



4th and down

Image: PexelsJuly 4th is a national holiday, which means depending on where you are and what you want to do today, you may or may not be out of luck. Like most national holidays, some businesses will be closed for the day to celebrate, but others should be in place and running. In general, the best advice for the day is to give a call to a company before leaving just to make sure it is open. This bagel place you like could be closed this morning, but the café next door could very well be open for business. Some companies may also operate with limited hours for the day they are open this morning, but the close after lunch so their employees can go and enjoy the day. Holiday traffic is rush hour on steroids. Holiday travelers often include masses of people who... Read more That said, here's a look at a handful of places we know are going to be open or closed to help work as a guide for your day. Maillf you wait for Mom's greeting card to arrive via USPS, you'll have to wait until Thursday. The U.S. Postal Service is closed all day, as is UPS. FedEx offices are open today, but with limited hours. Government offices and banksSconce on July 4th is a federal holiday, all are closed for business today. This means that the IRS, the Social Security Office, the courthouse and other such places will be closed for the day. Banks are also closed for the day, but you should always be able to use the ATM to withdraw money and make deposits. The stock exchange also closed early on July 3 and will remain closed on July 4. National ParksNational Parks are technically government-run, but they are a major exception to the everything is closed rule. The 400 national parks will be open on July 4, and a number of them will have special events to celebrate America's 235th anniversary. Grocery StoresGrocery stores are one of those places you're going to want to call it first. In general, most of them are expected to be open early in the fourth of July, but many chains, including Whole Foods, will close early so their employees can go and celebrate. You'll want to make sure your location is always open (or open in the first place) before you leave. Walmart and Target will both be open today, so these can also work in a pinch if you're running out of hot dog buns. Restaurants It's another one you probably want before we leave. Most restaurant chains will be open for regular hours on July 4, but local restaurants may be closed. You also need to pay attention to franchises and channels. While some homeowners may choose to stay open, others may close or close early. On Independence Day, your plans probably include cooking some summer recipes from July 4th, decorating your home with July 4th decorations that are super festive and cute, and topping it all with delicious July 4th desserts. Once the day is red, white and Festivities are over, continuing to showcase your patriotic pride by settling in with a movie about the good old Us from A. Streaming services like Netflix, Amazon, and Hulu (which are literally at hand these days) make it easy to rent or buy an almost endless range of movies for movie night. While romantic comedies are great for a comfortable date night and feel good, happy movies are always crowd-pleasers, at this time of year you should choose a movie that celebrates America in a great way. Whether it's heartbreaking war dramas like Saving Private Ryan (tissues, please!) or long-lost love stories and monumental sporting events (again, fabrics — we're watching you, Miracle), the Fourth of July movies will keep you warm, fuzzy, proud and sentimental in every way. Celebrate the land of the free and the home of the brave on July 4, 2020, and have fun with one of these 4th of July movies worthy of the occasion. Advertising - Continue reading below 1 Miracle (2004) Whether you're a hockey fan or a sports fan in general, you'll love this inspiring true story of the Miracle on Ice that occurred during the men's ice hockey tournament at the 1980 Winter Olympics. Coach Herb Brooks is played by Kurt Russell. 2 Hidden Figures This is the true and unspeakable story of three African-American mathematicians who helped bring America to the moon. 3 Save Private Ryan You're going to need your tissues for this one. In this award-winning World War II drama, Tom Hanks plays Captain John Miller as he leads his soldiers into a battle to save one of their own. 4 Captain America: The First Avenger Small and gangly Steve Rogers (played by Chris Evans) wants to fight for his country, but is rejected by the army. When he finally has a chance to turn into a supersoldier, the result is the powerful and fierce Captain America. 5 Patriot Mel Gibson plays a father and a family man with seven children who has been to war and has no intention of fighting again. But when his son joined the war effort to fight for his principles, he had no choice but to join him against the British in the American Revolution. 6 Forrest Gump, the adorable character of Tom Hanks in this classic image, we all learned that life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're going to get. From childhood throughout his many life events, including the Vietnam War and other monumental events in American history, Forrest teaches the public about love, loyalty, and more. 7 Yankee Doodle Dandy If are looking for a light celebration of the United States of A, consider this black and white classic featuring. James Cagney who plays composer George M. Cohan. You will sing (and dance) to patriotic classics like You're a Grand Old Flag, Give My Looks to Broadway and Over There. 8 Top Gun We Can't which top gun story line is the best-friendship between fighter pilots Maverick and Goose, the forbidden student-teacher love story, or action-packed flight scenes. This 1986 hit with Tom Cruise has it all! 9 Apollo 13 When a routine space mission does not go as planned, the events that follow will leave you on the edge of your seat. Astronauts played by Tom Hanks, Kevin Bacon and Bill Paxton fight for their lives in this exciting drama. 10 Pearl Harbor This epic 2001 blockbuster follows two childhood friends and the nurse who steals their hearts as they go through the war, especially December 7, 1941, the date that will live in infamy, tie the Japanese to Pearl Harbor. 11 1776 Is there a more appropriate date related to the founding of our country? This uplifting film, based on the Broadway show, is a living celebration of our country's beginnings. 12 Rocky IV The story continues for one of the most expensive characters in the history of cinema, Rocky Balboa (played by Sylvester Stallone). In this installment of the famous boxing movie franchise, Rocky is competing with a russian boxer harder than iron to seek revenge after the death of his longtime friend Apollo Creed. 13 Independence Day: Resurgence In this sequel to the hit hit Independence Day, the aliens are there again. This time, 20 years later, the world is fighting for their freedom and annihilation once again. 14 The American President When the widowed POTUS (played by Michael Douglas) must choose between a newfound love and a second term, the stakes are high. The star-studded cast includes Annette Bening, Michael J. Fox, Martin Sheen and Richard Dreyfuss. 15 The Right Stuff Based on Tom Wolfe's 1976 novel, this story follows the stories of Mercury astronauts who were selected for the American space program from dangers and frustrations to triumphs and achievements. This content is created and maintained by a third party, and imported on this page to help users provide their email addresses. You may be able to find more information about this and content similar to piano.io Advertising - Continue reading below page 2 Advertising - Continue reading below 17 July 4 Cocktails Your holiday party needs lemon peas easy to squeeze! Advertising - Continue reading below the 20 best places to watch fireworks 2020 Advertising - Continue reading below This walkable smorgasbord of shops and restaurants can have your credit cards moaning with mercy after a few hours. Since Kits is now a bit of a middle-class utopia, stores that once sold cheap groceries are now more likely peddler of designer yoga equipment, hundred dollar hiking socks and exotic (and unknown) fruits from around the world. In the ascending drift of spring, I accumulate a desire for ultimate confrontation with fire and brilliance — summer; the sun and the at their zenith. Every day, as the earth rotates, a fragile thread of tension pulls more and more in me. I'm starting to ask, Is it now? In our garden, bees pass through a multitude of flowers and get caught in the sky, but the sky is not yet blue in summer. A baby, last year a drowsiness with novelty on his mother's shoulder, this year makes his first tracks barefoot in the grass with dew point. Yet summer has not come, quite. The girls in pretty dresses are slightly golden; soft shadows shorten at noon; the boys undress for a first swing of a rope in a country pond, and surface in a crowd of surprise thrillshow can the water be so cold when the calendar now says summer? When will the sun be warm enough to make the girls sleep, dazzle each noontide and warm the water to venture with the boys? Finally, on the fourth morning of July, the fine thread of tension kicks in: a boy wakes up, flashes happily at the sight of a day of glory, and reaches both under his pillow for a forbidden firecracker finger length. He lights it with a match and throws it out of his window. So summer starts with a bang; and across the country, 20 million children are being kicked out of bed by this joyful noise. I wake up and listen. With an inner beat of pleasure, I too greet the Fourth. Hooray for the splendid racket of freedom! I think so. Hooray for summer has begun! Because it is indeed summer. That morning, who can doubt it? High at the top of the poles, bright and twinkling banners rise on the shimmering air. Fresh breezes enter the summer rooms and blow a winter of secret scents: mice, mothballs and souvenirs. The ocean shines silvery and restless, sifting pebbles, shaping the sand. In clear lakes, fish sink into cooler waters, while simply named motorboats have passed overhead. Today, the grass grows, and tomorrow will be mowed. Today. the sun is warm; Ice cream is cold. Father rubs the rust of the charcoal grill, and small stomach cramps with sudden hunger for food that is burned and leaks catsup. Every firecracker that hits the ad: Summer! Listening, I'm half in the moment, half in the past. Firecrackers are so rare now; each makes a solitary clap of sound. But when I was a child... When I was a child... When I was a child, I wasted six months of allowance to celebrate a decent fourth. Two dollars were spent on firecrackers (as if ten cents were not enough to deafen); 50 cents for cherry bombs (include one guy for each detonation); \$ for rockets, pin wheels and things to go Pffft! at night. I bought shells that opened under water, renting tiny flags. Sparklers I loved. And punk. Punk smelled of incense, oriental and mysterious. He mingled with the salt wind of the sea; with the warm, tarred smell of asphalt and the sweet smell of grass. It was the authentic scent of the summer started. With punk for a brooding smoldering we, the children, ruled the tops of trees, shining like owls; the dogs flattened under the porches and rolled their eyes.) We bombarded the roofs with cans blown by giant salutes, and alarmed our mothers by blowing up evil devices in kitchen ovens. We were stupid, but on the Fourth, madness was a freedom we could claim. It was a gift from our parents, and the season. We were free of shoes and rules; free to make the collective tumult, or to be noisy alone. We were the kings and citizens of the summer, and we saluted the flags that flew over our domain. Now the children fill the Fourth with less clamor, but they are also free. My boys swing on the water and fall with loud cries; my daughter browns in the sun, transistorized hullabaloo component. They are happy; So are we. Each of us has a special summer freedom to enjoy. The twilight that follows this good day is scented with popcorn, aflutter with moths, soft by a lingering touch of sunshine. Now, and in my memory, the Fourth seems the most glorious at night. Where I grew up, a parade still precedes the darkness in the city. It is led by the flag at altitude, punctuated by the drums and the proud and sour notes of the young bugles. Children in costume review: George Washington, being wigged in cotton bat; dour clowns with embarrassment; a terrible cardboard dragon; Betsy Ross on a bike. The groups tune in with massive bonfires. Children run in circles while their elders dance in squares, and the night slowly surrounds itself. The best is the last, full dark, when the fireworks begin. The child in me stirs with suspense; I'm old with nostalgia. Always and always, it's the same thing a breathing air as the first rocket jets to the sky; the bursting and spread of stars; the whole city saying, Ahhh! Still right now, I remember a night when, in my eyes, the scene changed. In the valley of the sky, the stars were as stable as the streetlights; but the earth's deep darkness was populated by comets and meteors that exhaled in the celestial sparks. Still, as in my childhood, I feel a slight a sickness of melancholy when the bottom of each star bursts, but each next flight of rockets creates new stars. The aerial bombs wake up echoes 12 months unheard of. Pinwheels swirl dervish, and Roman candles pop pink fireballs. Light and noise fragment the sky; It's too much, and never enough. Even the grand final fails to finish it. Children beyond their bedtime wave sparklers. Look at me! they shout, swirling white marks on the surface of the darkness. Look at me! I look. I see the child I was, chasing the shadows of the children who are mine, through summer days as fine and free as this one and the summer nights streaked with sky with shooting stars. Memory, the moment, the promise of the season are now attached. Summer is in my heart and

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