

australian 12 days of christmas lyrics

Australian 12 Days of Christmas lyrics are a festive twist on the classic carol, reflecting the unique culture and lifestyle of Australia during the holiday season. While the original song depicts a series of extravagant gifts, the Australian version replaces these with iconic symbols of Australian life, making it a beloved staple during Christmas celebrations Down Under. This article will explore the lyrics of the Australian 12 Days of Christmas, delve into its cultural significance, and how it compares to the traditional version.

The Origin of the 12 Days of Christmas

The original "12 Days of Christmas" song dates back to the 18th century and has its roots in England. It traditionally lists a series of increasingly grand gifts given on each day of Christmas, beginning on December 25 and culminating on January 5, which is known as the Twelfth Night. Each verse builds upon the previous ones, creating a cumulative effect that makes it a fun and engaging song to sing.

Adapting the Lyrics for Australia

As Australia developed its own cultural identity, so too did its interpretations of traditional songs. The Australian version of "12 Days of Christmas" incorporates elements that are distinctly Australian, including native animals, iconic foods, and cultural references. This adaptation not only makes the song more relatable for Australians but also showcases the country's unique heritage.

The Lyrics of the Australian 12 Days of Christmas

The Australian 12 Days of Christmas lyrics typically include a range of gifts that are representative of the Australian lifestyle. Below is a common version of the lyrics:

1. On the first day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:
A kookaburra in a gum tree.
2. On the second day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:
Two turtle doves,
And a kookaburra in a gum tree.
3. On the third day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:
Three kangaroos,
Two turtle doves,
And a kookaburra in a gum tree.
4. On the fourth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:
Four koalas climbing,

Three kangaroos,
Two turtle doves,
And a kookaburra in a gum tree.

5. On the fifth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:
Five golden wattle,
Four koalas climbing,
Three kangaroos,
Two turtle doves,
And a kookaburra in a gum tree.

6. On the sixth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:
Six white boomerangs,
Five golden wattle,
Four koalas climbing,
Three kangaroos,
Two turtle doves,
And a kookaburra in a gum tree.

7. On the seventh day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:
Seven swans a-swimming,
Six white boomerangs,
Five golden wattle,
Four koalas climbing,
Three kangaroos,
Two turtle doves,
And a kookaburra in a gum tree.

8. On the eighth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:
Eight spiders spinning,
Seven swans a-swimming,
Six white boomerangs,
Five golden wattle,
Four koalas climbing,
Three kangaroos,
Two turtle doves,
And a kookaburra in a gum tree.

9. On the ninth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:
Nine possums playing,
Eight spiders spinning,
Seven swans a-swimming,
Six white boomerangs,
Five golden wattle,
Four koalas climbing,
Three kangaroos,
Two turtle doves,
And a kookaburra in a gum tree.

10. On the tenth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:
Ten dingoes dancing,

Nine possums playing,
Eight spiders spinning,
Seven swans a-swimming,
Six white boomerangs,
Five golden wattle,
Four koalas climbing,
Three kangaroos,
Two turtle doves,
And a kookaburra in a gum tree.

11. On the eleventh day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:

Eleven emus running,
Ten dingoes dancing,
Nine possums playing,
Eight spiders spinning,
Seven swans a-swimming,
Six white boomerangs,
Five golden wattle,
Four koalas climbing,
Three kangaroos,
Two turtle doves,
And a kookaburra in a gum tree.

12. On the twelfth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me:

Twelve pubs a-popping,
Eleven emus running,
Ten dingoes dancing,
Nine possums playing,
Eight spiders spinning,
Seven swans a-swimming,
Six white boomerangs,
Five golden wattle,
Four koalas climbing,
Three kangaroos,
Two turtle doves,
And a kookaburra in a gum tree.

Cultural Significance of the Australian Version

The Australian 12 Days of Christmas lyrics resonate with many Australians for several reasons:

- **Celebration of Nature:** The song highlights Australia's unique wildlife and flora, fostering a sense of pride in the country's natural heritage.
- **Community Spirit:** The playful nature of the song encourages group participation, making it popular in schools, community events, and family gatherings during the holiday season.
- **Humor and Fun:** The lighthearted lyrics and quirky imagery make it an entertaining song,

often prompting laughter and joy among listeners and singers alike.

Comparison with the Traditional Version

While the traditional "12 Days of Christmas" features gifts that are often luxurious and extravagant, the Australian adaptation focuses on elements that are more accessible and relatable to everyday life in Australia. This contrast reflects the laid-back, humorous nature of Australian culture. Notably, the Australian version replaces opulent gifts with local wildlife and cultural icons, making it uniquely appealing to Australians and those familiar with the country.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the **Australian 12 Days of Christmas lyrics** provide a delightful and humorous take on a classic holiday song. By incorporating elements of Australian culture, it not only entertains but also fosters a sense of community and pride in the nation's unique identity. Whether sung at Christmas parties, family gatherings, or community events, this rendition of the beloved carol is sure to bring smiles and laughter during the festive season. So, gather your friends and family, and get ready to belt out this iconic Australian version of a Christmas classic!

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the theme of the Australian version of '12 Days of Christmas'?

The Australian version features unique gifts that reflect Australian culture and wildlife, such as 'two kangaroos' and 'three emus a-laying'.

How do the lyrics of the Australian '12 Days of Christmas' differ from the traditional version?

The Australian lyrics replace traditional items with local flora and fauna, making it more relatable to an Australian audience.

What are some examples of gifts mentioned in the Australian '12 Days of Christmas'?

Some gifts include 'six bush turkeys', 'five golden wattle', and 'four koalas climbing'.

Is the Australian '12 Days of Christmas' popular in schools and holiday performances?

Yes, it is often performed in schools and holiday events, celebrating Australian culture during Christmas.

Who popularized the Australian version of '12 Days of Christmas'?

The Australian version was popularized by various artists and has been adapted in multiple recordings, often during the festive season.

Can you find a version of the Australian '12 Days of Christmas' online?

Yes, many versions can be found on platforms like YouTube, where artists perform their interpretations of the song.

Is there a specific melody used for the Australian '12 Days of Christmas'?

Yes, it uses the same melody as the traditional '12 Days of Christmas', allowing for easy sing-along with the altered lyrics.

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