

42

42

Not Quite Life, The Universe And
Everything!

42

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Everything!

But why 42?

42

42

When asked Adams said it was ...

Simply a joke!

42

When asked Adams said it was ...

Simply a joke!

... and that ...

42 had no special relevance!

$$4 \times 5 = 12$$

$$4 \times 5 = 12$$

$$4 \times 6 = 13$$

$$4 \times 5 = 12$$

$$4 \times 6 = 13$$

$$4 \times 7 = \dots$$

$$4 \times 5 = 12$$

$$4 \times 6 = 13$$

$$4 \times 7 = \dots$$

Oh dear, I'll never get to 20 at that rate.

$$4 \times 5 = 12$$

$$4 \times 6 = 13$$

$$4 \times 7 = \dots$$

Oh dear, I'll never get to 20 at that rate.

From A. L. Taylor's book

"The White Knight. A study of C. L. Dodgson."

$4 \times 5 = 12$ in base 18

$4 \times 5 = 12$ in base 18

$4 \times 6 = 13$ in base 21

$$4 \times 5 = 12 \text{ in base } 18$$

$$4 \times 6 = 13 \text{ in base } 21$$

Continuing we could get ...

$$4 \times 5 = 12 \text{ in base } 18$$

$$4 \times 6 = 13 \text{ in base } 21$$

Continuing we could get ...

$$4 \times 7 = 14 \text{ in base } 24$$

$$4 \times 5 = 12 \text{ in base } 18$$

$$4 \times 6 = 13 \text{ in base } 21$$

Continuing we could get ...

$$4 \times 7 = 14 \text{ in base } 24$$

$$4 \times 8 = 15 \text{ in base } 27$$

$$4 \times 5 = 12 \text{ in base } 18$$

$$4 \times 6 = 13 \text{ in base } 21$$

Continuing we could get ...

$$4 \times 7 = 14 \text{ in base } 24$$

$$4 \times 8 = 15 \text{ in base } 27$$

And eventually to ...

$$4 \times 5 = 12 \text{ in base } 18$$

$$4 \times 6 = 13 \text{ in base } 21$$

Continuing we could get ...

$$4 \times 7 = 14 \text{ in base } 24$$

$$4 \times 8 = 15 \text{ in base } 27$$

And eventually to ...

$$4 \times 12 = 19 \text{ in base } 39$$

$$4 \times 5 = 12 \text{ in base } 18$$

$$4 \times 6 = 13 \text{ in base } 21$$

Continuing we could get ...

$$4 \times 7 = 14 \text{ in base } 24$$

$$4 \times 8 = 15 \text{ in base } 27$$

And eventually to ...

$$4 \times 12 = 19 \text{ in base } 39$$

The next step, 4×13 , does not give 20 in base **42**

The Hitchhiker's Guide was first broadcast in 1978

**The Hitchhiker's Guide was first broadcast in 1978
40 years ago**

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**But even after that length of time Deep Thought's
response of 42 does tend to make me, and I suspect
other people as well, more aware of the number
when it comes up in other contexts**





Philip Astley, Esq^r.



INTERNATIONAL CIRCUS RING - 42FT SCALE 1:10

This circle represents a circus ring. At a full size of 42ft, it was the perfect measurement to harness centrifugal force. This allowed riders to maintain their balance while standing on the back of galloping horses, and for the audience to see all of the performance at all times.