

# What Should I Ask the Visiting Space Aliens that Just Landed in My Backyard? The 10 Best Questions

## Highlight

Why be speechless when the little green men and their flying saucer come visiting? Dozens of space experts including celebrity astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson contributed to the question list below. Pick your favorite questions and start asking!

## The 10 Best Questions

[This is the shorthand version.](#) [The experts' list of more Best Questions continues below.](#)

1. Who or what are you? Where are you from?
2. How the hell did you get here?
3. Why are you here?
4. What is your world like?
5. Do you get old and suffer from diseases like humans do?
6. Does your species mate, give birth, and die?
7. How can you help Earth?
8. Is there life elsewhere in the universe?
9. Do you believe in God or a higher power?
10. How can we help you?

## The Golden Question

The million-dollar question you almost forgot to ask.

Do you need any new crewmembers?

## The 10 Best Answers

### 1. Who or what are you? Where are you from?

- Where did you come from?
- Which planet are you from and where is it in relation to Earth?

- What's your name?
- How long are you staying?
- Are you a winner or loser in the war of the heavens?

[Related: The 10 Worst Questions to Ask a Visiting Space Alien](#)

## **2. How the hell did you get here?**

This Best Question was suggested by Neil deGrasse Tyson in a July 2012 email interview with the QDoc. Tyson is the Director of the Hayden Planetarium for Earth and Space in New York City, is regularly featured on television science shows, and is a respected and prolific science writer.

- How did you know we were here?
- Is this your first visit to Earth?
- How long did it take to get here from your planet?
- What fuel do you use?
- How advanced is your technology compared to ours?

## **3. Why are you here?**

- Did you come in peace or to conquer us?
- Are you friendly?
- Are you going to hurt me?
- Are you going to eat me?
- Will you tell us the truth?
- Will we remember this encounter tomorrow?

Physicist Stephen Hawking believes in intelligent life on other planets but that aliens visiting Earth would be a “much more unpleasant” experience than any UFO sightings.

## **4. What is your world like?**

- How old is your planet?
- How old is your species?
- What is your home planet like?
- How different is your planet from Earth?
- What is your concept of time?
- How far have you explored the universe?
- What has your history taught you?

## **5. Do you get old and suffer from diseases like humans do?**

- How old are you?
- What is your life span?

- Do you ever get sick?
- Are you sick right now? Should I be worried?
- Are you mortal or manufactured?
- If I shoot you with this gun will you die?

## **6. Does your species mate, give birth, and die?**

- What are your mating rituals?
- What's it like for you to have sex in space?
- Do you have any suggestions about better sex for humans?
- How does your species give birth?
- What do you do when one of your one of species dies or becomes dysfunctional?

## **7. How can you help Earth?**

- Can you help us to save Earth?
- What could we learn from you?
- What are you willing to teach us and why?
- Can you help to cure human diseases?
- Will you share your technical knowledge with us?
- Do you know what will happen in the future on Earth?
- Why should we trust you?

## **8. Is there life elsewhere in the universe?**

- Are there other intelligent species and life forms on your home planet?
- Are you in touch with other life forms in your galaxy? In our galaxy?
- How many civilizations are there in your galaxy? How do they interact?
- How common is life in the universe?
- Have you directly observed other life forms or guessing?

## **9. Do you believe in God or a higher power?**

- Do you believe in religion and spirituality?
- Does God exist?
- Do you believe in life after death?
- Is your God the same as ours?
- What is the meaning of life?
- How do you know the answers to these questions?

## **10. How can we help you?**

- Do you need assistance from humans or Earth?
- What do you want to know about us?
- If we help you, will you harm us or our planet?

- Do we have a choice?
- Are you going to eat us?

## **The Golden Question**

The million-dollar question you almost forgot to ask.

### **Do you need any new crewmembers?**

Who's afraid of space aliens? Beam me up, Scotty! I want to come aboard!

In the finest tradition of the movie classic, "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," perhaps it's time for you, too, to strap on your anti-gravity boots.

Astronomer Carl Sagan once gave a compelling reason why he believed that alien intelligence exists. "Otherwise," he said, "the cosmos sure is an awful waste of space."

## **QDoc's Q-Tipsters**

In all your excitement to meet your first space aliens, please don't drop your phone loaded with these questions! If you do, just remember this one: "Are you going to eat me?"

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10 BQ Document # LLS028

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