

Send Thanksgiving hosts flowers from afar by arranging a delivery to their home and adding a note that names what you appreciate. Choose a convenient arrival date and an arrangement that will be easy for them to enjoy.

Choose a useful delivery day

Think about what the host may be doing as Thanksgiving approaches. On the day itself, the kitchen counter might be crowded with serving dishes, and someone may be answering the door while checking the oven. A delivery a day or two earlier gives the host more time to find a place for the flowers.

Sending flowers after the gathering works well, too. A fresh arrangement can bring color to the house once the table has been cleared and guests have left. Check the delivery date and address carefully before placing the order, especially if you have not visited recently.

Pick flowers that fit their home

Let the recipient's taste guide you more than the holiday palette. If their home is full of soft colors, a mix of cream, pale pink, or muted green may feel more at home than a bright orange arrangement. If they love bold color, warm red and yellow flowers can be a cheerful choice.

A modest arrangement in a vase is easy to set on a side table or kitchen shelf. For a dining table, consider a low arrangement that lets people see one another across it. You do not need to choose a centerpiece unless you know the host wants one.

Make the gift easy to receive

Flowers are a thank you, not another task. A few practical choices can make the delivery easier for a busy host:

- Include a vase if you are unsure the host has a spare one.
- Ask about available delivery dates before choosing the arrival day.
- Check for flower sensitivities or household pets before selecting blooms.
- Provide a current phone number if the delivery service needs to reach the recipient.

If the host has a cat or dog, ask for an arrangement made without flowers or foliage that could be harmful to that animal. Lilies, for example, are highly toxic to cats.

Write a note that sounds like you

A short, specific message often means more than a formal thank you. Mention the welcome they gave you, the meal they prepared, or the care they put into bringing everyone together. You might write, “Thank you for making room for everyone at your table. I loved hearing the stories after dinner.”

If you could not attend, you can still acknowledge the invitation: “Thank you for including me. I missed being there and hope you had a lovely day.” Sign your name so the host knows who sent the flowers.

Questions about sending flowers from afar

Can I send flowers after Thanksgiving?

Yes. A delivery after the holiday is a thoughtful way to thank a host and gives them something fresh to enjoy once the gathering is over.

Should I tell the host a delivery is coming?

If you are unsure they will be home, a brief message can help them receive the flowers promptly. You can keep the contents a surprise.

Do the flowers need to be autumn colors?

No. Choose colors the host enjoys, or select a simple mix that suits their home.

What if I cannot remember their address?

Ask the host or someone close to them to confirm it. It is better to check than risk a delivery going to the wrong place.

More background: corporate flower etiquette