



"6-7" Is 2025 Word of the Year

The Wired Word for the Week of December 28, 2025

In the News

The website [Dictionary.com](https://www.dictionary.com) bills itself as "The Dictionary for the Real World," and its "word of the year" for 2025 comes straight from pop culture. *USA Today* reports that "if you're not up to speed on this year's slang, you may be puzzled by the outcome." The word is a set of numbers, "6-7," a slang term that is essentially nonsensical and has no fixed meaning.

Originating in a 2024 rap song, the term has become an inside joke among members of Gen Z (born between 1997 and 2012) and the overlapping group Gen Alpha (born between 2010 and 2024), often used humorously in unrelated contexts. Young people use it as a way to bond, to feel included, and to be connected to their friends.

The phrase comes from the recurring lyric "6-7" in the song "Doot Doot" by a Philadelphia rapper who goes by the name Skrilla. In the song, Skrilla sings, "The way that switch, I know he dyin'. 6-7. I just bipped right on the highway." While some think "6-7" refers to 67th Street in Philadelphia, the rapper has not assigned a specific meaning to the phrase.

[Dictionary.com](https://www.dictionary.com) notes that "6-7" may be written as 6-7 or *six-seven*, but it is never to be pronounced as "*sixty-seven*." Some young people will use it to

stand in for a reply to just about any question, especially when they sense that they can frustrate their elders. ("Hello, darling child, how was school today?" "6-7!") In its "word of the year" announcement, [Dictionary.com](https://www.dictionary.com) says that a "perfectly timed 6-7 signals that you're part of an in-group, and if you're already using its emerging spinoffs *six-sendy* and *41*, you might be even cooler."

The term was spread by social media edits that featured NBA player LaMelo Ball, who is 6-7 (6 feet 7 inches tall). The "Doot Doot" song was paired with videos of Ball, creating a viral trend. As of October 28, the TikTok video had 10.1 million views.

Some interpret the phrase to mean "so-so" or "maybe this, maybe that," but it is also used as an exclamation, an interjection or a response -- often humorously. It can be used in various scenarios, such as when a teacher asks students to turn to page 67 in a textbook, or when a test score is 67%. The words "6-7" can also be accompanied by a hand gesture -- moving the hands up and down, palms up, like weighing two objects.

In March 2025, the term exploded with an internet meme called ["6-7 Kid."](#) In it, an excited boy at an Amateur Athletic Union basketball game says "6-7" to the camera as he moves his hands up and down. The phrase and hand movements quickly gained traction among members of Gen Alpha.

The term has also appeared in "South Park," in the Season 28 premiere of the cartoon. In the episode, the character Butters Scotch goes around his elementary school making different "6-7" jokes to his friends. "You want to know what time I woke up this morning?" Butters asks. "Around 6-7." In response, his friends say "6-7" back, gleefully mirroring the popular hand movement.

"It's part inside joke, part social signal and part performance," Steve Johnson, director of lexicography for the Dictionary Media Group at IXL Learning, said in a news release. "When people say it, they're not just repeating a meme; they're shouting a feeling. It's one of the first Words of the Year that works as an interjection -- a burst of energy that spreads and connects people long before anyone agrees on what it actually means."

In September, according to *USA Today*, a kindergarten teacher named Sara James posted a TikTok video that showed her counting to 10 with her students. When she and the students get to 6 and 7, James does the hand movement as the children yell in excitement.

The humor and popularity of "6-7" comes from its lack of inherent meaning and its use as an absurd, shared reference point among young people. It is connected to a condition that is being labeled in pop culture as "brainrot," caused by being constantly online and scrolling endlessly. "And what are we left with in the wake of this relentless sensory overload?" asks [Dictionary.com](#). "67. Still, it remains meaningful to the people who use it because of the connection it fosters."

More on this story can be found at these links:

[Dictionary.com Names '6-7' as 2025 Word of the Year. Here's What It Really Means. USA Today](#)

[Dictionary.com's 2025 Word of the Year Is ... Dictionary.com](#)

[Why Are Kids Saying "6-7" and What Does It Mean? CBS Boston](#)

Applying the News Story

Discuss the meaning and use of popular numbers in the Bible: three, seven, 12 and 40. You might also consider the numbers two (two sons in many stories, two testaments), four (the four gospels), 50 (the year of Jubilee)

and 666 (the number of the beast in Revelation). Since this lesson is offered during the Twelve Days of Christmas, you might ponder [the meaning of this distinctive number of days.](#)

The Big Questions

1. What is your favorite number, and why? What meaning does it hold for you?
2. In your family and personal life, what numbers are significant? Could be a year, a particular date, an address, an age, or some other number. How do these numbers help you to bond, to feel included, and to be connected?
3. When you think of the Bible, what numbers come to mind? What do they mean to you, and how are they connected to your faith?
4. What numbers are lifted up in the life of your church? Could be the years since the church was founded, the number of church members, the goal of a stewardship campaign. What effect do numbers have on the life of the congregation?
5. How do you understand numbers to be part of the way that God communicates with us? How are they a universal language that speaks to all people, across various cultures and dialects?

Confronting the News With Scripture and Hope

Here are some Bible verses to guide your discussion:

Mark 9:31-32

[Jesus said:] "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. (For context, read [Mark 9:30-32.](#))

In the Bible, the number three communicates divine completeness, perfection and new life, appearing in key events such as Jesus' resurrection on the third day, the Holy Trinity (Father, Son and Holy Spirit), three-fold praises (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy") and the three gifts of the Magi. In the gospel of John, Peter denies Jesus three times and then is restored to relationship with Jesus when he professes his love three times (21:15-17).

To this list, TWW Team Member Bill Tammeus adds the "three parts of the Christian Bible -- the Hebrew Scripture, the New Testament and, for some, the Apocrypha." In addition, there are three parts to the Hebrew Bible: Law, Prophets and Writings. Psychologists note that three is common throughout human culture (Goldilocks' three bears, "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness," etc.). One possible explanation is that *three* is the smallest number that can create a pattern or rhythm. For whatever reason, noting three things in number is found over and over and over again.

Questions: How are the three days in the tomb connected to the completeness and perfection of the life of Jesus? What is your understanding of the significance of these days? What does this hymn verse mean to you: "Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and Mighty! God in Three Persons, Blessed Trinity!"?

Exodus 20:8-11

[God said:] "Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work -- you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it. ..." (For context, read [Exodus 20:1-17](#).)

Similar to three, the number seven in the Bible symbolizes perfection, completeness and divine wholeness, appearing frequently in passages from the seven days of creation to the prophetic visions in Revelation. In the book of Joshua, the Hebrews walk around Jericho seven times on the seventh day, and then the wall falls down (6:15-21). In the book of Acts, the twelve apostles decided that "seven men of good standing" should be selected to act as deacons, overseeing the task of distributing food to widows in Jerusalem (6:3).

The number seven marks spiritual fullness and signifies the completion of God's work, seen in the Sabbath. God's people are to cease any work on the Sabbath, along with their sons, daughters, slaves, livestock and alien residents in their towns. Sabbath-keeping is the only commandment of God that is also a gift, one that reminds us that our value comes not from what we do, but from who we are -- children of God.

Questions: How do you keep the Sabbath holy, or fail to do so? What is the spiritual significance of a day of rest to you? Where do you find a sense of completeness and divine wholeness on the seventh day?

1 Corinthians 15:3-5

[Paul wrote:] For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures and that he was buried and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. (For context, read [1 Corinthians 15:1-11](#).)

The "twelve" is an expression that appears in all four gospels, and also in Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, describing the inner circle of the followers of Jesus. They are listed by name in several places, and although the lists do not always agree, the Bible makes clear that Jesus always chose

twelve disciples. After Judas Iscariot dies, Matthias is chosen to replace him, so that the number would be restored to twelve (Acts 1:26)..

Since there were twelve tribes of Israel, it appears that Jesus was trying to reflect the structure of the nation by choosing twelve disciples. In the multiplication of the loaves and fishes, the leftovers fill twelve baskets (John 6:13). Jesus appeared in the temple as a 12-year-old (Luke 2:42). The disciples are portrayed as sitting on twelve thrones judging Israel (Luke 22:30). The number twelve is also used repeatedly in the book of Revelation, such as in the twelve gates of the New Jerusalem (21:21).

Questions: What does the number twelve mean to you? What significance do you find in the connection between the twelve tribes of Israel and the twelve disciples? What is the value of this number in human affairs today, such as the twelve jurors that are the standard number for serious criminal cases? How is twelve a complete number of people, one that allows for robust deliberation?

Luke 4:1-2

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tested by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over he was famished. (For context, read [Luke 4:1-15](#).)

In scripture, the number 40 signifies a period of testing, trial, purification or preparation, often leading to a major transformation, a new beginning or divine judgment. It also signifies the length of one full generation. It appears in events such as the Great Flood (40 days and nights), Israel's wandering in the wilderness (40 years), Moses' time on Sinai (40 days), and the temptation of Jesus in the desert (40 days). When 40 days or years are over, a new phase begins.

Immediately after his baptism, Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness, where he was tested by the devil for 40 days. At the end of this period, the devil placed three additional temptations before him: physical, political and spiritual. Jesus resisted these temptations and the devil departed from him. Then Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and he began his public ministry.

Questions: When have you experienced a time of testing, trial or preparation? What did this "40 days" feel like (even if it was not literally 40 days)? What transformation occurred, if any, and what did the next phase of your life feel like? Why do many churches observe the 40 days of Lent as a time of spiritual preparation for Easter?

For Further Discussion

1. Why do you think God gave us ten commandments? How might the number connect to our ten fingers? Jews and various Christian groups number them differently, but there are always ten. Some people find significance in the fact that the Ten Commandments correspond with the ten "God said" statements in the creation story (Genesis 1:1--2:4). What commandment, if any, would you want to remove from the ten? What additional commandment would you add, if any?

2. According to [USA Today](#), there were a number of finalists for the [Dictionary.com](#). 2025 "word of the year": **Agentic**: digital technology, like artificial intelligence, capable of acting independently to accomplish a goal or task; acting like a human agent. **Aura farming**: the act of constantly trying to look cool, confident and unbothered to build "aura moments."

Overtourism: a situation in which too many tourists travel to a popular destination, causing the place to suffer negative environmental, economic and sociocultural impacts. **Tariff**: an official list or table showing the duties or customs imposed by a government on imports or exports. **Tradwife**: a

married woman who chooses to be a homemaker as a primary occupation and adheres to traditional femininity and female gender roles. Which of these would have made your list of noteworthy words, and why?

3. [Rabbi Philip Pohl suggests](#), "If a man lives to age 83 -- the biblical life expectancy of 70 years, plus an additional 13 -- he is given the opportunity to reenact his bar mitzvah. This celebration is a powerful expression of commitment to faithful living -- a testimony that new life can be found, even in old age." What would you like to do to reaffirm your faith, after completion of the biblical 70 years of life?

4. In the Bible, the number one signifies uniqueness or undivided wholeness. Deuteronomy 6:4 focuses us on the one God, "the LORD alone." The oneness of God calls for the undivided love and devotion of those who follow God. The New Testament tells us that Christ is one with God, and this unity calls for Christ's people to be one (John 17:11). In his letter to the Ephesians, Paul says that Christ "is our peace; in his flesh he has made [Jews and Gentiles] into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us" (2:14). What will you do, in the year to come, to be united in Christ and to deepen your love and devotion to the one Lord God? Be specific.

5. TWW Consultant James Gruetzner writes, "When I first heard the expression a few months ago, I asked my 20-year-old granddaughter about it. She said it was 'cringe' slang used by middle-schoolers. ... Someone else linked the expression back to Chaucer's poem *Troilus and Criseyde*, where Troilus is counseled to declare his love for Criseyde, *But manly set the world on sixe and sevene; And, if thou deye a martir, go to hevene*. Others claim it was popularized by Gilbert and Sullivan in *HMS Pinafore*, where the captain plaintively asks, "Say, why is everything / Either at sixes or at sevens?"

What do you think influenced the rapper Skrilla, if anything? What other uses of "sixes" and "sevens" can you think of?

Responding to the News

Keep your eyes open for biblical numbers in your worship services and Bible studies in the week to come. May they focus your heart and mind on the one God, the three persons of the Trinity, the opportunity for rest on the seventh day, the value of 12 people gathered together, and the opportunities that come after 40 days of trial and testing.

Prayer

We praise you, our One God in Three Persons, Blessed Trinity. As we come to the end of this year of 365 days, we ask you to renew us in love, faith and devotion, so that we can serve you well in the year to come. May we follow the Ten Commandments, enjoy the rest and renewal of the seventh day, and follow the example of the Twelve in lives of discipleship. In Jesus' name. Amen.