

How to be an Ally to First Nations People on Australia Day

Ask Yourself the Following Questions:

- Do I know the name of the Traditional Owners on whose land I'm on?
[Find out here](#)
- Have I acknowledged and thanked the Traditional Owners?
[Learn how here](#)
- Why might an Aboriginal person feel sad on Australia Day?
[Learn more here](#)
- Can I celebrate on a different day?
[Find out here](#)
- **As an act of Allyship, who can I share this resource with?**

Why is Australia Day Significant?

January 26th was chosen as the date of Australia Day because it was the day the first fleet of British ships arrived. As such, for Australian Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islander peoples this date represents the beginning of their dispossession. For many of them, and many other Australians, that date can't be seen as anything other than a day of mourning.

What's an Ally?

An Ally is someone who supports, empowers, or stands up for another person or a group of people. Through their actions, an Ally can effectively change attitudes, behaviours, policies and practices that impact marginalised groups. Being an Ally to Aboriginal Australians and Torres Strait Islander peoples is about moving forward together in a meaningful act of Reconciliation.

Why do Aboriginal Australians and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Need Allies?

Just over 3% of our population in Australia is Indigenous. There simply aren't enough Indigenous people to educate all Australians. For Reconciliation to happen, we all need to offer our support.

#PracticalReconciliation
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