

Thor

Thor was one of the most important and famous gods in Norse mythology. He was the son of Odin and Fyorgyn, the earth goddess. Thor was considered the storm-weather god of sky and thunder and also a fertility god. His wife was Sif, a goddess also linked to fertility. He had a red beard and eyes, he was huge in size, he had an insatiable appetite and not much wit. Thor was the strongest of all gods and men according to *The Prose Edda*.

THOR'S HAMMER & CHARIOT

Thor was very talented at slaying giants; many of his stories revolve around violent episodes between him and his enemies. In order to perform his duties, Thor had a hammer, Mjollnir, a deadly weapon also associated with lightning and thunder, which was built by the dwarves. He also had iron gloves and a belt named Megingjard that doubled Thor's strength once buckled on. There were also some other less destructive aspects of Thor. As a weather god he was associated with the fertility of the earth. He was also regarded as a guide for those travelling over the sea because of his power over storms and wind.

Thor had a chariot to travel across the sky, which was drawn by two giant goats: Tanngrisnir and Tanngrisnir. These powerful animals had a very convenient magical property: they could be killed and eaten at any time, and as long as their bones were undamaged and returned into their skins, they would regenerate overnight and the following day would be alive, just like new.



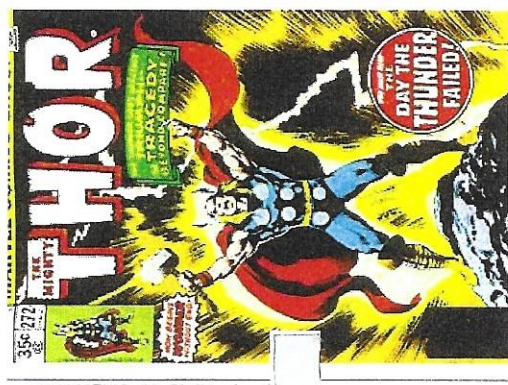
Thor, as depicted by Jack Kirby in *Tales of the Unexpected* #16 (1967).



Norse mythology claims that Thor, along with most of the gods, will eventually die during a final disaster. It is said that during the end of the world (known as *Ragnarok* in Norse mythology), Thor will fight against the World Serpent. The god slays the serpent, but he will then die as well, drowned in the beast's poison.

SIMILARITIES BETWEEN THOR & OTHER DEITIES

The conflict between Thor and the World Serpent is similar to the conflict between the Vedic god Indra and the demon-serpent Vritra, which is described in the Vedas. Moreover, Indra is also a sky god, and his weapon is the thunderbolt. The Teutonic god Donar and the Anglo-Saxon Thunor are also storm gods who share many similarities with Thor. The Baltic thunder god Perkunas was also associated with fertility and was normally depicted holding one of his many weapons, including a hammer.



THOR (MARVEL COMICS)

Thor is a fictional superhero appearing in American comic books published by Marvel Comics. The character, based on the Norse deity of the same name, is the Asgardian god of thunder and possesses the enchanted hammer Mjollnir, which grants him the ability to fly and manipulate weather amongst his other superhuman attributes.

The character was first portrayed in live action by Eric Allan Kramer in the 1988 television movie *The Incredible Hulk Returns*. Chris Hemsworth portrays Thor Odinson in the Marvel Cinematic Universe films *Thor*, *The Avengers*, *Thor: The Dark World*, *Avengers: Age of Ultron*, *Doctor Strange, Thor: Ragnarok*, *Avengers: Infinity War*, and will reprise his role in the fourth *Avengers* film. Additionally, archival footage of Hemsworth as Thor was used in the episodes "Pilot" and "The Well" of *Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.*

Thor's father Odin decides his son needed to be taught humility and consequently places Thor (without memories of godhood) into the body and memories of an existing, partially disabled human medical student, Donald Blake.^[68] After becoming a doctor, Blake witnesses the arrival of an alien scouting party while he is on vacation in Norway. Blake flees from the aliens into a cave. After discovering Thor's hammer Mjollnir (disguised as a walking stick) and striking it against a rock, he transforms into the thunder god.^[69] Later, in *Thor* Blake is revealed to have always been Thor, Odin's enchantment having caused him to forget his history as The Thunder God and believe himself mortal!

Defeating the aliens, Thor shares a double life with his alter ego: treating the ill in a private practice with nurse – and eventual love – Jane Foster, and defending humanity from evil. Thor's presence on Earth almost immediately attracts the attention of his adoptive brother and enemy Loki.[!]

Loki's tactics were accidentally beneficial – although successful in using an illusion of the Hulk to draw Thor

into battle, it results in the formation of the superhero team the Avengers, of which Thor is a founding and longstanding member.

Falling in love with Jane Foster, Thor disobeys his father and refuses to return to Asgard, an act for which he is punished on several occasions.^[74] Thor's natural affinity for Earth is eventually revealed to be due to the fact that he was the son of the Elder Goddess Gaea.^[75] Although Thor initially regards himself as a "superhero" like his teammates in the Avengers, Loki's machinations draw Thor into increasingly epic adventures, such as teaming with his father Odin and Asgardian ally Balder against the fire demon Surtur and Skagg the Storm Giant,[!]

and defeating an increasingly powerful Absorbing Man and proving his innocence in the "Trial of the Gods".[!]

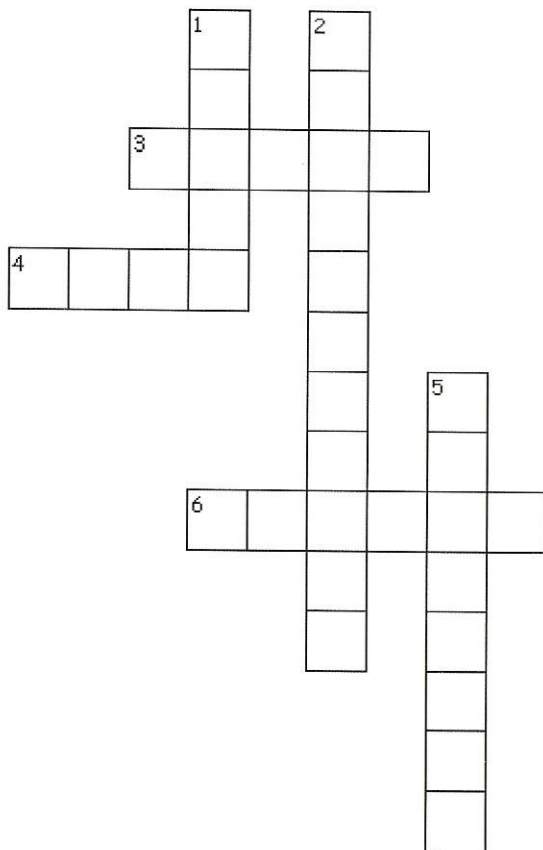
This necessitates an extended leave of absence from the Avengers.



Thor

1. What is Thor's surname?
2. What type of demon is Surtur?
3. What is the name of the belt that doubled Thor's strength once buckled on?
4. Name the Teutonic god mentioned in the paper.
5. How many years ago was the film The incredible hulk returns realised?
6. Name Thor's wife.
7. Thor is the god of what?
8. Who plays Thor in the Marvel films?
9. Thor is a founding and long lasting member of which team?
10. Which actor first portrayed Thor in a live action TV film in 1988?
11. What did Thor have to aid him when he travels across the sky?
12. Name the Baltic thunder god mentioned.
13. In what year was the comic book Tales of the Unexpected released?
14. What is Elder Goddess Gaea's connection with Thor?
15. How did Thor eventually die?

Thor



Across

- 3. Vedic god
- 4. Name of the article
- 6. Something belonging to Thor

Down

- 1. Teutonic god
- 2. Name of the company
- 5. Team