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SECRETS FROM THE SERVERS

Insider info, rumors, and top pet peeves
Katy restaurant workers wish you knew

Written by Katy Magazine's Editors

1. Spit Rumor

"Know that we don't ever spit in your food when you send it back or complain. Seriously, we would be fired on the spot for that!" - K.S.

2. Sweet Messes

"Letting your child pour out 25 sugar packets on the table and floor and leaving it for me clean it up is not very nice." - C.W.

3. Table Besties

"I enjoy talking to you, but I don't have time for a long story because I have several other tables who all need me. And please don't offer to have shots with me. I'm flattered, but I'm not allowed." - K.H.

Watch Your Words

4. "Don't ask me, 'What happened? How did you end up being a waitress?' I'm not a failure because I'm a server!" - N.A.

5. Table Hog

"If you see the restaurant is busy, don't linger at my table talking and drinking soda refills for two hours. Other customers are hungry and I'm losing money." - K.F.

6. Don't Stiff Me

"I get paid well below minimum wage so if you stiff me on my tip, I can't make ends meet. If you have bad service, tell me so I can make it up to you. But if I give you excellent service, please tip me 20 to 25%." - K.R.

7. It's All Talk

"If you told me you would 'make it up to me in my tip' after I cleaned up your child's fourth spill, mean it, and don't leave me \$5. People that promise big tips are almost always the worst tippers." - K.L.

8. Special Requests

"I understand you may have a diet restriction, but please don't carry on with multiple special requests and substitutions. It's hard on us and the kitchen staff." - D.M.

9. White Tablecloth Means No Kids

"If we have white linens it means our restaurant isn't really suitable for small children. Our patrons are here for a fine dining experience and many actually paid a babysitter to get away from kids for a while." - T.L.

10. Mom Deafness

"Please interact with your kid. I can't tell you how many times I've heard a child trying to get your attention saying, 'mommy, mommy, mommy,' repeatedly and the only one in the restaurant not hearing them is you!" - K.E.

11. See Food

"Don't take a giant bite of your appetizer then proceed to tell me your order. I will happily wait until you're done chewing." - T.M.

12. Mixing Potions

"Please don't allow your kid to make a salsa, water, chips, and Coke concoction in a cup or on a plate. I have to pick it up with my bare hands! Yuck" - E.G.

13. Big Tops = Big Tips

"If you have a large party, keep in mind you are taking up my entire section for hours. This may be one of the only tips I get for the night so please tip me well!" - M.S.

14. Digital Disrespect

"Don't pick up a call or answer a text while I'm taking your order. I want to get it right, plus it's kind of disrespectful." - D.C.

15. Menu Mind Reading

"Don't get upset at me for bringing your meal with capers or onions in it if that's how it's described on the menu and you didn't tell me. Please read the menu description. P.S. Bring your reading glasses if you can't read standard size print!" - C.B.

16. I'm Really Trying

"Sometimes it's not my fault if the service is slow or your food is bad. Give me a chance to fix any issues and give me the benefit of the doubt. Please notice how hard I'm trying." - L.N.

17. Welcome Woes

"When I come to your table to introduce myself, please don't blurt out 'water' while looking down at your cell phone. Be kind." - A.K.

18. Pick It Off

"If there's an onion or something you don't like on your plate, take it off instead of sending it back. We are required to throw it all away and there is so much waste, you have no idea." - E.P.

19. Food Fraud

"Don't eat most of your meal and then complain about it and expect it to be comped. I'm onto you. If you didn't like it, you would've told me right away." - M.P.

20. Separate Checks Please

"If you need separate checks, tell me before you order. It's going to be really hard to redo it all at the end of the meal." - C.G.

KM

Special thanks to all our hardworking Katy food service workers. We appreciate you!