



Lesson 1: Thank You!

Salamat

LESSON NOTES

Wherever your destination may be, manners are a must! And in this respect, the Philippines is no different. So in our very first lesson, we'll be taking a look at a survival phrase there is no excuse not bring with you to the Philippines. Again, I'll stress this over and over, a little a bit of the language can go such a long way!

With a hundred dialects and two officially recognized languages (Filipino and English) there are several ways of expressing thanks. Lets take a look at the most common ways of saying "thank you" in Filipino. As in many languages, there are formal and informal ways of showing thanks.

In Filipino "Thank you" is salamat. The word "salamat" is the casual way of saying "thank you" or "thanks". Now in Filipino there are other ways to express one's gratitude. There is a formal way to do this. Let's take a look at the formal way.

In Filipino the Formal way of expressing gratitude, e.g. "Thank you" is salamat po. This phrase is used among older people to show politeness and respect.

On the other hand, for very special occasions when someone goes above and beyond the call of being kind, when someone is extremely generous, or at any other time you're extremely grateful, we have the following phrase to express gratitude:

In Filipino the formal way of expressing gratitude, for example, "Thank you very much." is maraming salamat po. The first word maraming means "many". It is followed by salamat which in English is "thanks" and it is then followed by po. po has no equivalent word in English. Po is used in phrases as a sign of respect to older people. The entire phrase is maraming salamat po. The informal way of saying this phrase is maraming salamat.

PHRASES

Filipino	English
Salamat po	Thank you or Thanks (formal)
Maraming salamat	Thank you very much
Maraming salamat po	Thank you very much (formal)

VOCABULARY

Filipino

Salamat

English

Thank you or Thanks (informal)

QUICK TIP

Salamat is the Filipino word for "thank you". You may want to use a more formal phrase to express your gratitude, in this case salamat po is more appropriate. You would use salamat po if you were thanking someone older than you. In expressing extreme gratefulness you may use maraming salamat or "thank you very much". In exceptional circumstances, you may combine the three phrases at the same time: maraming salamat po.

QUICK TIP 2

The most typical way of saying "thank you" in Filipino is salamat. It is also the informal or the casual way of expressing your gratitude to someone you are comfortable with like friends or casual acquaintances.