



# International Day of People with Disability

What is it about?

An Easy Read guide



## How to use this guide



The Australian Government Department of Social Services (DSS) wrote this guide.

When you read the word 'we', it means DSS.



We wrote this guide in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.

**Bold**  
Not bold

We wrote some important words in **bold**.

This means the letters are thicker and darker.



We explain what these words mean.

There is a list of these words on page 13.



This is an Easy Read summary of an information sheet.

This means it only includes the most important ideas.



You can find more information on our website.

**[www.idpwd.com.au](http://www.idpwd.com.au)**



You can ask for help to read this guide.

A friend, family member or support person  
might be able to help you.

## What's in this guide?

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# What is International Day of People with Disability?



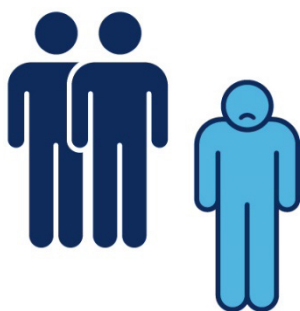
International Day of People with Disability (IDPwD) is a day to understand and respect people with disability.



IDPwD happens each year on 3 December.



5.5 million people with disability live in Australia.



And 1 in 10 people with disability have experienced **discrimination**.

Discrimination is when someone treats you differently because of a part of who you are.



This information came from a survey in 2022.

You can find more information on the ABS website.

**[www.abs.gov.au/statistics/health/disability/  
disability-ageing-and-carers-australia-  
summary-findings/2022](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/health/disability/disability-ageing-and-carers-australia-summary-findings/2022)**



The goal of IDPwD is to help the community to learn more about people with disability.

## How did this day start?



In 1992 the United Nations decided that IDPwD would happen on 3 December each year.

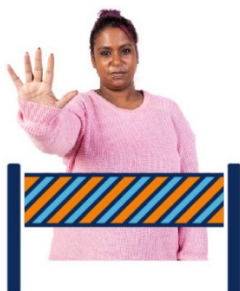


The United Nations is an organisation where countries come together to:

- discuss world issues
- fix world issues.



Each year the United Nations will choose an idea that helps to remove **barriers** for people with disability.



A barrier is something that stops you from doing something you:

- need to do
- want to do.



The idea will also help make the community **inclusive**.

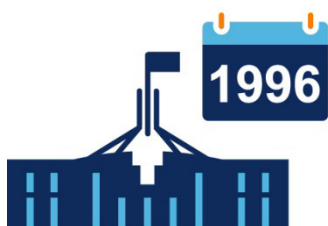
When the community is inclusive, everyone:

- can take part
- feels like they belong.

## How will Australia support this day?



Countries around the world do different things to support IDPwD.



The Australian Government has supported IDPwD since 1996.



We help the Government share information about IDPwD with the community:

- on 3 December
- and
- throughout the year.



IDPwD also supports Australia's Disability Strategy 2021–2031.

This is because it helps make the community more inclusive.





Australia's Disability Strategy is a government plan about supporting people with disability in all areas of their life.



For more information about Australia's Disability Strategy you can visit the Disability Gateway website.

**[www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/ads](http://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/ads)**



In Australia, different groups and people support IDPwD.

This includes:



- governments



- the community



- schools



- organisations and businesses.

## More information



You can find out more about IDPwD on our website.

**[www.idpwd.com.au](http://www.idpwd.com.au)**



You can email us.

**[idpwd@dss.gov.au](mailto:idpwd@dss.gov.au)**



You can call us.

**1800 440 385**



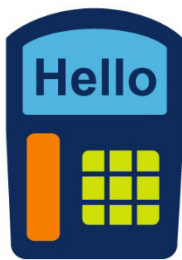
You can call us:

- Monday to Friday
- 9 am to 5 pm.



You can call the National Relay Service if you:

- are deaf or hard of hearing
- find it hard to speak using the phone.



Teletypewriter (TTY)

**1800 555 677**



Speak and listen

**1800 555 727**



You can also follow us on social media for:

- news
- stories
- updates.



You can follow us on Facebook.

**[www.facebook.com/idpwd](https://www.facebook.com/idpwd)**



You can follow us on Instagram.

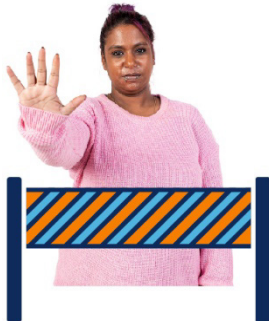
**[@idpwd\\_au](https://www.instagram.com/idpwd_au)**



You can also sign up to our newsletter for updates at the bottom of our website.

## Word list

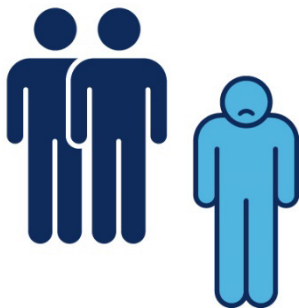
This list explains what the **bold** words in this guide mean.



### **Barrier**

A barrier is something that stops you from doing something you:

- need to do
- want to do.



### **Discrimination**

Discrimination is when someone treats you differently because of a part of who you are.



### **Inclusive**

When something is inclusive, everyone:

- can take part
- feels like they belong.



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