



20 ETIQUETTE TIPS

for your daily life



Dining etiquette

1. When dining, remember to always serve drinks and food to your companions first, and then to yourself. It is an act of politeness.

2. Serving wine at the correct temperature and the right glass can enhance the experience. Serve red wine in wider glasses at a room temperature, serve white and sparkling wines in more narrow glasses at 6-8 degrees Celsius.

3. When setting a table, follow the “BMW” rule: Bread on the left hand-side, Meal in the middle, Water and Wine on the right hand-side.

4. When dining in the Continental dining style, the knife is held in the dominant hand and the fork in the non-dominant hand. Please note, in the American dining style, the fork switches to the dominant hand when the food is conveyed to the mouth. The knife is then resting on the plate.

5. Avoid licking the knife at all costs. It can cause injury and it is a breach of etiquette as a knife's sole purpose is cutting.

6. When dining, drink from a glass or a cup. Avoid drinking straight from bottles or cans.

7. If your drink has a straw, avoid making slurping sounds when reaching the bottom. It is rude and loud.

8. When hosting a dinner/party, always prepare a non-alcoholic alternative for guests who don't wish to drink alcohol.

9. A napkin is only used for dabbing the corners of our mouth, not for sneezing, nose-blowing or spitting.

10. When dining family style (shared), always use utensils when serving food onto your plate. Avoid using your hands due to hygienic reasons.



Social etiquette

11. Always be considerate of others in public transport - do not block seats with your belongings.

12. Always introduce other people when meeting. It helps to break the ice.

13. Never chew chewing gum at formal events, it is inconsiderate.

14. When talking to someone, remove your sunglasses. Eye-contact is very important.

15. When in a group, avoid speaking a language not everyone from the group can understand. It makes people feel excluded.

16. When invited to someone's home, do not arrive empty-handed. A small gift (wine, chocolates, flowers) makes a difference.

17. When in public, do not point fingers at others. It is rude and makes others uncomfortable.

18. Never shout, snap or whistle at hospitality staff. It is very rude.



Business etiquette

19. Practice the art of a firm handshake. Remember to stand up and make an eye-contact.

20. Always dress appropriately depending on the occasion. Iron/steam clothes, remember to cut off tags from blazer's sleeves and the vent.

Become confident at any dining venue with my practical e-book. Discover more etiquette tips here:

