



# Etiquette in Great Britain



# The British and their ethics

- Residents of England always abide by the rules of etiquette, which many foreigners are amazed at. English politeness and equanimity in any situation become the subject of ridicule from outsiders, but at the same time no one will have the desire to call an ill-mannered one who adheres to strict rules of etiquette. England is the country in which the concept of "true gentleman" originated. To become one, one must possess impeccable manners and observe etiquette.

It is worth noting that English etiquette has changed somewhat over the centuries, although the basic formalities have remained the same. For example, in England, during the reign of Queen Victoria, it was customary to be late for social events, so that no one would think that a person was in a hurry for this meeting, abandoning all his affairs.

Now, being late is considered a sign of tactlessness and disrespect for the owners of the house, but no one comes to meetings in advance, so as not to cause them trouble. Modern rules prescribe to come to visit just in time, which many Englishmen successfully observe.

# Etiquette at the table

- Etiquette at the table in England is observed impeccably. Even while at home, a person should use precisely those cutlery that are designed for each particular dish. Communication at the table must be universal: English etiquette forbids whispering with a neighbor.

Coming to visit without a prior call is impolite. Do not look at the house or garden yourself, wait for the owner. While eating, slightly turn the plate away from you. At the end of the meal, leave some food on a plate. At the end of dinner, the owner lifts a napkin, only after that guests can leave from the table. The next day, be sure to send a thank you note to the dinner organizer. If after receiving you are presented with a gift, accept it with gratitude.

If you dine in a public institution in England, do not try to hand over the tip to the waiter - this is the height of indecency. Leave them under the edge of the napkin.

# Clothes

- In England, it is customary to dress for dinner. Moreover, if you live with an English family, then every day you should have a new dress (suit). Do not appear on the streets in clothes made from natural fur.

Students wear casual clothes during day school hours. For the evening, you can bring special clothes, as some bars and clubs are not allowed in jeans and casual clothes. The weather in England is very changeable, so it's nice to bring warm, waterproof things with you, especially if you come in the fall or winter. Even in mid-summer, windy and rainy weather is not unusual for England. If you are staying in a host family, you must be sure that you are always well-dressed. You can offend the owners without dressing, for example, for breakfast, but in general you can follow the owners' example in matters of admissibility of a particular clothing.