

Write a note that tells your chosen family member what they mean to you, using words you would actually say. A small detail, a simple thank you, or a reminder that you are there for them can make the flowers feel personal.

Start with your relationship

Chosen family can include a close friend, a mentor, a neighbor, or anyone who has become family through care and trust. You do not need to explain that bond on a flower card. Address the person as you normally would, then say what you appreciate about them.

You might write, “You have made so many ordinary days feel easier. I am lucky to have you in my life.” If you both use the word family, try, “Family is the people who show up, and you have shown up for me again and again.”

Keep the language comfortable for both of you. A note can be tender without being formal, and a few honest sentences are enough.

Make the message feel like yours

Think of a familiar moment you share. Maybe this person checks in after a long shift, saves you a seat at the table, or knows how you take your tea. A detail like that can say more than a broad compliment.

For example: “Thank you for the cups of tea, the patient listening, and all the times you have made room for me.” Or try, “I love that I can turn up at your door and feel at home.” Choose a detail that is true to your relationship.

If you want a lighter note, let your usual humor in: “For my favorite person to sit on the sofa and do absolutely nothing with.” Flowers can carry a quiet message, too: “Thinking of you today and sending a little color your way.”

Find words for the occasion

For a birthday or another celebration, name the occasion and add a wish: “Happy birthday to someone I am so glad to call family. I hope today brings you good food, good company, and time to enjoy both.”

If the flowers are a thank you, be specific about the kindness: “Thank you for picking up the phone when I needed someone. Your care means more to me than I can fit on this card.”

On a hard day, there is no need to promise that things will get better. Acknowledge what you know and offer a form of support you can give: “I know this week has been heavy. I am here, and I can bring dinner over on Thursday if that would help.”

You can also send flowers without an occasion. “No special reason. I just wanted you to know how much I love having you in my life” is a complete message.

Questions about your note

How long should a flower card message be?

One or two sentences can be plenty, especially on a small card. If you have more to say, put the longer message in a separate letter.

Should I call the person family in the note?

Use the word if it feels right for your relationship. You can express the same closeness by naming what the person means to you without giving it a label.

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