

The no-shipping birthday planner

Choose a time. Bring one memory. Make room for them.

01 AGREE ON THE SAME MOMENT

Their birthday / city / time zone

Their local date + call time

My local date + call time

Check the date as well as the hour; daylight saving can change the offset.

02 A 30-MINUTE CELEBRATION

00-05 Settle in

Ask how their day has been. Leave room for a real answer.

05-10 Open a note

Read your message, open a card, or show a shared photo.

10-20 Share a memory

Take turns telling one story, then ask one follow-up question.

20-25 Make a small plan

Choose one thing to do together on your next call or visit.

25-30 End without rushing

Let them have the last word. Confirm any follow-up time.

03 WRITE A NOTE THAT SOUNDS LIKE YOU

A memory I keep returning to:

One thing I appreciate about you:

One small thing to look forward to:

Before the call: confirm both local times / test the link / keep photos private.

Optional card maker: openagift.com/occasion/birthday

Open a Gift is free; send the link yourself. Whole gifts expire from creation: 30 days with a photo, 60 without. A call or handwritten note works too.