



Table Manners

What you'll get from this lesson: Be the player everyone wants to sit with — good pace, clear play, and grace in winning and losing.

Mahjong is a social game first, and the nicest tables run on a handful of small courtesies. None of these are formal rules; they're simply what makes an afternoon of mahjong a pleasure for everyone.

At the Table — Do & Don't

Do

- ✓ Keep a steady, comfortable pace
- ✓ Announce each discard clearly
- ✓ Keep your tiles on your rack
- ✓ Pay up cheerfully, win or lose
- ✓ Help beginners kindly when asked
- ✓ Ask a new table how they play first

Don't

- ✗ Don't stall or overthink every turn
- ✗ Don't "kvetch" about bad luck
- ✗ Don't slide tiles around in the open
- ✗ Don't gloat over a win
- ✗ Don't play someone else's hand for them
- ✗ Don't enforce your house rules as a guest

Original etiquette guide. None of these are formal rules — they're the small courtesies that make a table one everyone wants to sit at.

Pace and clarity keep it fun

Decide at a comfortable, steady pace — think before you act, but don't leave three people waiting. Announce each discard clearly so everyone hears it, keep your tiles tidy on your rack, and lay exposures out neatly. These little habits keep the game moving and everyone in good spirits.

Win and lose with grace

When you win, keep it warm rather than boastful; when you lose, pay up cheerfully and look forward to the next hand. Try not to "kvetch" over cold tiles — everyone gets them. The mood at the



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where players gather

table matters more than any single hand, and gracious players are the ones who always get invited back.

Tip. Mistakes happen, especially while you're learning. Most tables will let a small slip be fixed if nothing has been built on it yet — just ask kindly, and extend the same grace to others.