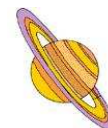
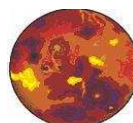


# Pagan Origins for the Names of the Weekdays



Celestial Bodies visible with the naked eye throughout antiquity

Moon	Mars	Mercury	Jupiter	Venus	Saturn	Sun
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Greek Mythological Figures  
Greek Days of the Week

Selene	Aries (War)	Hermes (Messenger)	Zeus (Thunder)	Aphrodite (Love)	Chronos (Agriculture)	Helios (Sun)
Hemera Selenes	Hemera Areos	Hemera Hermu	Hemera Dios	Hemera Aphrodites	Hemera Khronu	Hemera Heli(o)u

Roman Mythological Figures  
Latin DOTW  
French DOTW  
Spanish DOTW  
Italian DOTW

Luna (moon)	Mars (war)	Mercury (Messenger)	Jove Júpiter (Thunder)	Venus (Love)	Saturn (Agriculture)	Sol (Sun)
Sies Lunae	Dies Martis	Dies Mercurii	Dies Jovis	Dies Veneris	Dies Saturni	Dies Solis
Lundi	Mardi	Mercredi	Jeudi	Vendredi	Samedi	Dimanche
Lunes	Martes	Miércoles	Jueves	Viernes	Sábado	Domingo
Lunedì	Martedì	Mercoledì	Giovedì	Venerdì	Sabato	Domenica

Norse Mythological Figures  
Old Norse Language  
Saxon DOTW  
German DOTW  
Danish/Norwegian DOTW  
Swedish DOTW  
Icelandic DOTW

Mona (light ball in the night sky, and tide maker)	Tiw/Tyr/Ziw (War)	Odin/Woden/Wotan (King of Norse Gods)	Thor/Donnar (Thunder)	Freia/Freyja (Love)	Seterne (Agriculture)	Sól/Sunna/Sunnan (Heat and light ball in the day sky)
Mánadagr (Moon's day)	Týsdagr (Tyr's day)	Óðinsdagr (Odin's day)	Þórsdagr (Thor's day)	Frjádagr (Freyja's day)	Laugardagr (washing day)	Sunnudagr/Dróttinsdagr Sun's day/The Lord's day
Mona	Tiwesdaeg	Wodnesdaeg	Thuresdaeg	Frigedaeg	Seternedaeg	Sunnandaeg (sunnan's day)
Montag	Dienstag	Mittwoch	Donnerstag	Freitag	Samstag	Sonntag
Måndag	Tirsdag	Onsdag	Torsdag	Fredag	Lördag	Söndag
Måndag	Tisdag	Onsdag	Torsdag	Fredag	Lördag	Söndag
Mánudagur	Þriðjudagur	Miðvikudagur	Mímmtudagur	Föstudagur	Laugardagur	Sunnudagur

English is Special in which it is a hybrid between Greco-Roman and Norse references:

English DOTW

Monday (Moonday)	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
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The Christian version of the week was officially adopted by the Roman Emperor Constantine in AD 321. The old Sunday (*dies solis*) was specified as the 'Lord's Day' (*dies Domenica*) and identified as the first day of the week (Note 1: Is Monday the first day?). The rest of the week was largely numbered. The Greek names for the days of the week became:

Eastern Roman Empire DOTW

second' Triti	third' Tetarti	fourth' Pempti	fifth' Paraskeui	preparation' Savvato	Sabbath'	Kyriaki 'of the Lord' Deutera
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In the West, despite attempts by Pope Silvester to impose a system of numbering, the old pagan names persisted. They formed the basis of the modern Western names, which feature a mixture of Christian and pagan elements. English and other Germanic languages largely retain the pagan names. Italian, French, and Spanish adopt Judaeo-Christian religious terminology for Saturday (the Sabbath) and Sunday (the Lord's Day), but retain the planetary names for the days of the week.

Only Portuguese has completely done away with the planetary names by substituting numbered days:

Days of the Week (Portuguese)

Segunda-feira	Terça-feira	Quarta-feira	Quinta-feira	Sexta-feira	Sábado	Domingo
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sources:

- <http://www.seiyaku.com/customs/days-months-seasons.html#days>
- <http://www.cjvlang.com/Dow/dow1.html>
- <http://www.unrv.com/culture/adopted-roman-gods.php>

Note: Although our days are named after gods, the names were not regularly capitalized until the 17th century.

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