

## Twelve Easy and Inexpensive Ways to Recognize and Reward Your Employees

In a world where money is tight and people are stretched thin, it may seem nearly impossible to reward and recognize your employees for doing good work. However, with a little imagination and effort on your part, you can recognize and reward your hard-working and high performing employees at almost no cost. Here are a dozen ways you can do it. Use your imagination and add some more!

1. Write them a personal note of thanks. The note doesn't need to be elaborate, just sincere.
2. Create a "Certificate of Appreciation" documenting the specific action you want to thank or recognize the employee for. If you have a few dollars, buy a frame for them to use to display it.
3. Create a "Wall of Fame" in your work area. Regularly document the specific actions of employees that you want to recognize.
4. Acknowledge their accomplishments at a staff meeting.
5. Allow them to attend a training session that they have been looking into. This is a great way to say thank you and to help them grow new skills at the same time.
6. Invite them to attend your manager's staff meeting (with your manager's permission, of course).
7. If you're trying to recognize a group of people, bring in some donuts to say thanks.
8. Bring them flowers – they can even be from your back yard!
9. Take them to lunch.
10. Make them "Queen" or "King" for a day. Then get them their morning coffee, bring them their lunch, make their copies for them, etc.
11. Recognize their special events – birthdays, anniversaries, etc. A cake is nice, but a card and a balloon work just as well.
12. Arrange for them to have lunch with your boss.
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15. \_\_\_\_\_

Keep in mind that the things that are considered rewarding vary from person to person. The best way to ensure that your efforts will be appreciated is to ask the employee how they would prefer to be acknowledged.

