

Theatre Etiquette 101

Even if you are a regular theatre goer, please take a moment to refresh your memory as we list the top "Dos and Don'ts" for live theatre performances:

- Make reservations to reduce the wait at the box office. Allow time to get to the theatre, get through the line, and get into your seat at least 15 minutes before curtain.
- A reminder to "Come Clean" for the comfort of those around you. Freshen up, and then avoid using heavy colognes and aftershaves.
- Take care of personal needs before taking your seat. The water fountain and restrooms are in the lobby; make any last minute calls, texts, or email checks before entering the auditorium.
- Turn off the cell phone and other electronic devices. Not just on vibrate, that can still be disruptive to those around you.
- And although Texting is silent, the glow from the phone is a dead giveaway you didn't turn off your phone!
- Do not talk during the show. Leave the talking, and the singing, to the actors. Listen closely so you can respond appropriately to the storyline. Laugh, cry, gasp, or applaud- appreciate the performance in front of you.
- Refreshments are not allowed in the auditorium. If you feel you might need cough drops or individually wrapped candies, please unwrap them before entering the theatre. There is no such thing as a quiet cellophane wrapper!
- No photography or video recording-flash or otherwise - is permitted during the show. That includes cell phones, iPads, or cameras. Besides, your cell phone is OFF, right?
- Intermissions are generally 15 minutes long. If you are leaving your seat, please make sure the aisle is clear of your personal items. Quickly tend your needs, partake of refreshments, check phone messages and return missed calls (ok, turn it back off now), then return promptly to your seat. The silent cue for "Return to your seats" is the dimming or blinking of house lights.
- Applaud when the show has ended. Stay in your seats as the cast comes back out for their bows. A standing ovation is appreciated for a show well performed. Stay in your seats until the house lights are up.
- By using simple common sense and having empathy for our fellow theatre patrons, we can all enjoy the experience of live stage shows!