

FORMAL DINING ETIQUETTE 101



The process of eating with poise and grace

WORK FROM THE OUTSIDE IN WHEN USING CUTLERY

The cutlery furthest from the plate is intended for the first course. If you're unsure, let the host eat first and follow their lead.



DRINK YOUR SOUP FROM THE EDGE OF THE SPOON

Never slurp your soup and don't put the whole spoon into your mouth. Scoop soup from the bowl with your spoon and drink only from the edge.



PLACE NAPKINS ON YOUR KNEES

It's considered vulgar to wear napkins around your neck. Simply put them on your knees. Dab the napkin on your mouth. Don't wipe your whole mouth with it!



ASK TO BE EXCUSED IF YOU NEED TO STEP AWAY

Don't just leave the table! Ask the host to excuse you and make sure to leave your napkin on your chair. This is to signify to the server you'll be back.



REMAIN SEATED DURING A TOAST

Simply raise your glass in the direction of the other guests. If the toast is made in your honor, stay seated as well.

