SAYMEI · EVERYDAY CHINESE · CHEAT SHEET

How to Say Good Luck in Chinese

Good luck is 祝你好运 (zhù nǐ hǎoyùn). Before an exam or a race, most people say 加油 (jiāyóu), you can do it. Here's which wish fits an interview, a trip or a new business, and how to answer one.



祝你好运

zhù nǐ hǎoyùn Good luck

Sounds like joo nee how-yoon. zhù falls: 4th tone, nǐ dips: 3rd tone, hǎo dips: 3rd tone, yùn falls: 4th tone. When someone wishes you luck: 谢谢 (xièxie), Thank you.

Which one fits?

An exam	考试加油！ Kǎoshì jiāyóu! Good luck on the exam!
A job interview	祝你面试顺利！ Zhù nǐ miànshì shùnlì! Good luck in your interview!
A game or a race	加油！ Jiāyóu! Go! You've got this!
Pure chance	祝你好运！ Zhù nǐ hǎoyùn! Good luck!
Someone leaving on a trip	一路平安！ Yílù píng'ān! Have a safe trip!
A new job or business	祝你一切顺利！ Zhù nǐ yíqiè shùnlì! All the best!

11 ways to say good luck in Chinese

EVERYDAY GOOD LUCK

祝你好运 zhù nǐ hǎoyùn Good luck EVERYDAY

好运 hǎoyùn Good luck (short) CASUAL

加油 jiāyóu You can do it EVERYDAY

FOR A TRIP

一路平安 yílù píng'ān Have a safe trip EVERYDAY

一路顺风 yílù shùnfēng Have a good trip EVERYDAY

HOPE IT GOES WELL

祝你顺利 zhù nǐ shùnlì Hope it goes well POLITE

一切顺利 yíqiè shùnlì All the best POLITE

考试顺利 kǎoshì shùnlì Good luck on your exam EVERYDAY

面试顺利 miànshì shùnlì Good luck in your interview POLITE

AT WORK AND IN BUSINESS

祝你成功 zhù nǐ chénggōng Wishing you success POLITE

生意兴隆 shēngyi xīnglóng May business boom FORMAL

How to answer a good-luck wish

谢谢 xièxie Thank you EVERYDAY

借你吉言 jiè nǐ jíyán Here's hoping you're right POLITE

你也是 nǐ yě shì You too EVERYDAY

BEFORE AN EXAM

A: 明天考试加油！ Míngtiān kǎoshì jiāyóu! Good luck on tomorrow's exam!

B: 谢谢，我会加油的！ Xièxie, wǒ huì jiāyóu de! Thanks, I'll do my best!

AT WORK

A: 祝你面试顺利。 Zhù nǐ miànshì shùnlì. Good luck with the interview.

B: 借你吉言！ Jiè nǐ jíyán! Here's hoping!

AT THE AIRPORT

A: 一路平安，到了告诉我。 Yílù píng'ān, dào le gàosu wǒ. Safe trip. Let me know when you land.

B: 好的，放心吧。 Hǎo de, fàngxīn ba. Will do, don't worry.

What to avoid, and why

- × Don't say 一路顺风 (yílù shùnfēng) to someone about to fly. A following wind is bad for a plane on takeoff, so many people avoid it for flights. 一路平安 (yílù píng'ān) is always safe.
- × Don't rely on 好运 (hǎoyùn) before an exam. It sounds like the result is down to luck; 加油 (jiāyóu) tells them their work will carry them.
- × Avoid the number 4 in a lucky gift or a wish, such as four of something. 四 (sì) sounds like 死 (sǐ), death.

Hear every phrase and take the quiz: **saymei.app/tools/good-luck-in-chinese**

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