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You are welcome anytime formal

You've probably noticed that we Americans tend to say thank you a lot. Whether we thank you for something small, show appreciation for someone's support, or express gratitude for a huge favor, you want to find a way to acknowledge our feelings. Let's talk about how. Learn to respond to thank you in American English. Saying you are welcome with natural stress and intonation here in the United States, we often respond to thanks with a simple phrase: You are welcome. There is nothing wrong with this simple saying; it sounds perfectly natural. We will reduce the word you to /jə/ and emphasize the first syllable of welcome, wel-: WEL-come. Because it is lowered, the vo vo voymate in -come changes to schwa, /ə/. /wɪlɡlɒm/. Let's try it: You're welcome. You're welcome. Make sure you use friendly, honest intonation when you say: You are welcome! You climb the highest pitch on the wel-, you hold this syllable a little longer, and then you drop to -come on: You're WEL-come. You're wel-come. To sound even more positive and sincere, you can on wel-: You are welcome! (Be sure to hit and hold that higher pitch on the wel-!) He said with a smile, showing that you were happy to help. Making You're Welcome Even Stronger with So, Very, and Most To Reinforce This Phrase. You Can Add a Word So: You're So Welcome. You can even keep your word a little longer and use a higher pitch to make it sound even more sincere: You're so welcome. You're welcome. Once again, be sure to say it with friendly intonation, otherwise it may sound sarcastic. (Watch the video to hear how it sounds when said sarcastically!) You can also hear people say: You are very welcome or you are very welcome, although both sound a bit formal to me. I tend to use them in writing more than speaking because you don't have that extra context that intonation provides. You're welcome. You're welcome. Saying No problem!, No prob!, and No worries! Besides You're welcome, we'll most likely say No problem if someone thanks us. Be sure to stress pro- - not PROblem - and say the whole phrase with friendly intonation: No problem! No problem! Again, to make it sound even more positive and honest, you can hit a slightly higher pitch on the pro-: No PROblem, no PROblem! Flatter intonation can sound sarcastic or angry, as if you were frustrated to help. (Be sure to watch the video to hear the difference in how no problem sounds!) When I talk to friends, family or coworkers who thank me for something small, I often say No prob! This is more casual or informal, so make sure you use it in the right situations. Again you will emphasize prob and use friendly intonation: No PROB! No PROB! I also say No worries! quite often in response to Thanks.: No worries! This is a way of acknowledging that it wasn't a big deal, so you shouldn't worry about putting me: No worries! As hears, the emphasis is on wor-: No WORries. No worries. Be sure to rise to stressed syllable and drop afterwards: No WORries. No worries. Other Ways to Say You're Welcome in American English Here Are Some Other Ways You Can Say You're Welcome: Sure Thing! Sure thing! Whenever! Whenever! We will be happy to help! Happy TO HELP! Glad I could help! Glad I could help! Sure! Sure! Obviously! Obviously! As you can hear, the intonation I use is friendly, optimistic and positive. It shows you're serious about what you're saying. Try telling them again, pay attention to your intonation: Sure thing! Whenever! We will be happy to help! Glad I could help! Sure! Obviously! You can also hear people say My pleasure or pleasure was mine, but it sounds more British to me. Another way of saying you're welcome that I personally don't really use it is much indebted. This phrase is a bit more British and I've also read that it can be used more frequently in the American South. For me, that phrase feels a bit like a tongue twister and it doesn't come naturally to me, so you probably won't hear me use a lot of thanks. Other ways to show that you were happy to help, if you were really happy to help you, you can also use one of the following phrases. For example: That was the least I could do. That phrase sounds like you could have done more, so it wasn't a big deal to contribute the way you did. Here's how to emphasize that: It was at least I could do it. That was the least I could do. If you want to emphasize that it wasn't a big deal because that's what friends are for, you can say something like this: I know you'd do the same for me. I know you'd do the same for me. And if you're a little embarrassed that they're thanking you, you can say something like, don't mention it. Don't let me have it. This reminds the other person that you were happy to help, and it wasn't a big deal. More casual ways to say You're welcome Now let's talk about a few more casual ways to say you're welcome. These are most common when you communicate with your friends, people in your extended social circle, or people more or less in the same age group. You really need to pay attention to the context and how comfortable you feel with the other person. If you feel a little embarrassed that the person who thanks you, you can say something like: Forget it. FORGET about it. Maybe it's a little hard for you to accept recognition, so you're feeling a little shy. When it comes to using these more casual phrases, I recommend listening to other people and seeing how often they use them. When you pay more attention to how people use these phrases, you'll be able to use them more naturally. Here's another one: I got you, I got you. Because it is used in an informal and familiar environment, I have you often pronounced as I have chu. This expression shows that you would support your friend. You got their backs. Here's another: It's all good. It's all good. In casual speech, it can even be Scarf Scarf SALL good! Let's look at another: No big deal. No big deal. You may hear that falling intonation is minimizing what the person who thanks you for. Please note: If you are really grateful because you helped them and it means a lot to them, you may not want to say this is not a big deal because it's a big deal for them. Shorter versions of No Big Deal are No Biggie and No Big; No Biggie. No big one. No BIGgie. No big one. Return Thanks If you want to come back thanks because another person helped you at the same time, you can say thank you with an emphasis on the word you: Thank you. These would normally decrease. By emphasizing this word more than usual, you return a feeling of gratitude. Thanks. Thanks. We can also say: The same to you. For example: Thank you. Same to you. Thanks. (This is the same strategy we use when turning the question around.) Add more varieties to you are welcome to accept or accept one's appreciation or gratitude, you can also add more varieties you are welcome. It is very common to use two or maybe three of these expressions in a row. Let's try it: Thank you. You're welcome. I'd be happy to help. Thank you so much. No prob. I know you'd do the same for me. I appreciate your time. Don't worry. I'm glad I could help. If thank you for something specific, you can add a little more to show appreciation back: Thanks for coming. Sure thing. I had a great time. Thanks for signing up. Don't worry. I wanted to make sure you were okay. When it comes to accepting thanks, simple is the best. Smile, eye contact, and use friendly intonation. Why People Don't Accept Thanks Enthusiastically Last, you've probably noticed that some of these expressions minimize the effort or problems that it's been for you. For example: It wasn't a problem for me. You don't have to thank me. It was nothing. Some people do this to avoid feeling uncomfortable, as if you owe them something. It's cultural! Personally, I think it's easier and more polite to be warm and accept thanks. Your Turn Now that you know how to respond to thanks, be sure to check how to show appreciation and express gratitude in English. Leave a comment and let me know other ways you've heard people respond to thanks. Are you ready to communicate more effectively in conversations? Learn communication skills that allow you to connect with other people and engage in natural conversations and professional discussions. This is where we start. Today we answered a question from Melsom in Iran. Q: How many ways can we say 'are you welcome?' ... How can we respond to them in both formal and informal ways? Answer: Dear Melsom, Thank you for your question! Formal ways to say 'you are welcome' let's first look at the formal answers. These would be the ones you can use with people you don't know very well. These include: You are very welcome and my pleasure. Here's how two co-workers can use it when talking to each other: Thank you for helping you finish Obviously, I'd love to. You may hear my delight at a popular American fast food restaurant. The company could tell the workers to respond with my pleasure when people say thank you. This is both a formal and kind way to speak. Informal ways to say 'you're welcome' Now let's look at less formal ways of saying you're welcome. These include: do not mention that it was nothing, a sure thing, at any time, and no problem. For example, suppose a friend helped you solve a computer problem. Here's what you two could say: Thanks for your help! Don't worry! It's not a problem for me. After you say You're welcome, you can also add some more expressions. Thanks so much for driving downtown this morning. You're welcome! Don't mention it. It was nothing. It is easy for me to marry you; I'd be happy to help. And that's Ask the teacher! I'm Anne Ball. Anne Ball wrote this story for Teaching English. Ashley Thompson was an editor. Let us know what you'd like to know. Email us in the comments section below, we want to hear from you!

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