



PRESENTED BY DIVERSITY EDUCATION

INTERNATIONAL PRONOUNS DAY

HISTORY

- The use of singular "they" traces back to 1375! It was used to refer to an unnamed person in the medieval romance *William and the Werewolf*.
- The pronoun singular "you" used to be a plural pronoun. Singular you replaced thou, thee, and thy in the seventeenth century.

Subjective	Objective	Possessive	Reflexive
He	Him	His	Himself
She	Her	Hers	Herself
They	Them	Theirs	Themselves
Ze	Hir/Zir	Hirs/Zirs	Hirself/Zirself
Ve	Ver	Vis/Vers	Verself

THEY/THEM

F.Y.I

You have used singular they before.
(Ex:) "If anyone asks, tell them they can wait for me here." Or "Did someone leave their bag here?"

In 2019, Merriam-Webster added a new definition of the word "they" to its dictionary, declaring the pronoun may be used to refer to a "single person whose gender identity is nonbinary."

(Ex): Archie spent all their money on candy.
Archie is eating so much candy that they are sick.
Archie has learned nothing and they will continue to eat too much candy.
What's wrong with them?!

- A Quick and Easy Guide to They/Them Pronouns

IMPORTANCE

For many Trans/Gender Non-Conforming folks, being misgendered is exhausting and can have a negative impact. Using the correct pronouns for an individual shows a standard level of respect.

Think about it - If your friend Jennifer comes up to you one day and says, "Please call me Jenny from now on." Would you refuse?



DO'S AND DONT'S



DO's

- If you don't know a person's pronouns, ask!
- Remember, practice makes perfect
- Add pronouns to your email signature
- Introduce yourself with your pronouns
- If you make a mistake, correct yourself and move on!
- Use inclusive language for groups: folks, everyone, guests, y'all



DON'T's

- Pronouns are not a preference, don't refer to them as such
- Avoid making a big deal out of mistakes - apologize and move on
- Don't refuse to use someone's pronouns when they tell you
- Do not assume someone's pronouns
- Don't correlate pronouns with identity - anyone can use any pronoun