

Write a short, warm note that lets your niece know you are thinking of her, without pretending you are closer than you are. Mention the occasion if there is one, and choose words that leave her free to respond in her own time.

Keep the message natural

A card with flowers does not need to explain the whole relationship. One or two sentences can say enough, particularly if you have not spoken for a while. Use the name she knows you by, and sign the card so she can identify the sender.

For a simple gesture, try: “Thinking of you and hoping these flowers brighten your day. Love, Aunt Maria.” If you would rather avoid “love,” use a closing that feels comfortable, such as “With warm wishes” or “Thinking of you.”

A specific detail can make the note feel more personal. If you know she has moved, for example, you might write: “I hope you are settling into your new home. Sending you flowers and warm wishes.” Only include details you know are correct.

Write for the occasion

For a birthday, keep the focus on her day: “Happy birthday, Emily. I hope you have a lovely day and a year filled with good moments.” You can add an invitation to catch up, but the birthday greeting can also stand on its own.

For a graduation or another achievement, name what she has accomplished: “Congratulations on your graduation. I hope you feel proud of all the work that brought you here.” If you do not know the details, a simple “Congratulations on your achievement” is enough.

During a difficult time, avoid suggesting that flowers will fix anything. You might write: “I am sorry things are hard right now. I am thinking of you and sending my care.” If you offer help, make it something you can actually do.

Leave room to reconnect

If distance means you rarely speak, you can acknowledge it without making her feel responsible. “It has been a while, but I wanted you to know I am thinking of you” is direct and gentle. There is no need to account for every missed call or visit on a small card.

If you would like contact, offer a low pressure opening: “I would love to hear how you are doing if you feel like getting in touch.” Include your phone number if she may not have it. Avoid phrases that ask why she has not called or imply she owes you a reply.

Questions about the card

How long should the note be?

Two or three sentences are usually enough. Leave space for a clear signature.

Can I send flowers without an occasion?

Yes. A note saying “Just thinking of you” explains the gesture without needing a special reason.

Should I mention that we have lost touch?

You can, briefly, if it feels natural. Keep the emphasis on your good wishes rather than on the gap.

What if I do not know what to call her?

Use the name you know she uses now. If you are unsure, a greeting without a name is better than guessing.

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