WALL CHART

The 12 Islamic Months

الأَشْهُرُ الْهِجْرِيَّةُ

1 SACRED
مُحَرَّم
Muharram
Sacred month · ʻAshura fast (9th & 10th)

2
صَفَر
Safar
No bad luck in Safar

3
رَبِيعٌ الأَوَّل
Rabiʻ al-Awwal

4
رَبِيعٌ الآخِر
Rabiʻ al-Akhir

5
جُمَادَى الأُولَى
Jumada al-Ula

6
جُمَادَى الآخِرَة
Jumada al-Akhirah

7 SACRED
رَجَب
Rajab
Sacred month

8
شَعْبَان
Shaʻban
The Prophet ﷺ fasted much of it

9
رَمَضَان
Ramadan
Fasting · Laylat al-Qadr in the odd nights of the last ten

10
شَوَّال
Shawwal
1st: Eid al-Fitr · six days of fasting

11 SACRED
ذُو الْقَعْدَة
Dhul-Qaʻdah
Sacred month

12 SACRED
ذُو الْحِجَّة
Dhul-Hijjah
Sacred · first ten days · Arafah (9th) · Eid al-Adha (10th)

إِنَّ عِدَّةَ الشُّهُورِ عِندَ اللَّهِ اثْنَا عَشَرَ شَهْرًا فِي كِتَابِ اللَّهِ يَوْمَ خَلَقَ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ مِنْهَا أَرْبَعَةٌ حُرُمٌ

"The number of months with Allah is twelve in the Book of Allah, the day He created the heavens and the earth; of them four are sacred." (At-Tawbah 9:36)

FOR PARENTS

What is special in each month

Only what is established in the Qur'an and the authentic Sunnah is listed. The Prophet ﷺ did not set aside other dates of the year for celebration or special worship; we have two Eids only (Abu Dawud 1134).

Month	What the Sunnah teaches
Muḥarram مُحَرَّم	A sacred month: avoid wrongdoing even more · **At-Tawbah 9:36 · al-Bukhari 4662** The best fasting after Ramadan is in Allah's month al-Muharram · **Muslim 1163** 'Āshūrā', the 10th: fasting it expiates the past year. Fast the 9th with it · **Muslim 1162, 1134**
Safar صَفَر	Safar is not a month of bad luck: "There is no ṣafar" · **al-Bukhari 5757**
Rajab رَجَب	A sacred month: avoid wrongdoing even more · **At-Tawbah 9:36 · al-Bukhari 4662**
Sha'ban شَعْبَان	The Prophet ﷺ fasted more in Sha'ban than in any month except Ramadan · **al-Bukhari 1969, Muslim 1156** Get ready for Ramadan; make up any missed fasts · **al-Bukhari 1950**
Ramadan رَمَضَان	The month of fasting, in which the Qur'an was sent down · **Al-Baqarah 2:183–185** Pray at night (tarawih) with faith and hope of reward · **al-Bukhari 37** Seek Laylat al-Qadr in the odd nights of the last ten · **al-Bukhari 2017** Give Zakat al-Fitr before the Eid prayer · **al-Bukhari 1503**
Shawwal شَوَّال	1st: 'Īd al-Fiṭr. No fasting on the day of Eid · **al-Bukhari 1990, Muslim 1137** Fast six days of Shawwal after Ramadan · **Muslim 1164**
Dhul-Qa'dah ذُو الْقَعْدَة	A sacred month: avoid wrongdoing even more · **At-Tawbah 9:36 · al-Bukhari 4662**
Dhul-Hijjah ذُو الْحِجَّة	A sacred month, the month of Hajj · **At-Tawbah 9:36 · Al-Baqarah 2:197** The first ten days are the best days for good deeds · **al-Bukhari 969** 9th: Day of 'Arafah. Fasting it (if not on Hajj) expiates two years · **Muslim 1162** 10th: 'Īd al-Aḍḥā and the sacrifice · **al-Bukhari 5545** 11th–13th: Days of Tashrīq, days of eating, drinking and remembering Allah; no fasting · **Muslim 1141**

In every month and every week

- **Monday and Thursday fasting** (at-Tirmidhi 747 · sahih; Muslim 1162)
- **The White Days: 13th, 14th and 15th of every Hijri month** (an-Nasa'i 2420, at-Tirmidhi 761 · hasan)
- **Jumu'ah every Friday: ghusl, Surat al-Kahf, many salawat** (al-Bukhari 877; al-Hakim (sahih: al-Albani); Abu Dawud 1047)

How the months begin: each Hijri month starts when the new crescent (hilāl) is sighted, so it has 29 or 30 days. "Fast when you see it and stop fasting when you see it" (al-Bukhari 1909, Muslim 1081).

ACTIVITY

Learn the months

Name _____ Date _____

1 · Trace and say

Trace each month and say its name in English.

1. مُحَرَّم
2. صَفَر
3. رَبِيعٌ الأَوَّل
4. رَبِيعٌ الآخِر
5. جُمَادَى الأُولَى
6. جُمَادَى الآخِرَة
7. رَجَب
8. شَعْبَان
9. رَمَضَان
10. شَوَّال
11. ذُو الْقَعْدَة
12. ذُو الْحِجَّة

2 · Quiz

1. Which month do we fast?

2. Which month has ʻĪd al-Aḍḥā?

3. Name the four sacred months.

4. Which month comes before Ramadan?

5. On which day of Muharram is ʻĀshūrā'?

6. Which days of every month are the White Days?

3 · This month

Which Hijri month is it now? Ask a grown-up, then write it in Arabic or English:

Answers: 1. Ramadan · 2. Dhul-Hijjah · 3. Dhul-Qa'dah, Dhul-Hijjah, Muharram, Rajab · 4. Sha'ban · 5. the 10th · 6. 13th, 14th, 15th

1

مُحَرَّم

Muharram

2

صَفَر

Safar

3

رَبِيعٌ الأَوَّل

Rabiʿ al-Awwal

4

رَبِيعٌ الآخِر

Rabiʿ al-Akhir

5

جُمَادَى الأُولَى

Jumada al-Ula

6

جُمَادَى الآخِرَة

Jumada al-Akhirah

7

رَجَب

Rajab

8

شَعْبَان

Shaʿban

9

رَمَضَان

Ramadan

10

شَوَّال

Shawwal

11

ذُو الْقَعْدَة

Dhul-Qaʿdah

12

ذُو الْحِجَّة

Dhul-Hijjah