

Giving Compliments

Do you want to compliment your friend or boss in English? Let us show you how it's done! Hearing something nice about ourselves can make us feel better after a long day or make us feel like we can challenge the world. Giving compliments is a great way to show kindness towards others and can even lead to lifelong friendships.

Here we'll introduce you to different ways to form compliments, and how to respond to them. Take a look at the tables below and start improving your English!

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Complimenting Abilities, Character, and Belongings

These kinds of compliments are among the most common and can be said to anyone. Maybe you appreciate your friend's guitar playing skills or want to let somebody know how great they are? Then check out the phrases and examples below!

That was incredible!

You did a great job.

Your mom is the best cook.

You have a lovely house.

I noticed you are a really good singer.

Your writing really inspires me.

You have good taste.

You have a good head on your shoulders.

You're so smart.

That was a great idea.

You have good taste

No, this phrase doesn't have anything to do with tasting food. When somebody says You have good taste it means that they like something about you. This phrase could be used in many different contexts. For example, if you are listening to music with a friend, they might say You have good taste in music This means that they think the music you like is also very good. You have good taste is simply a way to show that you also like what the other person enjoys. You could respond to this phrase in many ways, for example with Thanks, I appreciate that or That's so nice of you to say.

You have a good head on your shoulders

This is an English idiom that means something like: you make good decisions. It's a compliment of somebody's character and means that you think they are capable of making good choices. For example, you might say I believe you'll make the right choice in the end. You have a good head on your shoulders. You could respond to this in many ways, for example like this: Thanks, I'm happy to hear that.

Complimenting Somebody's Appearance

There's lots of ways to compliment how somebody looks. Maybe somebody's hair is looking great or their outfit matches perfectly? We've gathered useful phrases and sentence patterns below to help you form your own compliments. Let's take a look!

You look fantastic.

I really like your coat.

I love your shoes!

Your hair looks really nice today.

That shirt really suits you.

That dress looks awesome on you.

That jacket goes well with your shirt.

I like how you did your hair this morning.

I really like your sense of style.

You look fantastic

A simple way to compliment somebody's general appearance is to use the following sentence pattern You look + DESCRIPTION. Another example of this is: You look happy. There are a lot of ways you could respond to a sentence like this. You could say something like: Thanks, you too!.

I really like your coat

An easy way to compliment somebody is to tell them that you like something they are wearing. To do this use the pattern I really like your + CLOTHING. An example of this is: I really like your outfit. Again, there are a lot of different ways to respond to something like this, for example: Thanks, I just got it yesterday.

That shirt really suits you

To tell somebody that something they are wearing looks very good on them, you can use the sentence pattern CLOTHING + really suits you. Here is another example: That jacket really suits you. Alternatively, you can switch the verb to suit with to fit in order to create sentences that mean the same thing. For example: That jacket really fits you. There are a lot of ways you could respond to sentences like these. For example, Thanks, I'm really glad I bought this.

Accepting Compliments

After receiving a compliment, it is often polite to say something in order to show your appreciation. Let's check out the examples we've gathered for you below to find out how to do this!

That's so nice of you to say.

Thank you, I appreciate that.

I appreciate your compliment.

I'm glad you like it.

Thank you! I love writing.

Thanks, I think so too.

Really? I never would have thought that.

I'm glad to hear that!

It's nice to see that you appreciate it.

That's so nice of you to say

This phrase is an easy way to show your appreciation for a compliment that somebody just gave you. Another sentence that means something similar is I appreciate that. After saying That's so nice of you to say you could then return the compliment by saying something nice about the other person. For example, I really love your shoes too!.

Thank you! I love writing

Another way to accept a compliment is to thank the person and to tell them how much you enjoy whatever it is they complimented. Maybe they complimented your favorite shirt, or some skill, like singing, that you've been working very hard to improve. Another example of this is: Thanks, I've been really trying to improve my writing. Here is an example of something that somebody might say in response: Keep up the great work!.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the most important English phrases that I should know when giving compliments to others?

You're so smart.

You look fantastic.

I really like your coat.

I love your shoes!

That shirt really suits you.

I really like your sense of style.

That's so nice of you to say.

Thank you, I appreciate that.

What is the easiest way to compliment somebody?

Compliments can be formed in many different ways in English. The easiest way to give a compliment, however, is by simply telling a person what you like about them. For example: I really like your hat., You have a beautiful singing voice., and That sweater goes well with your outfit..

When should I compliment somebody's appearance?

Complimenting somebody's appearance can sometimes be a tricky subject in English. It's fine to compliment someone's clothing even if you don't know them, but compliments about a person's body should usually be saved until you know the person much better.

How do I compliment something that somebody is wearing?

Here are a couple of different ways to compliment somebody's clothing:

CLOTHING + really suits you.

That shirt really suits you.

Your hat really suits you.

The coat really suits you.

That jacket goes well with your shirt.

That jacket goes well with your outfit.

That jacket goes well with your pants.



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