



## Lesson 1: Thank You in Dutch

Dank u wel.

### LESSON NOTES

Wherever your destination may be, manners are a must! In this respect, Dutch is no different. So in our very first lesson, we'll be teaching you a simple phrase that is bound to come in handy throughout your trip to Holland. I can't stress this enough; a little bit of the language can go such a long way!

Oh, before we start! Let me quickly explain something that might confuse you. Holland and the Netherlands both can be used as our country name. Officially, it's the Netherlands but Holland is a more well-known name for my country. To make things easier we will use the Netherlands in this course. Now let's continue and learn the first Dutch word!

In Dutch, "Thank you" is Dank u wel. Dank u wel. Let's break it down by syllable. Dank u wel. Now let's hear it one more time. Dank u wel.

Another useful phrase would be Dank u wel voor alles, which means, "Thank you for everything." Dank u wel voor alles. The component voor means "for." Let's say it one more time. Voor. Alles means, "everything." Let's break it down by syllable. Al-les. And alles. So the whole phrase is Dank u wel voor alles. Now let's hear it once again. Dank u wel voor alles.

Especially nowadays, a very popular phrase among friends expressing gratitude is Bedankt, which means, "Thanks." Let's break it down. Be-dankt. Now let's hear it once again. Bedankt. Please remember we can only use Bedankt among friends in an informal setting.

### PHRASES

Dutch	English
Dank u wel.	Thank you.
Dank u wel voor alles.	Thank you for everything.

### VOCABULARY

Dutch	English
alles	everything
bedankt	thanks (informal)

## QUICK TIP

By far, Dank u wel is the most common way to say "Thank you." Remember, when in doubt, keeping it simple is your safest bet. You don't have to worry about formal or informal situations. You can use Dank u wel with just about anyone, anywhere, and anytime. You can say Dank u wel when the waiter brings your food or drinks, when the clerk in the hotel takes your luggage to your room (of course, tipping won't hurt either!), and when somebody welcomes you or congratulates you. His or her profession doesn't matter; Dank u wel will always be an appropriate response.