

# The history of Thanksgiving Day

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*(8 form)*



- ▶ The last Thursday in November, as you know, is a holiday in America. People call this holiday Thanksgiving Day. It is perhaps the most important day in the American year. People go to church, and families come together for the day. They decorate their houses with the fruits and flowers of autumn and prepare traditional American food: roast turkey, potatoes and pumpkin. It's rather like Christmas, but what are people celebrating? What are they giving thanks for?



In 1620 they came to America and began a new life there. It was a very hard life. The colonists started to farm the land. The work was difficult and full of danger. In New England, the place where they lived, there were many wild birds. They were like chickens but much bigger. They were turkeys. In the autumn of 1621 the colonists had their first harvest. It was rather good. The colonists decided to have a special dinner. They wanted to thank God – to give him their thanks for many things. It was a difficult year, but the people still had food to eat. The colonists had a thanksgiving dinner for all the people. It lasted three days. For the whole1 three days they gave thanks for their good harvest and their happy year in a new country.



- ▶ At the Thanksgiving Day Americans eat turkey, pumpkin, Cranberry sauce, sweet potatoes. Apple cider is a traditional drink.



Happy Thanksgiving Day!

