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Beremo, ustvarjamo, pomagamo

Thanksgiving day



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## Introduction

Obviously, I'll write about thanksgiving. I'll try to describe the traditional way of celebrating it and it's history as good as I can. I realize that this holiday is very important to Americans, because, for some families it's the only day they spend together. I'll add some recipes too, and I'll describe Canadian way of celebrating it specifically. I hope you'll have fun while reading it and that you'll learn something new.





## Mayflowers journey

It all started in 17<sup>th</sup> century, when the first European settlers ( The *Pilgrims* ) sailed with a ship, called *Mayflower*, and landed on the coast of America, survived first



Mayflower ship's journey

winter and reaped the first crop. *Mayflower* was a small ship. 102 passengers lived in a space about 24.5 meters long and 7.5 meters wide. It was its widest point. The journey from Plymouth, England which began on September 16, 1620, took 66 days. Sanitary conditions were poor and two passengers died of disease during the

voyage. But the voyage wasn't the biggest challenge they faced. They had to find some food, built a safe shelter and made friendly attitude with their neighbours, Indians, the *Wampanoags*. Thanks to the goods of the *Wampanoags*, and the help of an English speaking Indian, named *Squanto* (left), the Pilgrims survived their first year. In celebration of this peace, the colony's governor, William Bradford, declared a three-day feast after the first harvest of 1621 that later became known as "Thanksgiving".



The first Thanksgiving (Jean Leon)



The Mayflower

## Thanksgiving today

**Thanksgiving Day** is a harvest festival celebrated primarily in the United States and Canada. Thanksgiving is a holiday to express thankfulness, gratitude, and appreciation to God, family and friends for which all have been blessed of material possessions and relationships. In the USA, they celebrate it every 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday in November. Date of celebration of Thanksgiving has changed through history. In 1789, President *George Washington* set it for 26th November, then *Abraham Lincoln* changed it in 1863, to the last Thursday of November, in 1939, the President *Franklin Delano Roosevelt* moved the holiday to the first Thursday of November to extend the holiday shopping from Thanksgiving to New Year. In 1941, Congress finally decided that Thanksgiving Day will be celebrated each year on the fourth Thursday in November. Today Thanksgiving seems to be most remarked as the start of the holiday shopping season. Today, only few families traditionally celebrate Thanksgiving traditionally. As with many holidays, traditionally costumes were replaced by newer. But why do people thanks god? A lot of people ask this question themselves every Thanksgiving. They thanks him for a good crop. That's the point of this holiday. Today, families celebrate Thanksgiving together. For many of them, that's a day, when whole family is together, and for many of them, the only day.



Family on thanksgiving

## Thanksgiving in Canada

On January 31, 1957, the Canadian Parliament proclaimed:

***'A Day of General Thanksgiving to Almighty God for the bountiful harvest with which Canada has been blessed – to be observed on the 2nd Monday in October. '***

Thanksgiving corresponds to the English and continental-European Harvest festival, with churches decorated with cornucopias, pumpkins, corn, wheat sheaves, and other harvest bounty.



## Food

The majority of the dishes in the traditional American version of **Thanksgiving dinner** are made from national foods from the 'New World', as according to tradition



Traditional Thanksgiving

the Pilgrims received these foods from the Native Americans. According to what traditionally is known as "The First Thanksgiving," the 1621 feast between the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag at Plymouth Colony contained turkey, waterfowl, venison, fish, lobster, clams, berries, fruit, pumpkin, and squash.

## Recipes

People know a lot Thanksgiving recepies. Every family has their own family recepies, and a lot of women made them up. Some families cook old recepies, some the new ones.

The Thanksgiving lunch looks like this:

**Beverages:** cranberry punch, pumpkin juice, white hot chocolate

**Main dishes:** Brined roast turkey, stuffed roast turkey, grill breaned turkey breasts

**Side dishes:** cranberry salad, pear and walnut salad, pumpkin risottto, garlic and chili pepper stuffing, golden onion rolls

**Desserts:** apple butter pumkin pie, pumpkin bread pudding, pumkin pie biscuits, cranberry nut cakes



## Old-Fashioned Pecan Pie

Serves: 10 Edit

Total Time: 1 hr 25 min

Oven Temp: 350

### Ingredients

- 3/4 cup(s) dark corn syrup
- 1/2 cup(s) dark brown sugar
- 3 tablespoon(s) butter or margarine, melted
- 1 teaspoon(s) vanilla extract
- 1 pinch(s) salt
- 3 large eggs
- 1 1/2 cup(s) pecan halves, toasted
- 1 9-Inch Baked Pie Shell

### Instructions

1. Prepare 9-Inch Baked Pie Shell as recipe directs. Cool pie shell on wire rack at least 10 minutes. Reset oven control to 350 degrees.
2. In large bowl, with wire whisk, mix corn syrup, sugar, butter, vanilla, salt, and eggs until blended. With spoon, stir in pecans.
3. Pour filling into pie shell. Bake 43 to 45 minutes or until filling is set around edge but center jiggles slightly. Cool on wire rack at least 3 hours for easier slicing. Refrigerate leftovers up to 1 week.

### Tips & Techniques

For a grown-up version, add 2 tablespoons bourbon and 1/4 teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg to egg mixture in step 2.



## Songs

There's a lot of thanksgiving songs. As much as there's a lot of old and traditional ones, there's a lot of kid's songs either. Usually, the Americans pray on Thanksgiving, but sometimes they sing a song or two, especially grandmas and grandpas with their grandchildren. There's one funny children poem:

### Five Little Turkeys

Five little turkeys standing at the door,  
One waddled off, and then there were four.

Four little turkeys sitting near a tree,  
One waddled off, and then there were three.

Three little turkeys with nothing to do,  
One waddled off, and then there were two.

Two little turkeys in the morning sun,  
One waddled off, and then there was one.

One little turkey better run away,  
For soon it will be Thanksgiving Day.



And, there's the biblical one:

### Now Thank We All Our God

Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things has done, in Whom this world rejoices;  
Who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;  
And keep us in His grace, and guide us when perplexed;  
And free us from all ills, in this world and the next!

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given;  
The Son and Him Who reigns with Them in highest Heaven;  
The one eternal God, Whom earth and Heaven adore;  
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

## The black Friday

**Black Friday** is the day following Thanksgiving Day in the United States, traditionally the beginning of the Christmas shopping season. On this day, many retailers open very early, often at 4 a.m., or earlier, and offer promotional sales to kick off the shopping season, similar to Boxing Day sales in many commonwealth countries. Black Friday is not actually a holiday, but many employers give their employees the day off, increasing the number of potential shoppers.



Black Friday as a term has been used in multiple contexts, going back to the nineteenth century, where it was associated with a financial crisis in 1869 in the United States. The earliest known reference to "Black Friday" to refer to the day after Thanksgiving was made in a 1966 publication on the day's significance in Philadelphia. "Black Friday" officially opens the Christmas shopping season in center city, and it usually brings massive traffic jams and over-crowded sidewalks as the downtown stores are mobbed from opening to closing. The term *Black Friday* began to get wider exposure around 1975, as shown by two newspaper articles from November 29, 1975, both datelined Philadelphia. The first reference is in an article entitled "Army vs. Navy: A Dimming Splendor," in *The New York Times*.

## Summary

So, the Thanksgiving has a lot of features, and I can't describe them all. As you now know, it's very meaningful, and a lot of turkeys die when the Americans celebrate it.

😊

## Sources

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