The Argument from Design

A.K.A. The Teleological Argument

SYLLOGISM

PREMISE 1: The more complex something is, the more likely it is a product of design (and not chance).

PREMISE 2: The universe (and many things within it) are infinitely more complex than all man-made design.

CONCLUSION: Therefore, the universe is a product of design (and not chance). The designer of the universe is what we call God.
THE ARGUMENT FROM DESIGN

A.K.A. The Teleological Argument

EXAMPLES OF COMPLEX HARMONY IN THE UNIVERSE
Over 390 different species of primates help keep tropical rainforests growing and alive by eating fruit and then going to the bathroom all around the jungle (and therefore spreading the fruit seeds).
EXAMPLES OF COMPLEX HARMONY IN THE UNIVERSE

Over 1,000 different bat species help control insect populations by eating them every night. They are also major agents of pollination and seed dispersal, without which many crops would fail.
The Argument from Design
A.K.A. The Teleological Argument

Examples of Complex Harmony in the Universe

Over 20,000 different species of bee help pollinate all kinds of crops. An Oxford expert says, “We rely upon bees for just about every vegetable, flower, and fruit around... We would face mass starvation without them.”
The Argument from Design

A.K.A. The Teleological Argument

Examples of Complex Harmony in the Universe

Over 50,000 different species of plankton in the ocean produce half of the world’s oxygen. Without them life on earth would cease to exist.
The human body is extremely complex. Organs, blood vessels, nerve endings, antibodies, and everything else constantly work together to keep you alive. Plus, the human brain is widely recognized to be the most complex design in the universe.
The Argument from Design

A.K.A. The Teleological Argument

The Goldilocks Principle

Why are the conditions on earth “just right” for my survival?
In order to support life, a planet cannot be too close or too far away from a star. If Earth were a little closer to our star, the sun, it would be scorching hot and impossible for life to exist. If Earth were a little farther away from the sun it would be a rock of ice and impossible for life to exist. But our planet, Earth, is the perfect distance away from the sun, which gives us the possibility of existing.
The universe seems to have been specially designed from the beginning for human life to evolve. If the temperature of the primal fireball that resulted from the Big Bang some fourteen billion years ago, which was the beginning of our universe, had been a trillionth of a degree colder or hotter, the carbon molecule that is the foundation of all organic life could never have developed. The number of possible universes is trillions of trillions; only one of them could support human life: this one. Sounds suspiciously like a plot...

If the cosmic rays had bombarded the primordial slime at a slightly different angle or time or intensity, the hemoglobin molecule, necessary for all warm-blooded animals, could never have evolved. The chance of this molecule's evolving is something like one in a trillion trillion. Add together each of the chances and it becomes almost completely unbelievable that there was no designer behind it all.

(Peter Kreeft)
If you took a big bin of loose Legos and shook it for over a million years you would NOT expect to eventually discover a perfectly formed Millennium Falcon.
If you were walking through the Amazon jungle and stumbled upon a working watch you would not think, “Wow! This must have been made over millions of years by pure, random chance!” Instead, you would think, “Someone must have made this”.

If you found a working laptop on a deserted island you would not think, “Wow! This was probably the result of a cosmic accident!” Instead, you would think, “Someone must have made this.”
The universe is **INFINITELY** more amazing and complex than a Lego model, a wristwatch, or a computer. Therefore, it seems **99.99999999%** logical that something intelligent made it.
Is it possible that design happens by chance without a designer?

Someone once said that if you sat a million monkeys at a million typewriters for a million years, one of them would eventually type out all of Shakespeare’s Hamlet by chance. But when we find the text of Hamlet, we don't wonder whether it came from chance and monkeys.

Why then does the atheist use that incredibly improbable explanation for the universe?

Clearly, because it is his only chance of remaining an atheist.

- Peter Kreeft
CONCLUSION

Doesn’t evolution show us that a designer isn’t needed?

“Just the **opposite**. Evolution is an amazing example of design, a great **clue** to God.”

- Peter Kreeft
The Argument from Design
A.K.A. The Teleological Argument

CONCLUSION

In the end, an atheist must have more faith to believe that the universe was made by random chance than a theist needs to believe the universe was a product of design.
God is Real
Chris Stefanick