



Hi! I'm Stacy and my pronouns are they/them.

What exactly *are* pronouns, though? Pronouns are just words that can take the place of any person, place, or thing in a sentence. We use common pronouns like *he, they, we, it, you, y'all, and this* every day! Gender pronouns, however, are personal and individual. You may have had the experience of using the wrong gender pronoun for someone's dog or cat—this is usually a benign mistake. But gender pronouns are much more important to humans! They hold a lot of meaning for our identities and the way we relate to others.

If you're *cisgender* (meaning not transgender) then you probably don't spend a lot of time thinking about the many ways that other people see your gender. In fact, you probably take for granted a lot of things that trans people can't, like not having your gender challenged on a daily basis

Trans people are more perceptive than your average bear. We know what an earnest effort looks like, we know when you're not trying, and we can tell if you don't respect us. So here's what you can do to let us know you care:

- 1 Always ask "what are your pronouns?" upon meeting anyone new, be they cis OR trans. Cis people can use any pronouns, too!
- 2 State your pronouns when introducing yourself! By doing so, you help normalize the act, and you eliminate any confusion.
- 3 Apologize if you get someone's pronouns wrong! A sincere apology can mean more than you know to a trans person. ❖



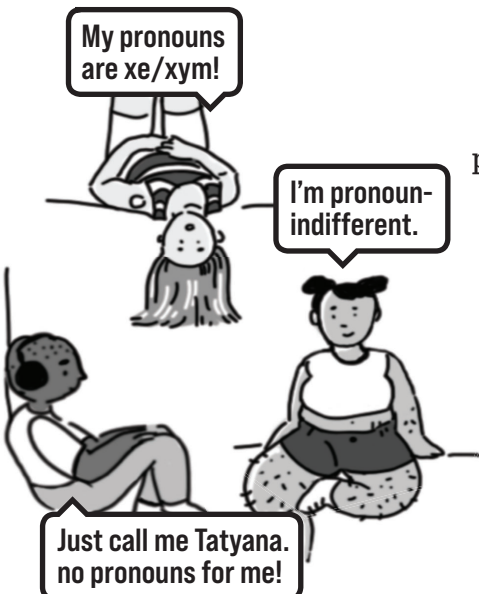
PRONOUNS THAT YOU OR ANYONE ELSE CAN USE!

THEY CAN BE...

TRADITIONAL OR NON-TRADITIONAL

he / him / his
she / her / hers
they / them / theirs

e / em / eirs
fae / faer / faers
hu / hum / hus
it / it / its
jee / jem / jeirs
kit / kit / kits
ne / nem / nirs
peh / pehm / pehs
per / per / pers
se / sim / sers
si / hyr / hyrs
sie / hir / hirs
ve / vem / virs
xe / xym / xyrs
ze / hir / hirs
ze / zem / zes
zee / zed / zetas
no preference
no pronouns



she / her / hers

This is the *subject* form. "She is a really great person."
This is the *object* form. "My friends and I adore her."
This is the *possessive* form. "Our hearts are hers."

Like all new words, pronouns can take a little bit of practice to get used to saying. You can use the above guide to try out some of the pronouns on the facing page in a sentence! Let's try these:

ze / hir / hirs

Subject: "Ze loves eating fried rice."
Object: "I gave some rice to hir."
Possessive: "That fried rice is hirs."

e / em / eirs

Subject: "E is a talented singer."
Object: "Come hear em perform!"
Possessive: "I love that voice of eirs."

Hi, I'm Noah Brown and my pronouns are *they/them* or *he/him*! I illustrated this zine. You can find me on Twitter as *@no_ham_!*

My friend Stacy Fatemi (*they/them*), who wrote and designed this zine, is *@behsss* on Twitter. Thank you for reading!



pronounzine.com



transeducation.net

You don't have to be limited by just one pronoun, either. Plenty of people have more than one pronoun! You can say "my pronouns are *she/they*," or "I use *it/its* and *ze/zed* pronouns," or even "anything but *she/her* and *he/him* pronouns!"

But wait, isn't "they" strictly plural?

Nope! You can absolutely use "they" to refer to just one person. Singular they has been in use since the 1300's and has been established as part of "proper" grammar for hundreds of years. You probably use singular they in your everyday speech to talk about strangers without even realizing it! Check out these exchanges:



I made a new friend today!

Sick, what's their name?

Andromache! AM for short.

Oh dang, it looks like someone left their phone here.

Oof, that's unfortunate. I really hope they find it.



PRONOUNS

WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?

by everyone around you. Because of the pervasive myth of the gender binary and widespread transphobia, we tend to assume people's pronouns based on how they look.

[BUT YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE ASSUME, RIGHT?]

My friend over here is hilarious, isn't she?

My pronouns are he/him, though.



The idea that appearance, gender, pronouns, and names have to match simply isn't true. Even if someone has the appearance of a prototypical man, their pronouns could be *she/her*, *they/them*, or a whole host of others—even none at all!