

Fine Dining Etiquette

For Interviewing

Silverware Placement:

- Fork on the left of the plate and knife on the right of the plate is the start of the meal setting
- Fork and Knife tilted left inwards on top of the plate means you are pausing your meal
- Knife horizontal across the plate and fork on top of the knife vertically means you are ready for your next course
- Fork horizontally across the plate, with the prongs pointing to the right, and knife below horizontally with the pointed end facing right, means you think the meal was excellent
- Fork on top of the plate vertically on the left side of the plate with the knife facing vertically (sharp edges of both pointing north/upwards to the top of the plate) means you are finished with your meal
- Putting the knife in between the prongs of the fork and laying them left-tilting on the top of the plate means you did not like the meal

Placement of Dining set:

Your plate should be in the middle of the set up with the napkin folded on top of the plate. To the left of the plate, you'll find the dinner fork, with the salad fork to the left of the dinner fork. To the right of the plate, you'll find the knife, to the right of the knife you'll find the salad knife, to the right of that you'll find your spoon, to the right of that you'll find the teaspoon.

Your drinking cup should go in front of the knife, salad knife, etc. (further, not closer, to you), your dessert spoon and fork should be placed to the left of that, in front of the plate (again, further, not closer, to you), to the left of the dessert spoon and fork you should find your bread plate and butter spreader.

***Set-up may vary!**

General Dining Etiquette for Interviews:

Alcohol: If you are of age, and your host offers you a glass (and you are comfortable partaking), accept. Do not feel pressure to drink and do not drink quickly or overdrink.

Food: Pick familiar foods, nothing too highcost, that will allow your focus to remain on the host and not the food.

Payment: Be prepared to pay for the food you order, if they offer, graciously thank them and send formal thank you afterwards.

Napkin Etiquette:

Before Dining:

The napkin will be placed either on the left side of your plate or on top of the dinner plate

During Dining:

Lay the napkin unfolded across your lap while you are seated.

Excuse Me:

Place the napkin over the top of your chair semi-folded if you need to leave the table temporarily.

All Finished:

Fold and place your used napkin on the left of your plate at the end of your meal.