

Yes, flowers are appropriate for a coworker's graduation. A modest bouquet is a thoughtful way to acknowledge the achievement without making the occasion feel too personal.

Choose a suitable arrangement

Keep the size and style simple, especially if you do not know the graduate well. A small mixed bouquet or a few flowers in a vase can feel celebratory without taking up much room on a desk.

Bright colors can suit a graduation, but there is no need to follow a strict color scheme. If you know the coworker's favorite flowers or colors, that knowledge can guide your choice. Otherwise, a simple mix of seasonal flowers is a safe option.

Consider how the flowers will get home. A large arrangement may be awkward to carry on public transport or fit into a crowded car. A wrapped bouquet is easy to hand over, while a vase can be useful if the recipient will keep the flowers at work for a few days.

Keep the message professional

A short card makes the reason for the gift clear. You can write, “Congratulations on your graduation. Your hard work has paid off, and I hope you enjoy celebrating.” Add your name so the recipient knows whom to thank.

Match the note to your relationship. A close colleague may appreciate a warmer message, while a straightforward sentence is enough for someone you see only occasionally. Avoid romantic wording or comments that might make the person uncomfortable in front of others.

If several coworkers are contributing to the gift, include all their names or sign the card from the team. Agree on the message before attaching it, so everyone is comfortable with what it says.

Think about the workplace

Before bringing flowers in, consider the shared space and any rules your workplace may have. Strongly scented flowers can be distracting in a small office, and some people are sensitive to pollen or fragrance. An arrangement with little scent is a considerate choice.

These practical details can help you choose and present the gift:

- Pick an arrangement that fits the recipient's desk or workspace.
- Choose a container that is stable and unlikely to spill.
- Check that flowers are permitted if the workplace has special restrictions.
- Give the bouquet privately if the recipient dislikes public attention.

Decide when to give them

You can give flowers on the last workday before the ceremony or after the coworker returns. If the person is taking time off or traveling for graduation, ask when they will be in the office so the flowers do not sit unattended.

There is no obligation to give a gift. A sincere note or a brief word of congratulations is also appropriate, particularly if your workplace does not usually exchange gifts.

The best choice is one that respects the coworker's preferences and the setting. Keep it simple, add a brief note, and let the achievement be the focus.

A good companion read: Polish events in Vienna