# **National Sorry Day**

National Sorry Day is a time to raise awareness about the mistreatment of indigenous people in Australia and to help them during the process of healing, forgiveness, peace, and reconciliation with the majority. As one of the special <u>holidays</u> commemorated in Australia, it is a worthwhile event to encourage each other to avoid discrimination and show equality, peace, and respect to all people despite our differences in race and cultural backgrounds.

## **National Sorry Day Definition & Meaning**

National Sorry Day is a special holiday in Australia to remember the separated children of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders from their families and the injustice they faced in the country.

National Sorry Day allows people across the country to organize meaningful activities and events to commemorate this special day and provide support to the members of the Stolen Generations while combatting discrimination and injustice.

## When is National Sorry Day?

National Sorry Day is first celebrated May 26, 1998, and becomes an annual event, and then after two years, the Australian government issued an apology to the Stolen Generations. An independent organization displayed the word "Sorry" in the sky during that time above the Sydney Harbour Bridge to acknowledge the hardships and sufferings endured by the members of Stolen Generations, giving them acceptance and support.

## **National Sorry Day History**

National Sorry Day began when the Bringing Them Home report was tabled in Parliament as it consisted of the major details about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children who were taken away from their families. On August 26, 1999, former Prime Minister John Howard implemented a Motion of Reconciliation as he expressed his feelings or regret toward the indigenous Australians because of the hardships and injustice they experienced. After some time, many people wanted to commemorate this event to raise awareness among politicians and others.

## National Sorry Day Purpose, Importance

National Sorry Day is remembered not just to express apology to the native Australians but it has a major purpose and importance to the people including the ones we provided in this section:

## Time to Help Everyone Achieve Peace, Reconciliation, and Unity

National Sorry Day is created to help everyone in Australia, white Australians and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, in achieving peace, reconciliation, and unity. Many children of the indigenous families and communities there were forcibly removed due to the assimilation that happened in the 1950s and 1960s. This event is a time to allow the process of healing to all the indigenous people deeply affected during those times.

## **Support Indigenous People**

Some Australians celebrate National Sorry Day to support indigenous people and their communities. Groups, individuals, and organizations hold some activities, events, and programs such as concerts, barbecue parties, reconciliation walks, morning teas, and community speeches to celebrate the notable contributions and worthwhile achievements of Aboriginal people. Take your time to support the natives in their unique crafts and skills in the fields of art, entertainment, medicine, music, law, and many others.

## **Prevent Race Discrimination**

A 2014 statistical report showed that 20% of Australians experience discrimination because of their skin color. Sadly, racism still exists across the country. National Sorry Day aims to encourage people to learn about diverse cultures which include the indigenous people in Australia by promoting social justice campaigns and developing anti-racism strategies.

# What's in a National Sorry Day?

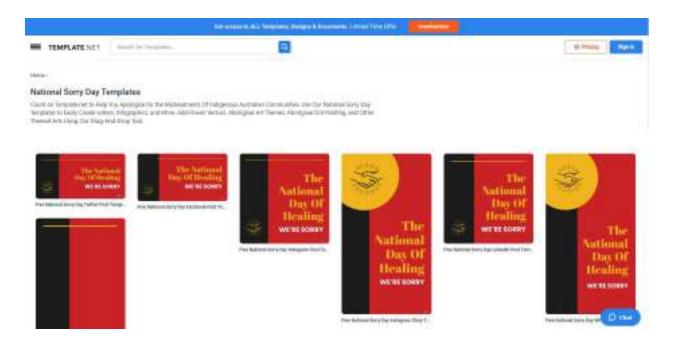
National Sorry Day is celebrated every 26th day of May to remember Australian Aboriginals and other natives and motivate the people to become aware of racism and support their rights. This event encourages people to participate in activities and programs in recognizing indigenous people in Australia and their contributions to society. Many people organize barbecue parties, concerts, flag-raising events, and street marches to celebrate Aboriginal culture and apologize for the wrongful deeds of the European colonizers in Australia.

## How to Create a National Sorry Day Social Media Post

Want to share a greeting post on your social media to commemorate National Sorry Day? Design compelling flyers, posters, graphics, and social media posts for this special event. Follow the steps described here to create a well-designed National Sorry Day social media post on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

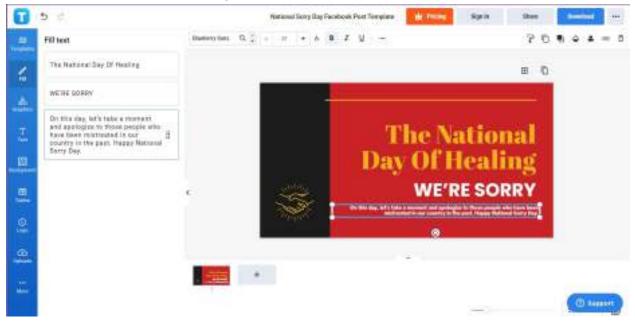
## Facebook

1. Download an editable National Sorry Day Facebook Post Template.

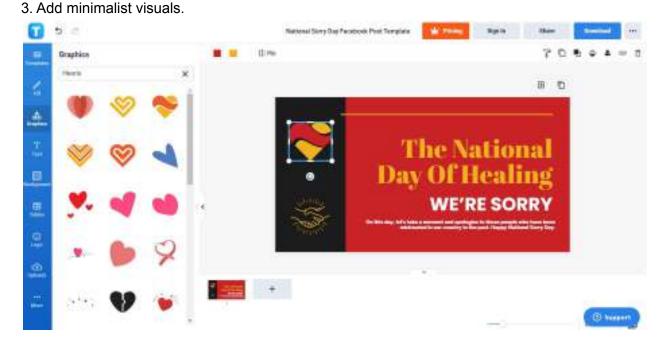


Browse Template.net as we have our wide-ranging collection of free and well-designed National Sorry Day templates. Select the Facebook post template format and open the Editor tool when you click the Edit This Template FREE button. Utilize the editor tool to customize your Facebook post template.

#### 2. Write a sincere quote or message.



Click the "Fill" option from the menu of the Editor tool. Add the text box to write a simple quote about the importance of National Sorry Day in the Facebook post. Help your viewers to show their support and acceptance to native Australians during this special holiday.



Add some minimalist visuals about National Sorry Day. Select "Graphics" from the side menu, and search for simple images you want to put in your Facebook post. Adjust the image size as you align them with other graphic elements.



4. Modify the font style and size.

You may also modify the font style and size of your texts. Click the texts that you want to edit. Then, go to the Font List and select the font style you prefer. Go to the font size and adjust it accordingly.

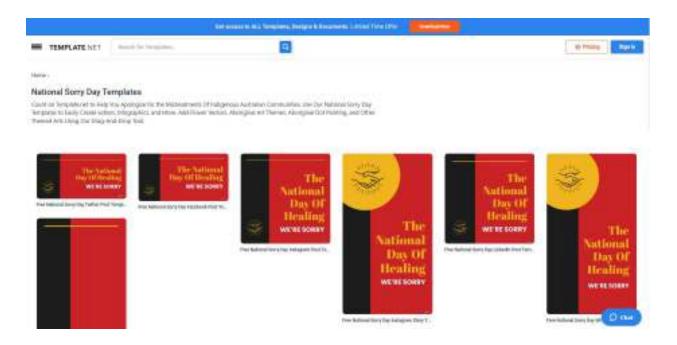


5. Edit, save, and upload your National Sorry Day Facebook post.

Edit some visual components of your Facebook post if necessary. Save your overall post when you press "..." beside the Download button at the top right corner of the screen and hit "Save." Lastly, upload your National Sorry Day post to your Facebook page.

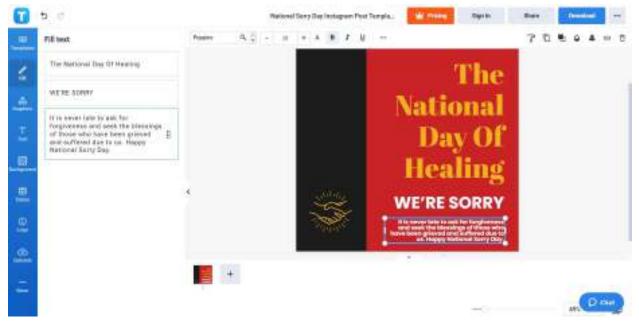
### Instagram

1. Select a customizable National Sorry Day Instagram Post Template.



Look for a premade National Sorry Day Instagram post template at Template.net. Choose the template and hit "Edit This Template FREE." You will be directed to a new tab which shows the Editor tool where you can fully work on the design of your Instagram post template.

2. Add an inspirational quote to express sorry, peace, and reconciliation.



Go to "Fill" in the side menu and include an inspirational quote acknowledging the indigenous people in Australia in the post. Type it inside the text box. Add a new note in another text box if you like.

3. Include minimal graphic elements.



Click the "Graphics" option in the side menu to add some minimalist graphic elements to your Instagram post. Incorporate some visually aesthetic graphics in your post. Showcase your creativity while designing your Instagram post.



4. Change the typography.

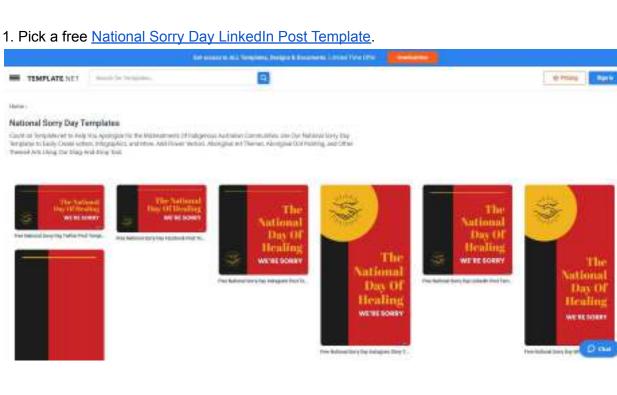
The Instagram post template already has some texts with their respective font styles. If you want to change the typography and font style, click the texts and go to the Font List to choose the style you want. Arrange and align the texts in your post.

5. Review, save, and upload your National Sorry Day post to your Instagram.



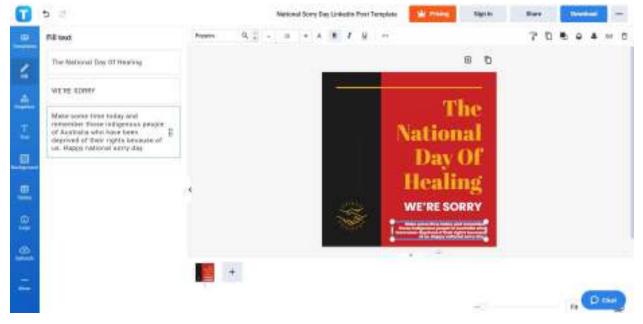
Review your National Sorry Day Instagram post and finalize the entire design. After that, click "..." and hit Save. Lastly, upload your post on your Instagram on National Sorry Day.

### LinkedIn



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Go to Template.net and open our wonderful library of ready-made National Sorry Day Templates. Select the specific template for your LinkedIn post. Then, click "Edit This Template FREE."



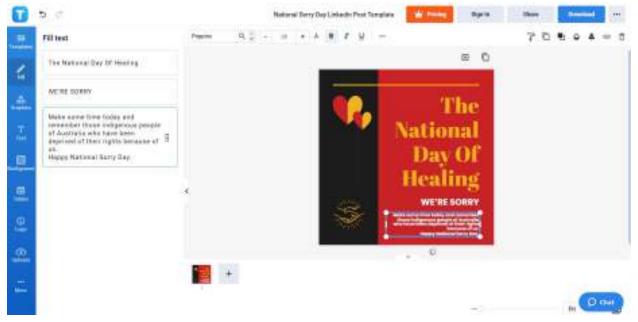
2. Type an encouraging message or quote for indigenous people.

Select "Fill" to add a message or quote to your National Sorry Day LinkedIn post template. Brainstorm an encouraging message or search for some meaningful quotes for indigenous people on the internet. Type the message or copy-paste the quote to your template.



3. Place some essential images.

Click "Graphics" to place some essential images or stickers you want for your National Sorry Day LinkedIn post template. Select from the plethora of images available in our image collection. Add graphics that symbolize peace and unity for all people of color.



4. Adjust the sizes of the texts.

Click the texts in your posts that you want to adjust. Drag the selected text when you hold and drag the corners and sides of the text box. Align the texts in an orderly manner.

5. Revise, download, and upload your new LinkedIn post for National Sorry Day.



Check your LinkedIn post design if you need to revise some other visual aspects. If you are satisfied with the entire design, click the three-dotted icon at the top right corner of your screen. Lastly, hit "Save" and upload your new LinkedIn post on National Sorry Day.

# National Sorry Day vs. National Hugging Day

National Sorry Day is an annual event observed and held on May 26 as it gives people the opportunity to gather together and celebrate the mission and vision towards healing, peace, and reconciliation for Australian Aboriginal people who were forcibly removed from their families and communities.

National Hugging Day is a yearly event that occurs every 21st of January and is dedicated to hugging to encourage family and friends to hug often consensually, improving their physical, emotional, and spiritual health, and lowering their stress levels.

## **National Sorry Day Facts**

National Sorry Day is one of the national holidays celebrated in Australia. Here are some interesting facts about this annual event:

- In 1998, the first National Sorry Day was observed, a year after the inaugural "Bringing Them Home" report is brought to attention in the Australian Parliament.
- The first National Sorry Day is observed to remember the mistreatment of native tribes and indigenous people in Australia.
- In 2000, a multi-thousand participant walk across the Sydney Harbor Bridge is organized and executed, putting the spotlight on the reconciliation movement.
- Prime Minister Kevin Rudd initiated a social justice campaign called Close the Gap in Australia that prioritizes indigenous people.
- The Australian Human Rights Commission has been working with the government to develop and implement anti-racism strategies so that many Australians become more aware of racism and pave the way for a peaceful and united future.

## National Sorry Day Ideas & Examples

If you are currently planning for the commemoration of National Sorry Day, we include several wonderful ideas and examples here to help you and other people in your community to organize activities, events, and programs for this national holiday.

## **National Sorry Day Ideas**

Here are some of the unique ideas that you can do to celebrate National Sorry Day:

- Conduct simple research about the stories of the Stolen Generations or children who were separated from their rightful families and forced into living difficult lives with strangers.
- Read books about some experiences of Aboriginal people in Australia and share them with other people in your community.
- Celebrate the achievements of people of Aboriginal descent who have made valuable contributions to Australia in diverse fields and industries like art, law, music, entertainment, and medicine.
- Design personalized stationery and Sorry Day cards and give them to Aboriginal families and communities.
- Gather with your family and friends and ask each member to remember and share a time they have been sorry and explain their experience.
- Encourage people in your community to read stories with themes based on the words sorry, forgiveness, reconciliation, peace, and unity, and discuss how the stories are connected to National Sorry Day.
- Organize concerts, aboriginal performances, and ceremonies, as well as barbecue parties, morning teas, or lunch.
- Participate in the National Sorry Day walk or street march.
- Attend a Sorry Day flag-raising event.
- Write heartfelt messages and letters to families and communities during National Sorry Day to express your appreciation and commitment to peace and reconciliation.

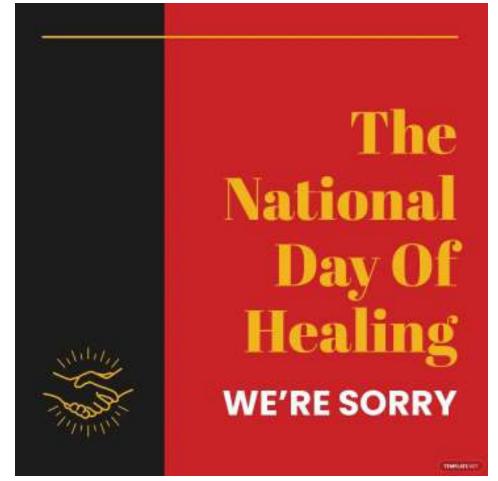
### **National Sorry Day Examples**

There are many kinds of National Sorry Day templates that you can use for celebrating this special event. Use these contemporary National Sorry Day examples when you design your flyers, posters, and posts for your social media pages:

#### 1. National Sorry Day Facebook Post Template



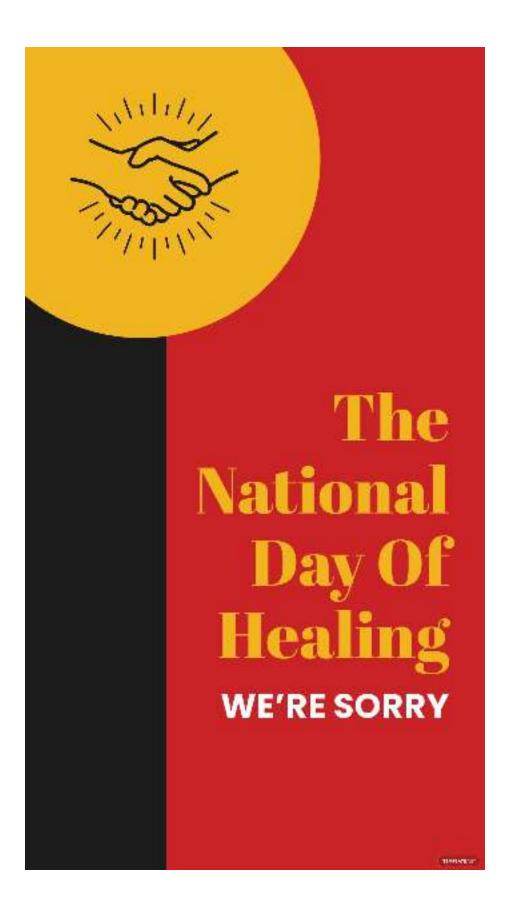
2. National Sorry Day Instagram Post Template



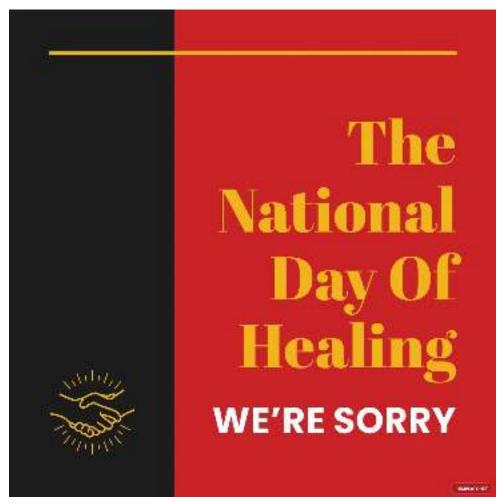
3. National Sorry Day Twitter Post Template



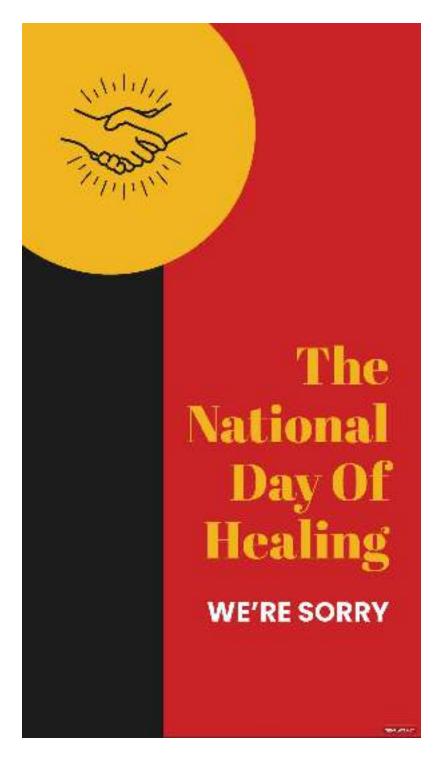
4. National Sorry Day Instagram Story Template



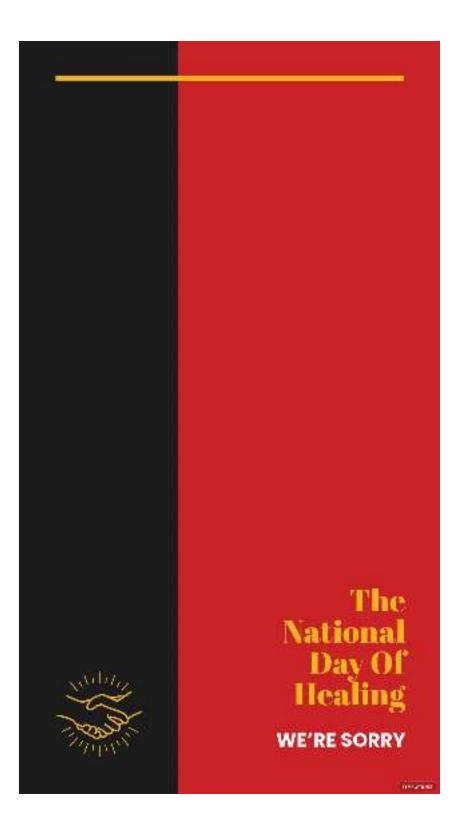
5. National Sorry Day Linkedin Post Template



6. National Sorry Day WhatsApp Post Template



7. National Sorry Day Snapchat Geofilter Template



## FAQs

### Why is National Sorry Day celebrated?

National Sorry Day is celebrated to remember the mistreatment of indigenous people like Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Australia, giving people the opportunity to have reconciliation and unity between indigenous communities, families, and others.

## What do you do on National Sorry Day?

During National Sorry Day, many people in Australia gather together as they participate in different kinds of activities and events such as barbecue parties, concerts, tea parties, lunches, flag-raising events, community, and street speeches.

### How do Australians celebrate National Sorry Day?

Australians celebrate National Sorry Day by holding various activities and events such as morning teas or lunches, along with releasing media statements from Australian politicians and speeches from community leaders about remembering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

### Why do we say sorry on Sorry Day?

We say sorry on Sorry Day because many children of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders were forcibly removed by the government and many indigenous people in Australia have experienced discrimination and injustice.

### What are the symbols of Sorry Day?

The symbols of Sorry Day are represented in the Australian Aboriginal Flag as it has a horizontal bi-color of black and red design with a yellow disc in the center: the black represents the Australian Aboriginal people, the yellow circle symbolizes the Sun, and the giver of life, and the red represents the red earth, the spiritual relation of the Aboriginal people to the land and their blood.

### When was Sorry Day created?

Sorry Day was created on May 16, 1998.

### What is Sorry Day Aboriginal?

Sorry Day Aboriginal is a commemorative event to heal the pains and sufferings of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people because of the injustice they experienced.

## What happened on the first Sorry Day?

The first Sorry Day postponed a government report regarding the removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families.

## Why do we wear purple on Sorry Day?

We wear purple on Sorry Day because this color expresses feelings of compassion and spiritual healing, and it symbolizes the unity and strength that exists within people.

## How does Australians honor National Sorry Day?

Australians honor National Sorry Day usually hold a wide array of activities and events such as handing out literature about Australia's past policies, listening to personal stories of people forcibly taken away from their families, gathering in Federation Square to remember the lost children, lowering to half-mast of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags, and having a morning walk to symbolize a journey of healing and reconciliation.

## What is the National Sorry Day flower?

The National Sorry Day flower is the five-petal Native Cotton, Desert Rose, or Native Hibiscus.

## What started Sorry Day?

Sorry Day started to raise awareness about the forcible removal policies that led to many children who were taken from their families and communities.

## Should Sorry Day be a public holiday?

Yes, Sorry Day should be a public holiday to acknowledge indigenous Australians and raise awareness about the injustice they experienced and help one another to reconcile and unite for peace and forgiveness.

## What is the tradition of National Sorry Day?

The tradition of National Sorry Day is to strengthen the survivors of Stolen Generations.