally called Patrick.

His birth name was Maewyn Succat.

He changed it to Patricius after becoming a priest.

# How Patrick Got To Ireland

At age 16, St Patrick was kidnapped by Irish raiders who attacked his family's estate. They took him to Ireland where they sold him as a slave.

He spent many years herding sheep and learning about the Irish people.

At 22 years old he was able to escape.

# The Escape

He had a dream in which God told him to flee Ireland and where he could find a ship to leave.

The trip to the coast was estimated to be a 200 mile walk.

Once he got to the coast, he boarded a ship that took him to Great Britain.

# The Return

He went to a monastery in England where he spent 12 to 15 years getting closer to god and studying to become a priest.

He later returned to Ireland as a Christian missionary in 433 AD to convert the Irish to Christianity and to Minister the already Christians living there.



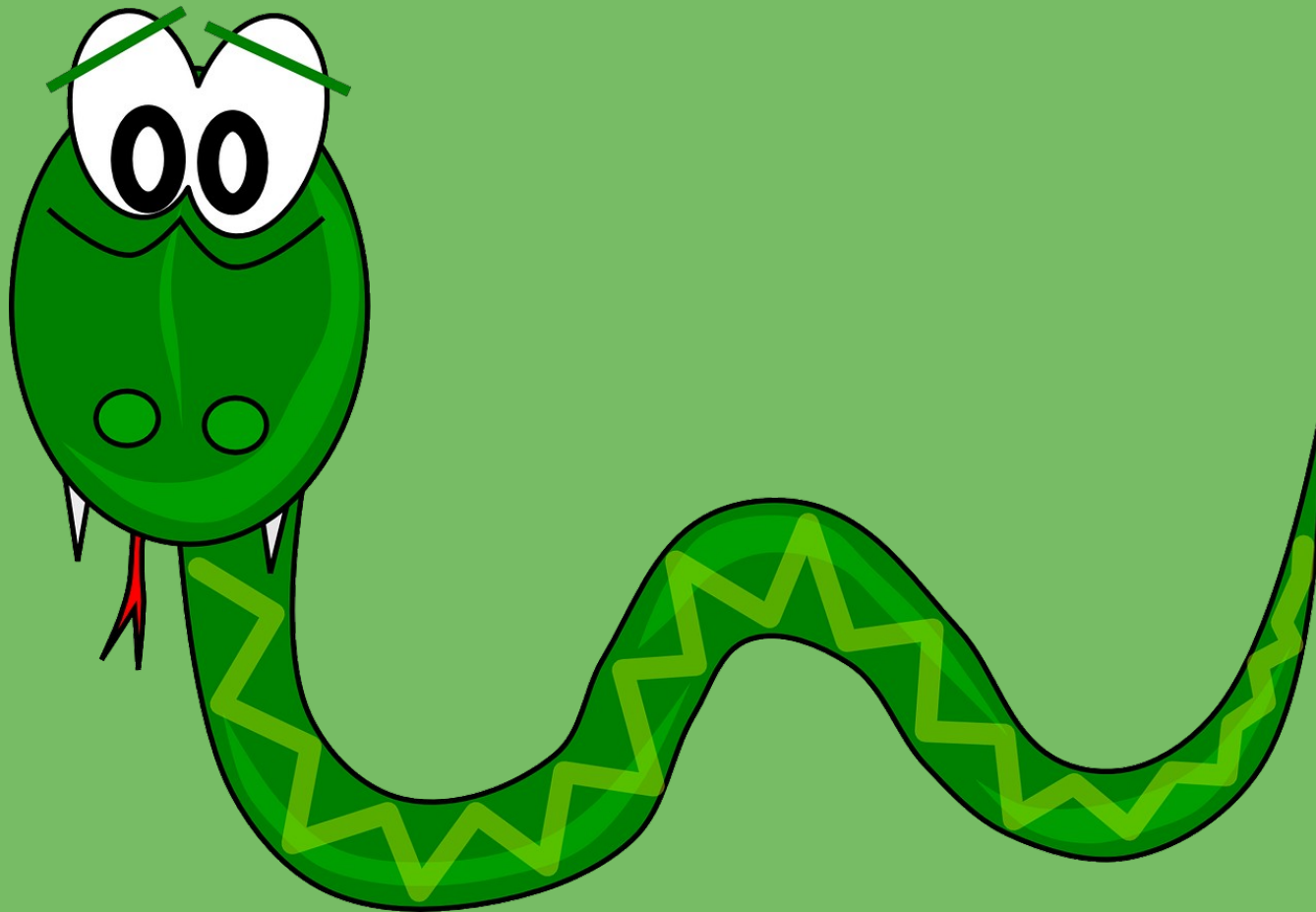
# Planning to wear green?



Although we've come to associate Kelly green with the Irish and the holiday, the 5th-century saint's official color was "Saint Patrick's blue," a light shade of sky blue.

The color green only became associated with the big day after it was linked to the Irish independence movement in the late 18th century

# Where are the Snakes?



# They're Not in Ireland

- In Irish lore, St. Patrick gets credit for driving all the snakes out of Ireland.
- Modern scientists suggest that the job might not have been too hard.
- According to the fossil record, Ireland has never been home to any snakes.
- Modern scholars think the "snakes" St. Patrick drove away were likely metaphorical.

# Going to the Parade



# Assorted Facts - Celebrations

- St. Patrick's Day is an Irish national holiday with banks, stores, and businesses closing for the day.
- Celebrations can be found in Ireland, United States, Canada, Australia, Japan, Russia, Singapore and many other places.
- The first St. Patrick's Day parade in the new world was in Boston in 1737.
- The first St. Patrick's Day parade in Ireland was in Waterford in 1903.

# The Biggest Parade



NYC St. Patrick's Day Parade/Dominick Totino Photography

# NYC Parade Facts

- Established in 1762
- Run by Volunteers
- Largest in the world
- Has about 150,000 marchers
- Has about 2 Million watchers
- Travels about 1.5 miles
- Lasts between 5 and 6 hours



# How About Other Parades?



# Smallest Parade

Since 1993, Enterprise, Alabama has hosted the world's smallest St. Patrick's Day parade.

The single-person parade consists of the Grand Marshal and no one else.

He carries an over-sized Irish flag.

# Shortest in Length

In 2003, the First Annual World's Shortest St. Patrick's Day Parade was held and it made St. Patrick's Day Parade history.

A few thousand people gathered for a “gag” parade in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

The parade crosses one bridge that is 98 feet in length.

# The Old Short Parade

- From 1999 to 2007, the Irish village of Dripsey hosted the Shortest Saint Patrick's Day Parade in the World.
- The route ran for 26 yards between two pubs.
- The Guinness Book of World Records had validated Dripsey's claim to being the world's shortest St Patrick's Day parade.
- The annual parade ceased when one of the bars went out of business

# The Beverage



# Guinness

- St. Patrick's Day is a national holiday in both Ireland and Northern Ireland.
- Up until the 1970s, pubs were closed on that day.
- Green beer isn't actually a traditional Irish way of celebrating St. Patrick's Day. A not so well-known fact is that beer that wasn't fermented long enough was called "Green Beer".
- Guinness sales almost doubles (from 5.5 million pints daily) on St. Patrick's Day.

# The Green River

This tradition began in 1961 when a manager of the Chicago Plumbers Union saw a plumber who was wearing originally white coveralls that were stained “Irish” green from dye that was used in the Chicago River.

At that time fluorescein dye was used to detect leaks and pollution in the river. He thought it would be a great idea to dye the river green for St. Patrick’s Day.

One hundred pounds of dye was poured in the river and the river was green for a week. Over the years, experiments with the amount and type of dye used has perfected the process of dyeing the river.

Today the river is dyed with 40 pounds of environmentally friendly dye. This keeps the river green for four to five hours.

# Leprechauns





# Tinker Bells?

Leprechauns are considered a part of the fairy family. Like other fairies, they're small in size and prone to mischief.

The miniature men are said to be descendants of Tuatha Dé Danann, a group of magical beings that served under the Gaelic goddess Danu.

According to legend, this mythical group lived in Ireland long before humans inhabited the land.

# No Female Leprechauns



There is no record of female leprechauns (and therefore no way to make new leprechauns in the traditional method).

Some sources claim leprechauns are the unwanted children of the fairy community.

As a result, leprechauns are described as grouchy, untrusting, and solitary creatures.

Leprechauns are known for their money. There must be a lot of it in the cobbling business. The tiny green men pour all their energy into crafting shoes. It's said they always have a hammer and shoe in hand. Legend says you can hear them coming by the telltale tapping sound they make.

Some stories attribute the leprechauns' wealth to the fine shoes they make. Others say they protect the treasure of the entire fairy world.

One tale says leprechauns act like bankers to make sure the frivolous fairies don't spend all their gems at once.

Legend tells us if we catch a Leprechaun, he has to give us all of his gold.

## Build a Leprechaun Trap

# Downloads

- [Pixabay](#)
- [Burst](#)
- [Pexels](#)
- [All Free Original Clip Art](#)
- [Absolutely Free Clip Art](#)
- [Freesound](#)
- [Sound Jay](#) (no search but lots of sounds)

# Reference Links

- [Wikipedia](#)
- [Mental Floss](#) – Facts About St. Patrick
- [History Channel](#)
- [Ireland Calling](#)
- [Mental Floss](#) – Facts About Leprechauns
- [The Fact File](#)
- [Odyssey](#)

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# What's The Next SIG Topic



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