

Alternative Thanksgiving Ideas



- 1. Host A Virtual Thanksgiving Party** - As everything has gone virtual this year, of course Thanksgiving has too.
- 2. Do your grocery shopping ahead of time** - Avoid the crowds
- 3. Zoom Talent Show** - Ask each of person to prepare a 3-minute performance! Calling all jugglers, pianists, and moonwalkers. And don't forget to show off tricks with your pets.

4. Thanksgiving Zoom Scavenger Hunt - Create a list of household items the other players have to find. Give the players 60 seconds to find each item.. Make sure to throw in a few Thanksgiving items like a turkey baster, a can of pumpkin puree, a family photo, or a whisk.)

5. **Try a gratitude bowl** - Start now. Each day, each person writes something they're grateful for on a slip of paper. Put them in a bowl. On Thanksgiving take turns reading them.
6. **Go for a walk** - on a nature trail or up a mountain. To find a hike near you check out: [Hiking Trails near me](#)
7. **Game Time** - You can still play games together while on Zoom. Here are a few family favorites. Blokus. Scattergories, Apples to Apples, Rummy, Canasta.
8. **Cook Together with Zoom** - Know how to bake the perfect apple pie or Mac and cheese? Send out your recipe ahead of time. Gather all the ingredients. Prop up a tablet or laptop and start cooking.



Thanksgiving Day



9. **Have a Joke telling Competition on Zoom** - Come up with your funniest jokes to tell. Have a holiday prize of some sort, like a candy bar.
10. **Sports on TV** - Watch a football game on television with your family while on Zoom.
11. **Watch the national dog show** - on NBC while zooming with a friend..
12. **Watch a Film together when talking or zooming** – Finish off your Thanksgiving feast with a movie. A *Charlie Brown Thanksgiving* is always a classic.
13. **“Opening” and “closing ceremonies”** - Kick off your zoom gathering with a song or prayer, and wrap up with a round of jokes or the latest Tik Tok dance.



14. Dance Party - Have a zoom dance party. Here is a [Playlist](#) on Spotify

15. Trivia Game on Zoom - Show off fun facts you know. Choose a topic like geography, classic rock, amusement parks, or sports.

16. Family History - Play 2 truths and a lie. Take turns telling 2 true stories and 1 false story about people in your family. Guess what is true. This can be a great way to ask your eldest relatives to share memories and stories of their eldest family members.

17. Virtual Thanksgiving Craft Making - Pick a craft. Tell people what they will need (paper, scissors, and markers etc.) Then make the craft together during a zoom chat.



- 18. Zoom Storytelling Game** - Take turns. Each player says 1 sentence to create a story. This can be great fun making up a story together
- 19. Make a Family or Friends Slideshow** - View family photos to feel closer to your loved ones while celebrating virtually. Ask each household to provide a handful of favorite photos to include.
- 20. Send Thanksgiving care packages** - Mail or drop off Thanksgiving treats so a friend or family member feels part of the fun. Or make matching centerpieces for everyone to display on their holiday tables
- 21. Thanksgiving resolutions** - What would you like to learn or try, or do more of by Thanksgiving next year? This is a nice way to remind all of us that we all have a lot to look forward to when the pandemic ends



22. Share a Thanksgiving Meal - Share recipes so no one misses out on a favorite dish this year. You will need the recipe so you can make it yourself.

23. Make a Thanksgiving Beverage - Whether you decide on a hot toddy, a spiced latte, or simply some apple cider. Let your family know what's in your cup! You could even make a contest to see who can make the most extravagant looking Thanksgiving drink.

24. Watch Macy's Thanksgiving Parade - The Parade is going virtual this year. Cozy up on Zoom to with your family and friends to watch.

25. Say Thanks - What is Thanksgiving without going around the virtual table to say one thing you're thankful for? We have a lot to be thankful for - especially when it comes to family and friends.



26. Volunteer - Time give back. You can donate [food](#) and [toy drives](#) from the comfort of your home. Volunteer with organizations like [Meals on Wheels](#) and delivering food to the elderly.

27. Start A New Project - No better time to start a project. Write a story, repot your plants, or finally painting your room.

28. Start (Online) Holiday Shopping Early - Get a jumpstart on your holiday shopping.

29. Host a Virtual Thanksgiving Field Trip to a Museum together - You can tour a museum online. Take a tour together with a friend or family member. It could be a great way to plan a real trip to the museum in the future.