

Al's Allowance Problem

Al wanted his father to give him an allowance of \$1 a week, but his father refused to go higher than 50¢.

Al thought about the situation and said: “Tell you what, Dad. Today is the first of April. You give me a penny today. Tomorrow give me two pennies. The next day, give me four pennies. Each day, give me twice as many pennies as you did the day before.”

“For how long?” asked Dad, a little warily.

“Just for the month of April,” said Al. “Then I won't ask for any more money for the rest of my life.”

“Okay,” Dad said quickly. “It's a deal!”

How much will Dad need to pay in all during the month?

