

SOCIAL ETIQUETTE IN FRANCE.



HOW DO YOU IMAGINE A TYPICAL FRENCHMAN?



- ✘ About the rules of social etiquette in France:
 - ✘ Meeting and Greeting
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- ✘ 1) At a business or social meeting, shake hands with everyone present when arriving and leaving. A handshake may be quick with a light grip.
- ✘ 2) Men may initiate handshakes with women.
- ✘ 3) When family and close friends greet one another, they often kiss both cheeks



Body Language

- ✘ 1) Do not sit with legs spread apart. Sit up straight with legs crossed at knee or knees together. Feet should never be placed on tables or chairs.
- ✘ 2) Toothpicks, nail clippers, and combs are not used in public.
- ✘ 3) Keep your hands out of your pockets.
- ✘ 4) Do not yawn or scratch in public. Sneeze or blow your nose as quietly as possible using a handkerchief or tissue. If possible, leave the room.
- ✘ 5) Do not slap your open palm over a closed fist (this is considered a vulgar gesture).

DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT



1) Business breakfasts are rare.

✘ 2) Business entertainment is done mostly in restaurants

✘ 3) The French do not like to discuss business during dinner

✘ 4) A female guest of honor is seated to the right of the host. A male guest of honor is seated to the left of the hostess

✘ 5) Never start eating until your host and hostess have begun

✘ 6) Never eat fruit whole. Fruit should be peeled and sliced before eating



- ✘ 1) Lower your voice a little and behave graciously and you will enjoy a warm response from the French.
- ✘ 2) The French value their privacy. Don't ask personal questions related to occupation, salary, age, family or children unless you have a well-established friendship.
- ✘ 3) Try to demonstrate some knowledge of history, politics and French culture.
- ✘ 4) Compliments may be appreciated, but usually are received by denial instead of "thank you."
- ✘ 5) Do not chew gum in public.
- ✘ 6) The French do not tell or like to hear jokes. They prefer intelligent and satirical wit. Funny stories of real life situations are appreciated.