

The Ship of Theseus is a famous philosophical query from, as the name suggests, Ancient Greece.

Say there's a great adventurer, Theseus. He and his crew are almost always at sea, and therefore they need the boat to be in good shape. With use, individual pieces of the ship grow rusty and break. So whenever they dock, they purchase a replacement piece for each individual part of the ship that is broken. One time when they dock, they'll replace the rudder. Another time the mizzen or the forepeak. Maybe the sails are torn up and detached; they'll replace those. They keep replacing each individual piece of the boat until eventually, there is not a single piece of their ship that was there originally.

Is it still the same boat?

This story is analogous to humanity; as we drift through the world, our individual cells die and are replaced. In about 7 years, your body will contain none of the cells it currently does. Your entire constitution fluctuates unnoticed until you try to see how you have changed. We move and only stop to see where we are; to see what we have become. For better or for worse.

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This short experimental film was made over the course of two weeks using model kits and footage from the nearby hobby shop. This could not have been made without them.

SHIP OF THESEUS: AN EXPLORATION OF SLOW REBIRTH

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