



## Lesson 2: You're Welcome!

De nada.

### LESSON NOTES

In the same way as "Gracias" can be used as an almost universal way to say thank you, "De nada" can be used in the same way to express "You're welcome." You don't have to worry about who you are talking to, the situation, age, or position of the person you are talking with; "De nada" will always be the right response to "Gracias".

Unlike other countries (e.g. eastern countries) where social positions are really important when speaking with other people, Spain is an open and relaxed society, and any little mistake related to respectfulness (e.g. use of casual form "tú" instead of respectful form "usted") won't be overscrutinized.

As you already know, the literal meaning of "De nada" is "For nothing", which transmits the idea that there is no reason to be thanked. There are many other expressions for saying "You're welcome," in Spanish and they too are based in this idea. Let's take a look at some of them, and their literal meaning:

- "No hay de qué." - Nothing to thank for
- "No tiene importancia." - It's not important (what I did for you)
- "Encantado." - I'm pleased. (to have done what you are thanking me for)
- "Un placer" - A pleasure (similar to "Encantado")

### PHRASES

Spanish	English
De nada.	You're welcome. (literally: For nothing)
No hay de qué.	You're welcome. (literally: For nothing)
No tiene importancia.	You're welcome. (literally:
Encantado	Pleased
Un placer	A pleasure, My pleasure

## QUICK TIP

Perhaps you are wondering if “De nada” is really used so extensively? Well, the answer is yes; it really is! Let’s review some situations when you will use “De nada” during your trip to Spain:

- When tip the clerk in the hotel and he says “Gracias”
- When a child thanks you for having kicked his ball back to him
- When you help an elderly person, and she says “Muchas gracias”
- When the customs officer give you back your passport and say “Gracias”

If you feel you have to say “You’re welcome” in any of these situations, it will be absolutely alright to say “De nada”. In these situations it will be correct too to say “No hay de qué”, since they both are equivalent.