

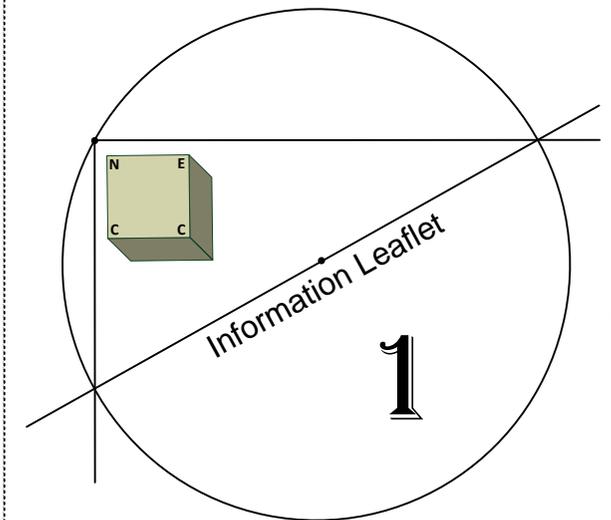
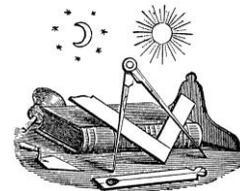
Etiquette - Do's

- ✓ Always wear a dark suit, white shirt, black or Grand Lodge/Provincial tie, black shoes, black socks and white gloves when attending Lodge ceremonies.
- ✓ If you wish to offer a predetermined motion or matter for discussion, always advise the Master beforehand.
- ✓ When making a proposition or addressing the Lodge this should be made to the Worshipful Master giving the salute (with step) in the degree in which the Lodge is working.
- ✓ When perambulating (not marching) within the Lodge always start off with your left foot. (Do not swing your arms).
- ✓ You must always and immediately obey the gavel.
- ✓ Each of the brethren will salute the Master when they enter and when they leave the Lodge Room.
- ✓ Acknowledgement within the Lodge is signified using a court bow (moving of the head not from the waist).
- ✓ When an issue is put to a vote, all brethren should vote.
- ✓ It is good Masonic etiquette to accept a request made in the name of the Lodge if it is within your abilities.
- ✓ Always exhibit a good posture.
- ✓ Always use the proper Masonic names.
- ✓ If late and a ceremony has started you should ensure you follow the correct procedure. The Tyler will advise you how far the meeting has proceeded.
- ✓ All prayers at Lodge functions are to be non-sectarian.
- ✓ All mobile phones are to be turned off when in the Lodge Room.
- ✓ Do invite your Masonic friends to our meetings.
- ✓ Ensure your dues are paid promptly.

Etiquette - Don'ts

- × Never take a seat in the East without invitation even if all other seats are taken.
- × Do not enter the lodge until fully clothed.
- × No man sits whilst speaking in the Lodge room, no matter if he addresses an officer or another brother.
- × Talking in the "wings" whilst a degree is being conferred is considered bad manners.
- × Never turn your back on the Master to address the Lodge without first receiving permission from the Master to speak.
- × Do not enter or leave the Lodge room during a ballot.
- × Lodge customs state that no one except for the Worshipful Master or his pre-arranged designee, may correct any mistake that may occur during the course of a ceremony, and even then he does so only when the error is a serious one.
- × No practical jokes or "risqué" stories or religious/political topics within the Lodge Room.

As a new member, you may find many of our rules and etiquette strange when you first encounter them and indeed, on occasion, feel that you have failed to comply with them. This is quite understandable in the early days of membership and you will find the brethren very understanding in such matters. Please do not worry unduly about such things, but rather enjoy your new experiences



Layout of a Lodge Room & Basic Etiquette

MEN-TOR-ING (Vb)

Mentoring is the support and encouragement of people to manage their own learning in order that they may maximise their potential, develop their skills, improve their performance and become the person they want to be.

www.freemasons-westkent.org.uk

