

True or false? Some facts you might not know about Cologne:

1. Cologne is the only city in Germany where house numbers have four digits.



or



2. The famous Cologne perfume “4711” was initially used as a medicine against the pox that raged in the city in 1174 (which read backwards is 4711).



or



3. To attract more customers, an ice cream café at Neumarkt installed a huge sculpture of an ice cream cone on top of the shopping center.



or



[click here for solution](#)

Did you guess the correct answer?

Cologne is the only city in Germany where house numbers have four digits.

TRUE!

Unlike in America, house numbers with four digits are extremely rare in Germany. The original Eau de Cologne scent was mixed in house number 4711, making it perhaps the most famous 4-digit house number. There are still high numbers: a woman living at Venloer Straße 1503 on the outskirts of the city has the highest house-number in the whole country.



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Did you guess the correct answer?

The famous Cologne perfume “4711” was initially used as a medicine against the pox that raged in the city in 1174 (which read backwards is 4711).

FALSE!

It's indeed true that the famous perfume “Eau de Cologne” was initially a medicine against the pox. However, the brand “4711” did not get its name from the year, but it used to be the house number of its founding company Farina - at Glockengasse in Cologne.



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Did you guess the correct answer?

To attract more customers, an ice cream café at Neumarkt installed a huge sculpture of an ice cream cone on top of the shopping center.

FALSE!

If you've ever been shopping at Neumarkt Galerie in the city center, you'll have seen a massive sculpture of an ice cream cone on top of the shopping center. However, according to a local newspaper, only two out of 10 Cologne natives know that this cone is not advertising a nearby ice cream café but is in fact a 12-metre-high sculpture called the "Dropped Cone." The cone is a community art piece from artists Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen. They apparently decided on an ice-cream cone because "Cologne" contains the world "cone."



[click here to finish the game](#)

How much did you know or guess right?



If you got more than one of these facts right, you must be a real Cologne expert! Even many locals don't know about the origins of "4711" number, 4-digit house numbers and the real meaning of the "Dropped Cone."

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- https://www.travelonspot.com/en_GL/article/top-10-most-interesting-facts-about-cologne
- <https://www.cactusworldwide.com/blog/2012/06/06/10-little-known-facts-about-cologne/>
- <https://www.thelocal.de/20180529/10-facts-you-probably-didnt-know-about-cologne-even-if-you-live-there>