



press clip

Happy staff means productive offices

Feeling valued at work and receiving praise or recognition from senior staff are two of the most important factors when it comes to being productive, Australian workers say.

Research also shows that the amount spent on hiring and training a new employee can cost up to six to nine months' of that person's salary, further highlighting how budgeting regular small gestures to show appreciation is much more cost effective than recruiting.

Online office catering business Order-In managing director Jonathan Rowley said there was no doubt that showing appreciation for staff in the lead-up to Christmas, and all year round in fact, had a range of benefits.

"As the research reiterates, it does increase productivity but more importantly it also significantly improves job satisfaction and workplace culture, and helps retain staff for longer periods," Jonathan said.

"Our data shows that the latest trends of how Australian offices are rewarding their team has shifted.

"We've found that most companies are now prioritising meaningful gifts over expensive and elaborate activities or functions, which can be seen as impersonal and redundant.

"These days, gifts that are around \$50, that are still unique, practical and loved by many, are definitely in high demand."

To help give inspiration to workplaces across Australia, Jonathan shares the most popular gestures he and his team have observed when it comes to providing quality — but affordable — staff appreciation ideas for any occasion.

BE FAMILY FRIENDLY

If you're a family friendly company, what better way to show appreciation than to treat the team's entire family?

Hosting a corporate barbecue and inviting their families is the perfect excuse to get out and enjoy the fresh air and sunshine while also getting to know the people who mean the most to your co-workers.

INVEST IN THE LONG TERM

Buying an expensive coffee machine for the team to use and providing quality office catering with a well-stocked office kitchen filled with milk, fruit and other snacks and treats is a simple way to fuel your team and increase team

morale all year round.

This also leads to team members being in the office working more, so it's a win-win for both staff and employers.

GET SEASONAL

Fruit baskets are a great fresh option that will be loved by both health-conscious and sweet-loving staff.

Every year, part of the Order-In team members' Christmas present is their choice of either a box of mangoes or cherries.

It is always a hit, and also encapsulates the feeling of summer and being Australian.

HAVE A PIZZA PARTY

Pizza is one of the most loved foods, and it is perfect for group situations as it is simple to share and cost effective.

It's also a good choice in terms of catering to dietary requirements, as most suppliers offer a range of vegetarian and gluten and lactose-free options.

BRING IN A MASSEUSE

It might not be feasible to take the entire team out for the day to get pampered, but getting a mobile masseuse to set up a room for the team for a day to treat them one at a time is an extremely cost and time effective way to show gratitude.

BE SPONTANEOUS

Rather than planning a large-scale event, set aside a budget to be spontaneous in the lead-up to Christmas.

For example, if it is a hot day, buy the team ice-cream, or if it is a beautiful day let them all take the afternoon off.

Jonathan said it was the small things that made a big difference, so do not be afraid to try out one or all of these ideas and mix it up.

You'll find that the entire team will appreciate it and so will the company's bottom line.



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