



DINING ETIQUETTE ...JUST THE BASICS

Presented by: SMI/MI Northridge High School

What we will cover:

- General Social and Dining Etiquette Rules
- The formal table setting
- Serving Food, Passing Dishes
- Short video
- Table Manners
- Why Manners Matter
- Eating
- Dress Code
- Ballroom layout
- Ball Sequence of events



General Social and Dining Etiquette Rules:

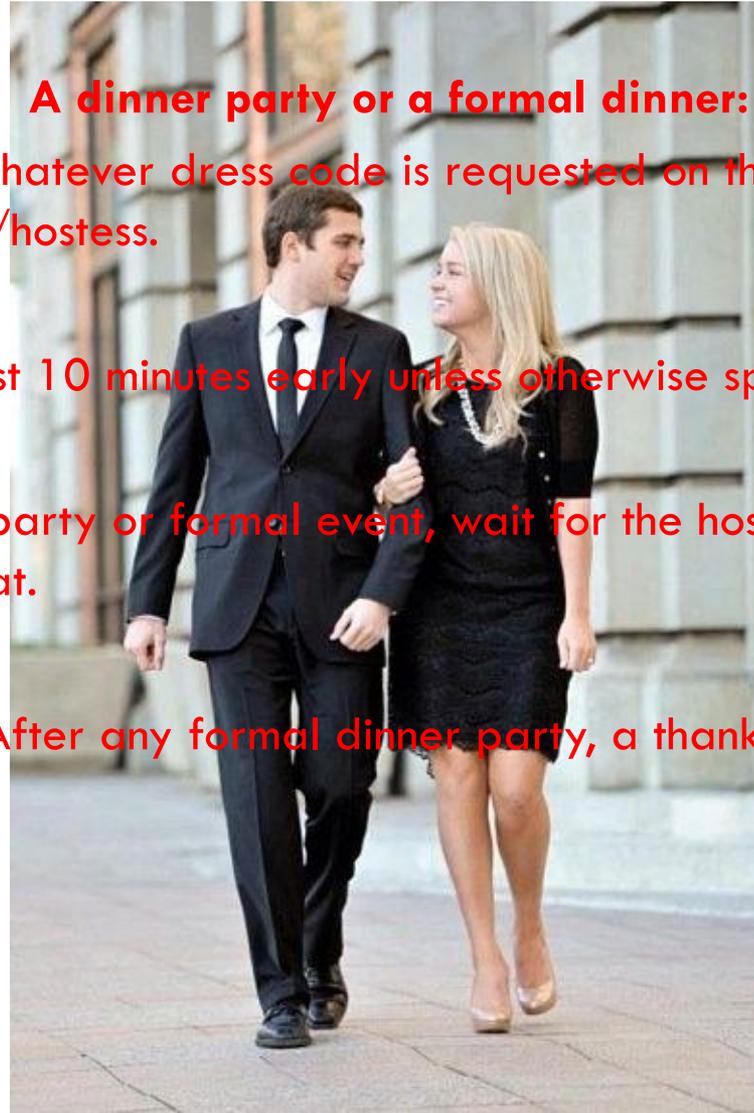
A dinner party or a formal dinner:

Dress Code: Follow whatever dress code is requested on the invitation or suggested by the host/hostess.

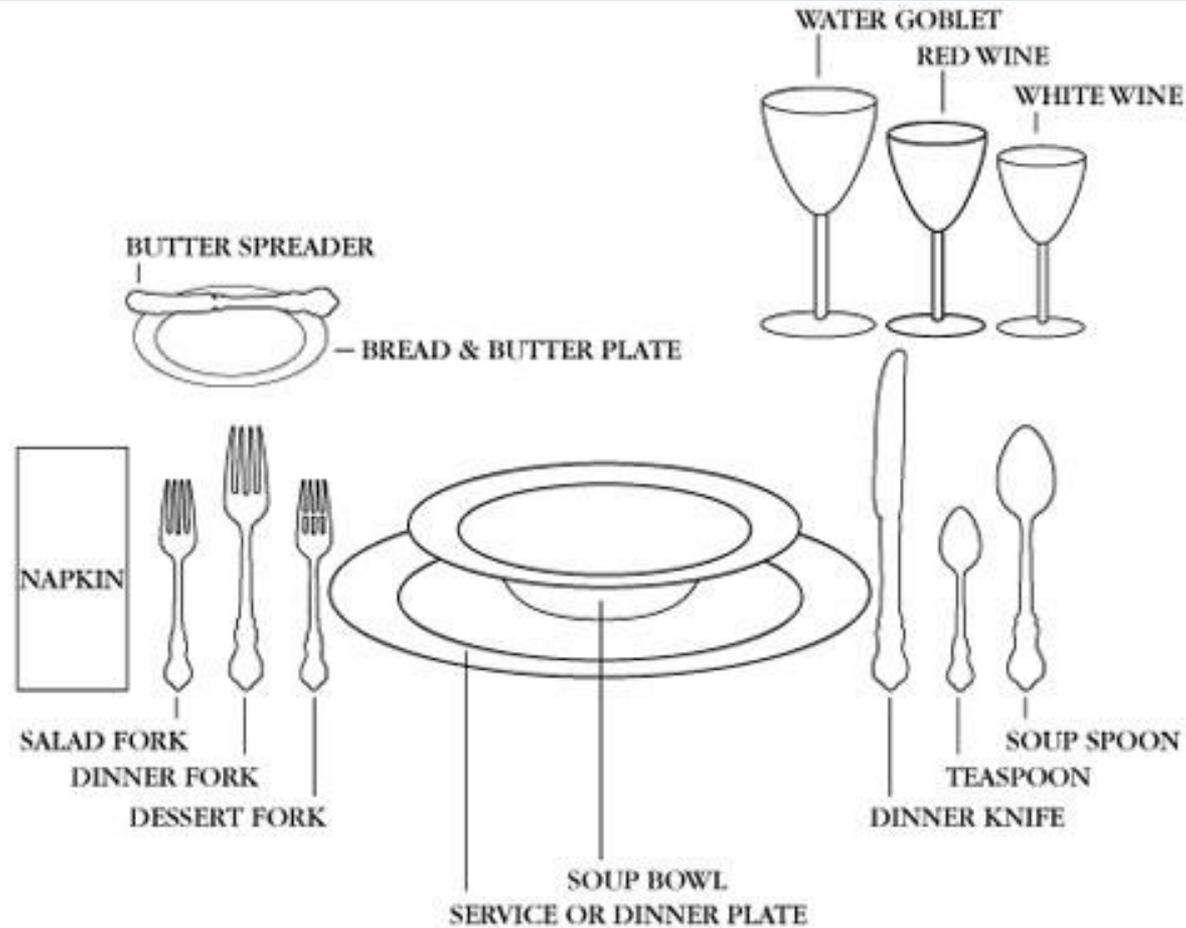
Arrival: Arrive at least 10 minutes early unless otherwise specified.

Seating: At a dinner party or formal event, wait for the host or hostess to sit down before taking your seat.

Thank You Note: After any formal dinner party, a thank you note should be sent to the hostess.



Formal Table Setting



General Dining and Social Etiquette

- ❑ **Serving food:**
- ❑ Food is served from the left. Dishes are removed from the right.
- ❑ Butter, spreads, or dips should be transferred from the serving dish to your plate before spreading or eating.
- ❑ **Passing dishes or food:**
- ❑ Pass food from the left to the right.
- ❑ If another guest asks for the salt or pepper, pass both together, even if a table mate asks for only one of them.
- ❑ Set any passed item, whether it's the salt and pepper shakers, a bread basket, or a butter plate, directly on the table instead of passing hand-to-hand.
- ❑ Never intercept a pass. Snagging a roll out of the breadbasket or taking a shake of salt when it is being passed to someone else is a no-go.
- ❑ Always use serving utensils to serve yourself, not your personal silverware.



Why etiquette matters!



Table Manners:

- ❑ Unfold your napkin and place it on your lap. When you are finished, place it loosely on the table, not on the plate and never on your chair.
- ❑ Keep elbows off the table. Keep your unused hand in your lap.
- ❑ Guests should do their best to mingle and make light conversation with everyone. Do not talk excessively loud.
- ❑ Don't clean up spills with your own napkin and don't touch items that have dropped on the floor. You can use your napkin to protect yourself from spills.
- ❑ Loud eating noises such as slurping and burping are very impolite. The number one sin of dinner table etiquette!



Table Manners, cont'd.

- ❑ Do not blow your nose at the dinner table. Excuse yourself to visit the restroom. Wash your hands before returning to the dining room.
- ❑ **Turn off your cell phone or switch it to silent or vibrate mode before sitting down to eat, and leave it in your pocket or purse.**
- ❑ Do not use a toothpick, apply makeup or pick your nose while at the table.



- ❑ Say "Excuse me," or "I'll be right back," before leaving the table. Do not say that you are going to the restroom.
- ❑ Whenever a woman leaves the table or returns to sit, all men seated with her should stand up.
- ❑ Do not push your dishes away from you or stack them for the waiter when you are finished. Leave plates and glasses where they are.

Eating:

- **Do NOT talk with food in your mouth!** This is very rude and distasteful to watch!



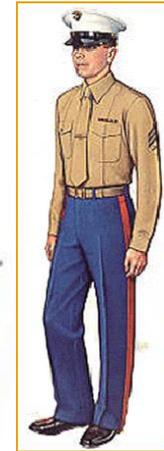
- Always taste your food before seasoning it. Usually the hostess has gone to a lot of work making sure the food served is delicious to his/her standards.
- Don't blow on your food to cool it off. If it is too hot to eat, take the hint and wait until it cools.
- Always scoop food, using the proper utensil, **away from you.**
- Cut only enough food for the next mouthful. Eat in small bites and slowly.
- Don't make an issue if you don't like something or can't eat it –
- Break your bread into small bites and then butter it.

Eating cont'd.

- Even if you have dietary restrictions, it is inappropriate to request food other than that which is being served by the host at a private function
- Do not "play with" your food or utensils. Never wave or point silverware.
- Try to pace your eating so that you don't finish before others are halfway through. If you are a slow eater, try to speed up a bit on this occasion so you don't hold everyone up.
- Once used, your utensils, including the handles, must not touch the table again. Always rest forks, knives, and spoons on the side of your plate or on the saucer of a bowl.

What to wear

- Acceptable attire for Northridge Marine Corps JROTC Ball

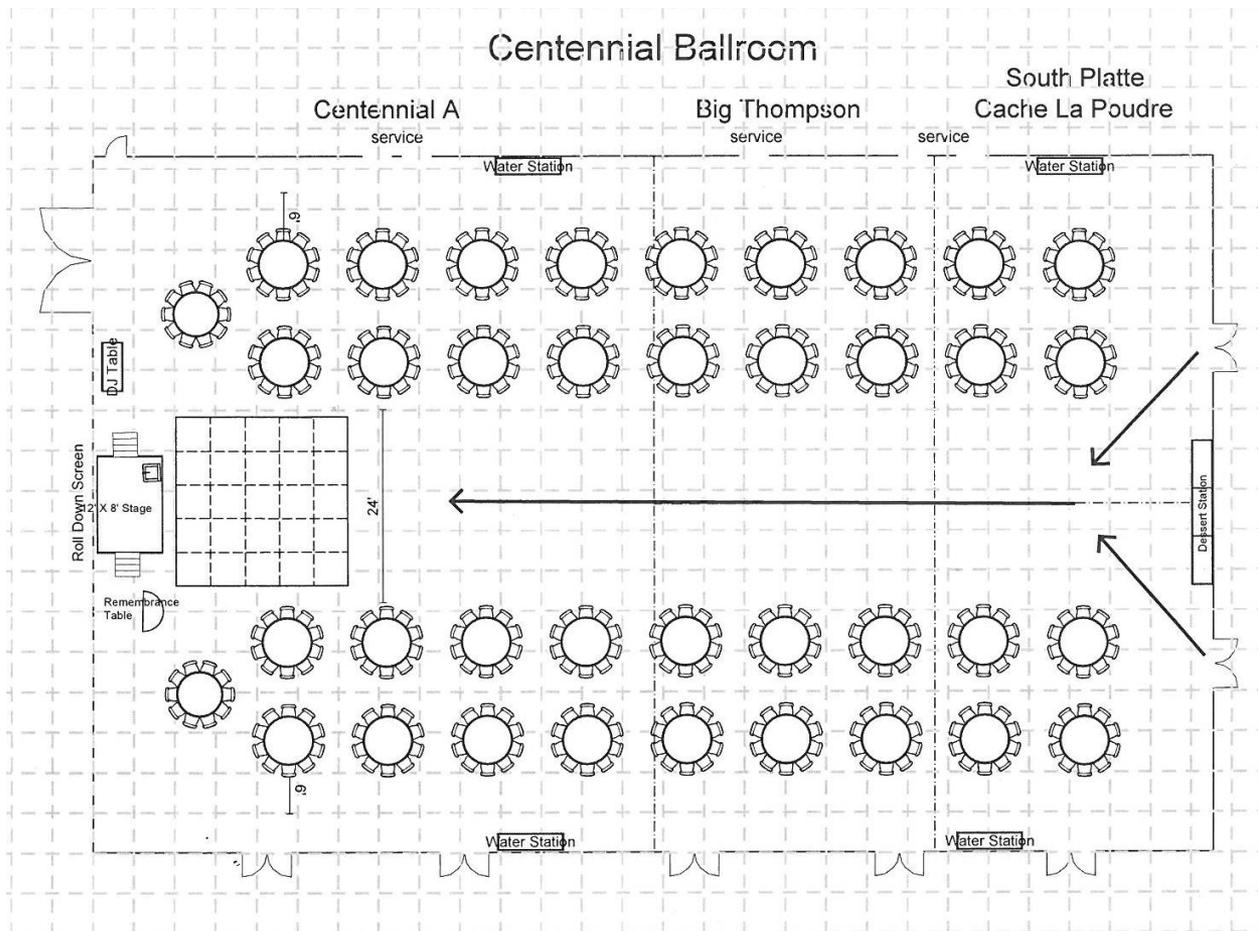


What not to wear...

- ❑ To the Northridge Marine Corps JROTC Ball



Ballroom Layout



Sequence of Events:

- Ladies & Gentlemen: 10, 5, welcome, invocation, please be seated.
- MIA table: Narration - Description about
- Adjutant: Sound Attention, Sound Adjutants call.
- COT: Honor Guard (sword detail) marches in.
 - Please rise for the SMI/GOH.
 - March on the Colors: Rise for the National Anthem
 - Color guard marches off.
- Cake Escort: Cutting of the cake.
 - GOH, Oldest, Youngest Marines are recognized.
 - Cake escort walks off.
- Retire the colors
- Veteran Recognition: Please stand up.
- Flag detail: Old Glory
- Honor Guard marches off.