



## Pasta, Pasta, Pasta. It's Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About that Italian Treat--PASTA!



This pasta message is mostly just fun. Your final exam is at the end, should you choose to accept the challenge.

### Fun & Other facts

The largest ever bowl of spaghetti was created in 2010 when Californian restaurant Buca di Beppo managed to fill one swimming pool with around 6,250 kg of pasta. (about 13,000 pounds, give or take).

Approximately 2.75 million tons of pasta is made in Italy each year, while the United States produces nearly 1.9 million tons per year.

(We have a lot of catching up to do!)

According to Miss Manners the correct utensil(s) that should be used to eat spaghetti while anyone is watching is a fork (don't pick up that spoon to twirl it!). If no one is watching, go ahead and use the spoon.

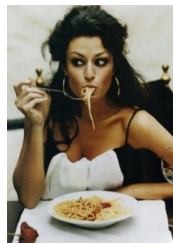
The greatest lover of lasagna is no other than Garfield the comic strip cat. What an endorsement!



Pietro Barilla is said to have dusted flour on the sleeve of his black suit on a daily basis. If he could blow the flour off without a trace, it meant the flour was dry and finely grained and perfect for pasta making.

Federico Fellini (Sophia's husband) once said "Life is a combination of magic and pasta."

And Sophia once said "Everything you see, I owe to spaghetti." And she wasn't afraid to let everyone know it.



According to a poll conducted by a research firm in Italy, 33% of Italians,

both male and female, ranked pasta as the main pleasure in life. Just for your information, however, pasta ranked first over travel (27%), sex (21%), reading (14%), and wine (4%). Over sex even? Italians? Who knew.



On April 1, 1957, the British BBC made everyone believe that spaghetti grows on trees. The April Fool's program explained how severe frost can impact the flavor of spaghetti and that each strand of spaghetti always grows to the same length. People believed it. The program was filmed between Switzerland and Italy on the shore of Lake Lugano. Twenty pounds of fresh uncooked spaghetti was hung from the branches. Uncooked? Yes, because the cooked strands kept slipping off the branches! The day after the program aired, people called the station to ask where they could get the same tree. Want to see the hoax? [Click here for the video.](#)



### **NAME THIS PASTA**

You might win a box of this pasta. (Hint: we did a Reaching Out and Keeping in Touch message about it last year.) Send your guess to [bobzkarenz@att.net](mailto:bobzkarenz@att.net) (Karen's email) no later than 6 pm today. We'll draw one winner from all the correct guesses. Your guess must be the **Italian** name of the pasta. And remember, if you won pasta before, you can guess but you can't take home another bag (yes, we're keeping track). We know you love pasta but we'd like everyone to have a chance at winning some!

Want a pasta challenge? We've got a "final exam" Pasta Crossword Puzzle to test if you were paying attention and learned anything. If you'd like to try it, go to the Club's website to get it (<http://lhitalianclub.org/>). It will be under the "BLOG" section on the left. The first 2 people with all the correct answers will get a \$5 coupon for a future Club event. Give it a try! All the answers to the puzzle are somewhere in the four Nutshell messages. Once completed, mail to Lilly LaPira at 1458 Sweet Juliet Lane, Lincoln. Deadline is high noon, February 19 (we have to receive it by then).

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