

The Official Rules

Murphy's Laws:

1. If anything can go wrong it will.
2. If anything just can't go wrong, it will anyway.
3. When things are going well, something will go wrong.
4. When things just can't get any worse, they will.
5. Anytime things appear to be going better, you have overlooked something.
6. If you explain things so clearly that nobody can possibly misunderstand, somebody will.
7. Left to themselves, things always go from bad to worse.
8. If there is a possibility of several things going wrong, the one that will go wrong is the one which will do the most damage.

The Engineer's Lament: Murphy was an optimist.

The First Law of Holes: When you find yourself in a hole, stop digging.

Crane's Law: There is no such thing as a free lunch.

Beauregard's Law: When you're in it up to your nose, keep your mouth shut.

Luce's Law: No good deed goes unpunished.

Never wrestle with a pig. You both get all dirty -- and the pig likes it.

The Golden Rule: Whoever has the gold makes the rules.

The Law of Fecoventilatory Dispersal: Whatever hits the fan will not be evenly distributed (also known as the "How Come It All Landed On Me" Law).

Jones's Law: The man who can smile when things go wrong has thought of someone to blame it on.

Moer's Truism: The trouble with most jobs is the resemblance to being on a dog sled team: no one except the lead dog ever gets a change of scenery.

Preacher Dave's Conclusion: If all the people who sleep in church on Sundays were laid out end to end, they'd be a lot more comfortable.

Ellenberg's Theory: One good turn gets most of the blanket.

Mr. Greenberg's Adage: Never ask the barber whether you need a haircut.

The Perversity of Production Precept: If it works well, they'll stop making it.

Dean's Law: It's usually easier to ask for forgiveness than to get permission beforehand.

Rev. Mahaffy's Observation: There's no such thing as a large whiskey. *Big Al's Corollary:* There's no such thing as a large banana pudding.

The First Law of Wing-Walking: Never let go of what you've got until you've got hold of something else.

Woody Allen's Distinction: The lion and the calf shall lie down together, but the calf won't get much sleep.

Six Phases of a Project:

1. Enthusiasm
2. Disillusionment
3. Panic
4. Search for the guilty
5. Punishment of the innocent
6. Praise and honors for the non-participants

Einstein's Other Formula: If A equals success, then the formula is $A = X + Y + Z$. X is work, Y is play, and Z is keep your mouth shut.

Correspondence Corollary: An experiment must be considered a success if no more than half your data must be discarded to obtain correspondence with your theory.

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Every morning in Africa, a gazelle wakes up and knows that she will have to run faster than the lion or she will be slaughtered.

Every morning in Africa a lion wakes up and knows that he must run faster than the gazelle or he will die of hunger.

Moral: When the sun rises, whether you are the lion or the gazelle, you had better start running.