

Theatre Etiquette

- 1. Turn off all electronic devices.** Don't just switch off your mobile in response to what's very likely a cute invitation from some fake-friendly voice. Make sure it's off before you enter the theatre. And keep it off. Texting bothers the people around you, and yes, it does interfere with electronic equipment in the theatre.
- 2. Do not talk during the performance.** For many this will require a lot of self-control. Talking – as well as whispering – disrupts the performance.
- 3. No food or drink in theatre.** Don't bring in picnics. In fact, don't eat anything, not even your fingernails, even if the performance is, well, nail-biting.
- 4. Do not put your feet on the chairs.** People in performing arts consider the theatre to be a temple. Never disrespect their temple. Your feet belong only on the floor.
- 5. Show respect for performers and audience.** The only appropriate response in the theatre is applause. Never whistle, shout, or yell out a performer's name. They already know their name. Shouting at them only distracts them and annoys everyone else.
- 6. Do not enter/exit theater during performance.** Once a performance has begun, stay in your seat. Only in an emergency should you leave the theatre. If you must go, do it quickly and very quietly, especially opening and closing the doors.