

CIVILITY



Civility Principles





1. Build Relationships and trust. Trust builds bridges across boundaries
2. Be Inclusive. Acknowledge others. It is about leading and serving for the betterment of mankind
3. Speak kindly. Be mindful of the words you use, when and how you use them. Think before you send that email/text or speak
4. Remember our shared humanity. We are all human beings, with more commonalities than differences
5. Show Respect. Honor other people's opinions, Respect means you can disagree without being disagreeable
6. Assume the best in others. View everyone in positive terms
7. Pay attention - be aware and attend to the world and people around you
8. Value both the process and the results of any discussion
9. Listen intently when others are speaking. Inhibit the “inner voice” from interrupting with comments
10. Apologize when necessary. Be sincere and repair damaged relationships

EXERCISE: Have the brethren (perhaps in small groups) come up with how they may have seen examples of good and bad actions (keep generic). How can we as Freemasons model civility and how can the Lodge/District do that. How can we demonstrate it to our communities?



31 Day Civility Challenge

www.civilityexperts.com

 <p>Day 1 Say hello to five people today.</p>	 <p>Day 2 Smile often at others.</p>	<p>Day 3 Be courteous on public transit and offer your seat to an elder or someone in need.</p>	<p>Day 4 Remember to say  and thank-you.</p>
<p>Day 5 Make eye contact with people.</p>	<p>Day 6 Monitor the volume of your ipod or radio.</p>	 <p>Day 7 Treat others with kindness.</p>	<p>Day 8 Try to remember people's names.</p>
<p>Day 9 Offer constructive feedback in the form of a compliment sandwich.</p>	 <p>Day 10 Introduce those around you.</p>	<p>Day 11 Eat in the lunch room and be social.</p>	<p>Day 12 Be proud of your appearance. Dress nicely.</p>
<p>Day 14 Hold the elevator door open for others.</p>	<p>Day 15 Be patient with others.</p>	<p>Day 16 Keep your work area clean.</p>	 <p>Day 17 Make personal phone calls in private.</p>
<p>Day 18 Close your mouth when you are chewing and use a napkin.</p>	<p>Day 19 Don't interrupt others.</p>	<p>Day 20 Be outgoing and introduce yourself to others in social situations.</p>	
<p>Day 21 Make sure to always use a positive tone.</p>	<p>Day 22 Don't litter.</p>	<p>Day 23 Replace empty toilet paper and paper towel rolls.</p>	<p>Day 24 Avoid profanity.</p>
<p>Day 25 Clean up your own mess.</p>	<p>Day 26 Set a positive example for others</p>	 <p>Day 27 Include your co-workers in conversations.</p>	<p>Day 28 Leave a fair tip when dining out.</p>
<p>Day 29 Turn off your cell phone during meetings.</p>	<p>Day 30 Hold the door for others.</p>	<p>Day 31 Repeat!</p>	

Used with permission from Loretta Fox, etiquettebuddies.com.

CIVILITY IN THE CRAFT – POINTS FOR DISCUSSION

Within a Lodge meeting:

- Is proper Masonic etiquette observed within the Lodge room?
- Are points of view expressed solely to the Master?
- Is everyone given a fair chance at expressing their opinions?
- Regardless of the final outcome, are all opinions openly respected?
- After the discussion has concluded, is there grousing or showboating?

Outside of the meeting:

- Are all discussions appropriate to a Masonic setting?
- Are conversations open and welcoming? Or closed and hushed?

Before the meeting:

- Is there idle gossip?
- Is there negative “Monday morning quarterbacking” going on
- Is discussion driven by topics, or personalities instead?

Things to think about:

- Whether or not you identify yourself as a Mason, do you comport yourself as if the whole world knew?
 - Do you speak the same language to others as you do/did to your mother?
 - Are you trying to follow the golden rule in your actions and speech?
 - When you know you have fallen short by your own actions and/or words, do you take responsibility for it?
- When you are on the receiving end of an apology, do you truly forgive? Can you move on without exception?
 - Are you humble in cases of diametric opinions when yours is proven correct?
 - Do friends and family who are not Masons notice that you are mindful of your words and actions? Or do they question if this is how Masons act and speak?

Thank you to the Masonic Civility Project and the Grand Lodge of New York