



# Don't Step on a Crack!



## Origin of “Don’t Step on a Crack”

The original significance of stepping on a crack was that children would be eaten by bears that hide around street corners waiting for their lunch to walk by!

Another version claimed that the number of cracks stepped on would be the same number of dishes you would break later in the day.

The singsong superstition: “Step on a crack, break your mother’s back” only became popular in the past few decades. In some areas, the superstition would also mean the number of cracks you step on would reflect the number of bones cracked in your mother’s back.

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Why do you think this superstition became so popular among children?

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Imagine you’ve just stepped on a crack. What would you do to try and reverse your mother’s fate?

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