



5 Ways to Celebrate Employee Appreciation Day: A Quick Guide



Employee Appreciation Day is coming up soon. It's a great opportunity to remember to make employees feel valued and thank them for their hard work and contributions to your shared success. It's also a fantastic moment to remind them about the power of gratitude and encourage them to thank, recognize, and congratulate one another.

“Gratitude is the key to happiness in the workplace and everywhere else.”

DR. ROBERT EMMONS
Professor at UC Davis

This message is particularly important in 2022, with the Great Resignation only expected to get greater. **If you want to create an impact in your company on Employee Appreciation Day, now is the time to start planning.**

Here's a quick primer on everything you need to know about Employee Appreciation Day, along with a few ideas for making it meaningful in your organization.

What is Employee Appreciation Day?

Employee Appreciation Day is an official holiday created for companies to thank their employees for their hard work and effort throughout the year. It was created to strengthen the bond between employers and employees and to remind leaders and managers about the importance of showing employees they are valued.

When is Employee Appreciation Day?

Employee Appreciation Day is observed annually on the first Friday in March.

In 2022, it will be celebrated on Friday, March 4.

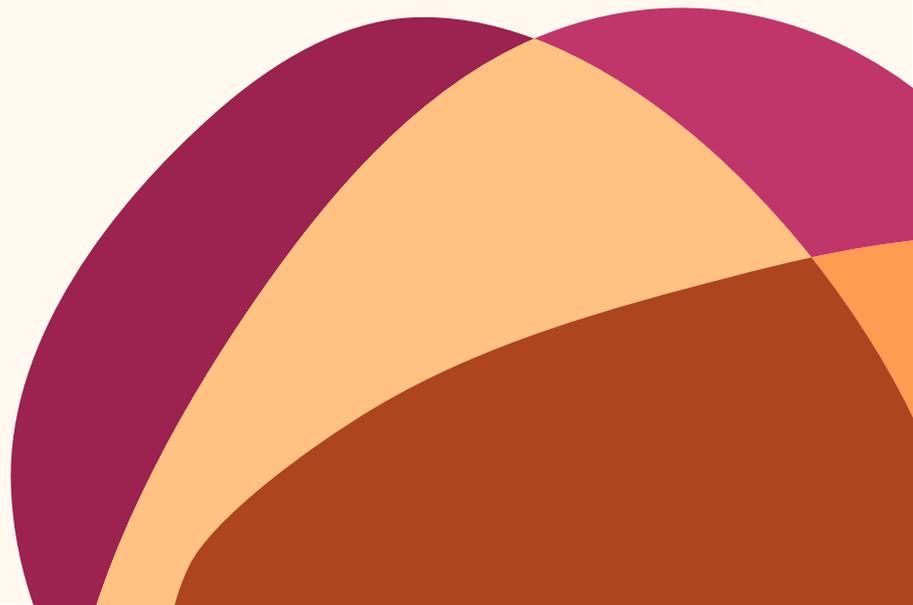
Where is Employee Appreciation Day celebrated?

Employee Appreciation Day began in the U.S. and Canada and is now a global holiday.

How do companies celebrate Employee Appreciation Day?

Companies celebrate the holiday in a variety of ways, big and small, that are usually focused on making employees feel special and rewarded. This might include:

- Meaningful words of gratitude from leaders
- Signage and decorations
- Letting employees leave work early or take the day off
- Hosting a party or other activities for workers
- Games and contests
- Offering food, swag, or monetary awards
- Rewards and recognition



5 ways to make your Employee Appreciation Day special

This annual holiday is the perfect opportunity to thank employees for making your company successful. Here are five ideas to try this year.

1. Engage (and remind) your managers.

Make sure your managers know Employee Appreciation Day is coming so they can think and plan! Send an email out a few weeks in advance and then again closer to the day. Encourage supervisors to use this day as inspiration for expressing gratitude to team members.

2. Lead by example.

Words of encouragement matter. Consider celebrating Employee Appreciation Day with emails from the CEO or CHRO, intranet or newsletter articles, and social posts. **Be sure to use the tag #EmployeeAppreciationDay to share with the world!** Send a small gift to employees working remotely to show just how much their hard work is appreciated.

3. Recognize a team, a department – or your entire company.

Recognizing employees as a group can increase their feelings of belonging and remind them that they are part of something bigger. The recognition might come from the CEO, a department leader, or the company as a whole – but any authentic message of gratitude will help employees to believe that their contribution is truly valued.

4. Set up a video or live event.

Hearing a “thank you” directly from leaders is particularly important and meaningful. Give your leaders the opportunity to speak directly to your employees and tell them how much they are valued.

5. Make a visual impact.

To build excitement and send a powerful message of appreciation to employees on March 4, consider decorating the office with signage and adding graphics to your electronic communications like virtual meeting backgrounds or web banners.



Of course, one of the best ways to show appreciation for your employees is by starting the journey toward a truly human workplace – a place where employees answer the need to be recognized, developed, and celebrated. Make it happen with Workhuman Cloud[®].

Because without the human, it's just work.

Happy Employee Appreciation Day!



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