

10 Free / Low Cost Employee Recognition Ideas



Table of Contents



01	-----	Happy Birthday!
02	-----	Thank You Call
03	-----	Time Off
04	-----	Meeting Call Out
05	-----	Work Anniversaries
06	-----	Pets
07	-----	Acknowledge Personal Achievements
08	-----	Lunch
09	-----	Charitable Donation
10	-----	Personalized Gift
11	-----	BONUS: kudos

Employee Recognition Ideas

Recognition is increasingly important to attract and retain the best talent. According to a Gallup survey, **“Employees who do NOT feel adequately recognized are twice as likely to say they’ll quit in the next year.”**

While recognizing your employees is important, doing so doesn’t need to be complicated or expensive. In fact, there are plenty of ways to say “thanks” for free! We’ve put together a list of ten free or low cost ways to show your employees appreciation for their contributions to your organization.



1. Happy Birthday!

Whether it's calling out a team member's birthday during a meeting, sending a card, or sending an email, wishing employees a "Happy Birthday" is a simple way to show you care.



2. Thank You Call

Did an employee go above and beyond? Complete a task quickly? Give them a call just to say “thanks.”



3. Time Off

Reward employees with leaving an hour early / starting an hour late. For an especially big “thanks,” give them a day off!



4. Meeting Call Out

Recognize a job well done during a company meeting. Encourage peer-to-peer recognition, too!



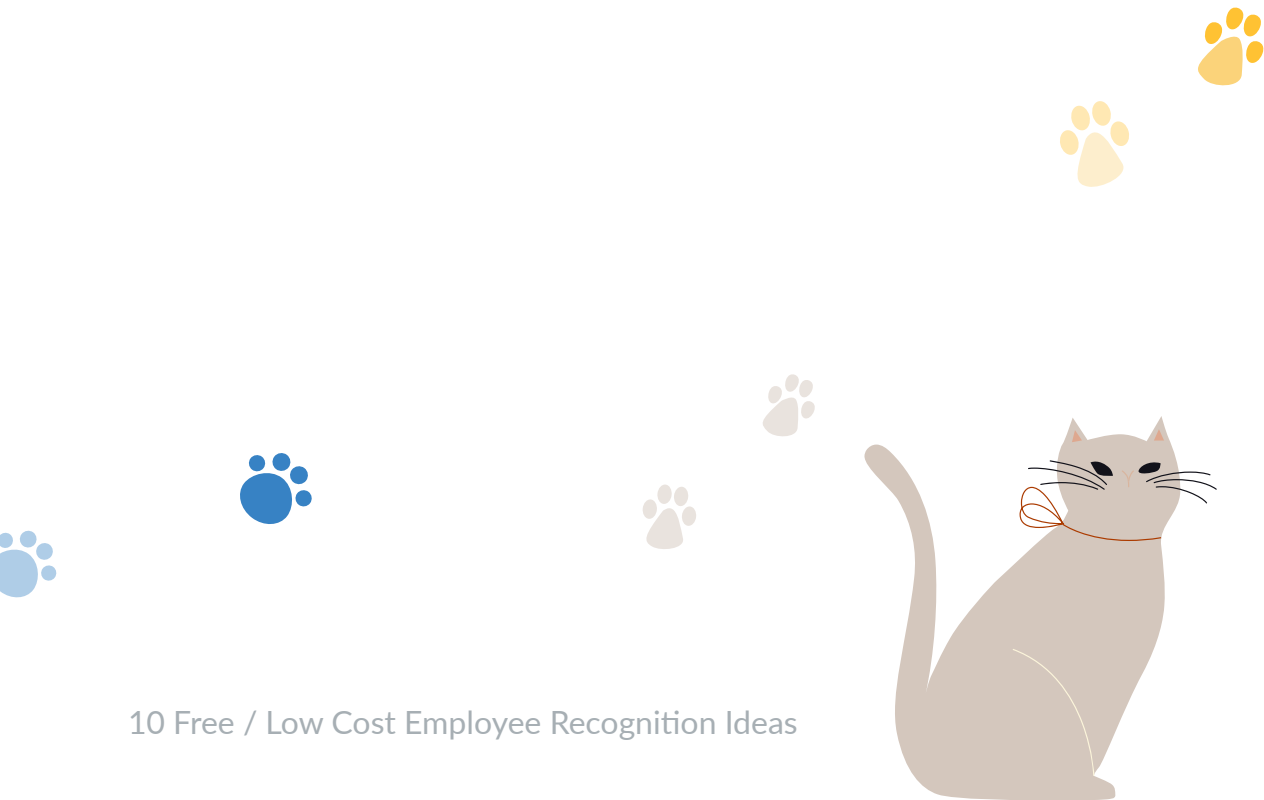
5. Work Anniversaries

Keep track of your team's work anniversaries, and use the occasion to thank them for their contributions to the organization.



6. Pets

Working in a shared space? Have a day where your team can bring their dogs to work. For remote teams, invite employees to share pet photos.



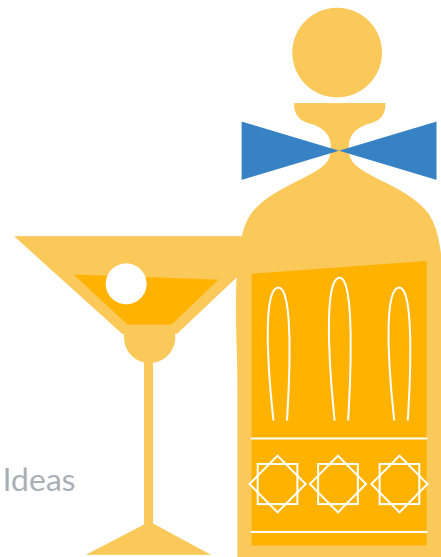
7. Acknowledge Personal Achievements

Did a member of your team recently run a marathon? Complete coursework to learn a new language? Congratulate them!



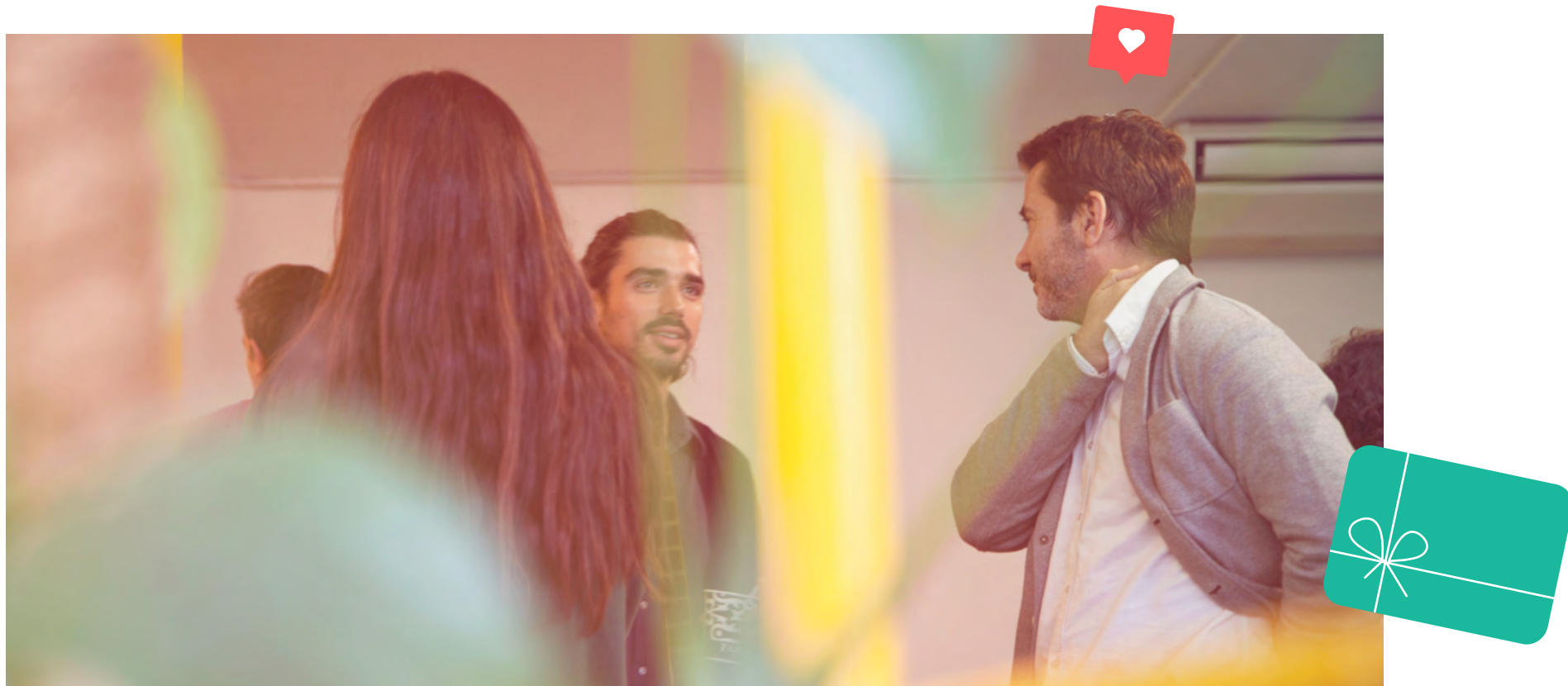
8. Lunch

Whether it's a one-on-one lunch in real life or a gift card for takeout, treating a team member to lunch is an affordable way to say "thanks." (Bonus points if the lunch is at your employee's favorite restaurant!)



9. Charitable Donation

Does your employee have a favorite cause or charitable organization?
Make a donation in their name to show your appreciation.



10. Personalized Gift

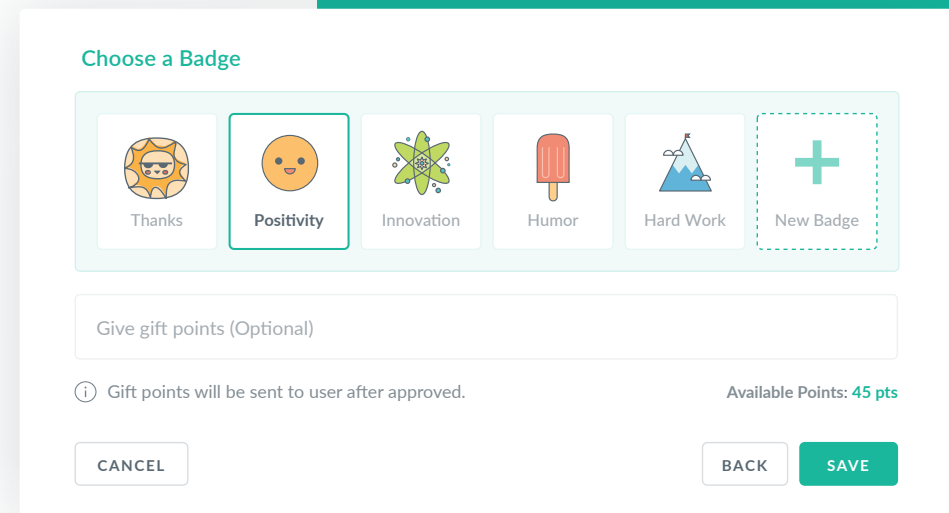
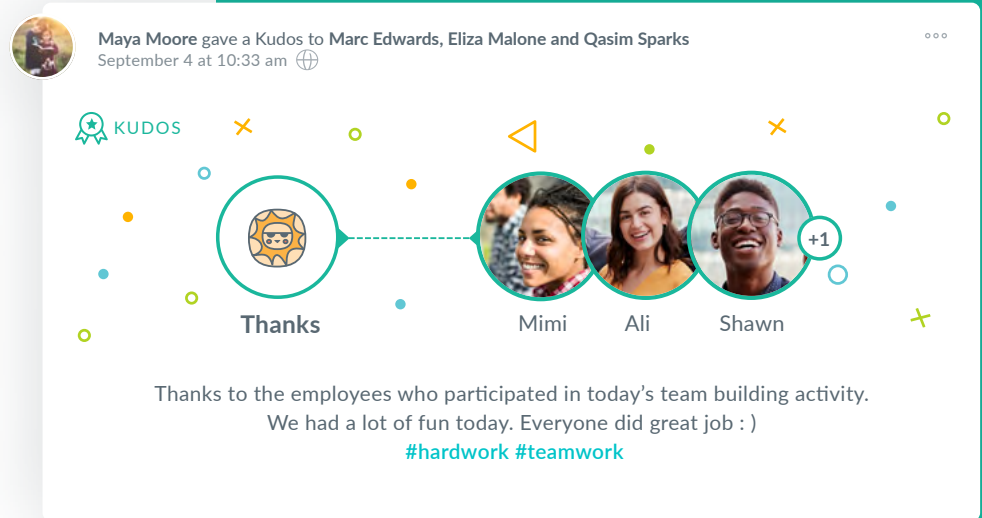
A thoughtful gift can go a long way in showing employee appreciation. Whether it's something related to a favorite sports team, author, or even TV show, there are plenty of ways to say "thank you" with a small gift.



11. BONUS: kudos

HR Cloud's **Workmates** allows any employee to give a peer a digital "high five" to recognize an achievement or the great work they do every day. With our kudos feature, employees can praise other workers, compliment their effort, and let everyone else know how great they are. All of this helps create a culture focused on teamwork and excellence.

[Workmates Self-Guided Tour](#)



Interested in learning more about how to improve your organization's HR? Curious if HR Cloud can enhance your company's culture?

[Book a Free Demo](#)

