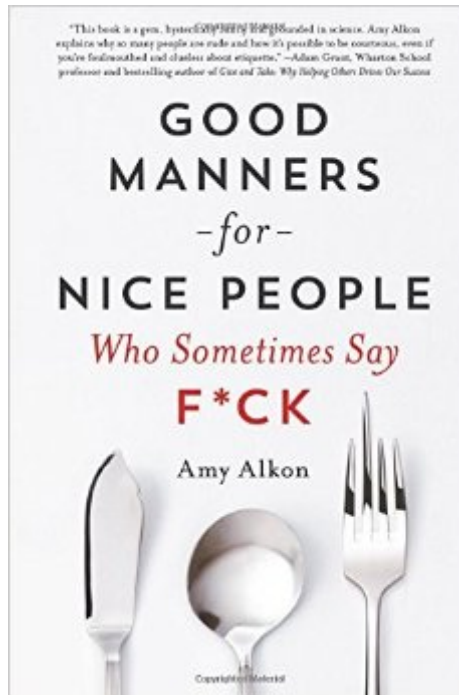


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Good Manners For Nice People Who Sometimes Say F*ck



Synopsis

"Miss Manners with Fangs." •LA Weekly We live in a world that's very different from the one in which Emily Post came of age. Many of us who are nice (but who also sometimes say "f*ck") are frequently at a loss for guidelines about how to be a good person who deals effectively with the increasing onslaught of rudeness we all encounter. To lead us out of the miasma of modern mannerlessness, science-based and bitingly funny syndicated advice columnist Amy Alkon rips the doily off the manners genre and gives us a new set of rules for our twenty-first century lives. With wit, style, and a dash of snark, Alkon explains that we now live in societies too big for our brains, lacking the constraints on bad behavior that we had in the small bands we evolved in. Alkon shows us how we can reimpose those constraints, how we can avoid being one of the rude, and how to stand up to those who are. Foregoing prissy advice on which utensil to use, Alkon answers the twenty-first century's most burning questions about manners, including: * Why do many people, especially those under forty, now find spontaneous phone calls rude? * What can you tape to your mailbox to stop dog walkers from letting their pooch violate your lawn? * How do you shut up the guy in the pharmacy line with his cellphone on speaker? * What small gift to your new neighbors might make them think twice about playing Metallica at 3 a.m.? Combining science with more than a touch of humor, *Good Manners for Nice People Who Sometimes Say F*ck* is destined to give good old Emily a shove off the etiquette shelf (if that's not too rude to say).

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I doubt anyone is expecting a standard guide to etiquette when they see a title like this and they'd be right. But this makes so much more sense as a guide to etiquette in the connected world. This book is just groaning with good advice livened by both Amy's personal anecdotes and her research into the psychological background of the personal interactions of modern life. She will use a charmingly old-fashioned word like "masher" in reference to a possible Facebook creep and then use a wonderfully modern 'mot juste' like "moochspam" in reference to people trying to hit up their entire contact list for some crowd funding project. The book is laid out in highly digestible bites but is also engaging and amusing enough to reward deep draughts as well (to mix a consuming metaphor). This is a book for anyone and everyone. Those [people who say "f*ck" all the time and those who never do. Reading this book will make you a better person and since I have to live in a world with you, I tell you: buy this book!

I thought this book was terrific. It's really much more than a manners book. It was almost like a guide to better living. You just feel like you know how to be a slightly better person when you finish each section. The premise that we're being rude because humans have spent most of our history in tribes of 150 people and our brains aren't accustomed to huge cities rang totally true to me. And I laughed on almost every page. On random friends who hit you up for money on Kickstarter: "He contacted me to ask me to pay into his Kickstarter fund to finance the distribution of some indie film he'd made. My response: 'I would like to get a new pair of boots. Please send me \$200 via PayPal.'"

• On talking with the person next to you on a plane: "Even when a seatmate seems open to chatting, you should look for signs suggesting his openness has closed, such as fidgeting or a little trickle of blood coming from his ear." I'd post a bunch more but I'm being a real prude about curse words!

Great read, great science, full of life tips that are actually interesting, and funny throughout. I also think it would make a fun, cheeky gift to give a friend who's a bit of an a-hole... I have several in mind...

After reading Advice Goddess in my local paper and noticing the author's email address, I took the liberty of telling the author how hilarious her advice was. Amy Alkon has an ability to say what is on her mind in such a way that the reader sees the world in a whole new way. She has an educated understanding of psychology and technology coupled with a warm embrace of humanity. After buying "Good Manners" which I thoroughly enjoyed from cover to cover, I realized that the behavior of certain people upsets each one of us but the majority of us just walk away. As an activist for preventing further actions that cause misery to others, Amy differentiates from most people. She is a

champion in this regard and takes action. We need more people in the world to step up to the plate and say or do something when slighted or offended.

An English friend once explained to me that "proper" Brits could not use salt shakers. They had to spoon the salt onto the rim of their plates and transport it to their food with the tip of a knife. That rule changed abruptly when Prince Charles was caught on camera salting his food directly from the shaker, giving the whole country permission to do the same. Perhaps that is how etiquette evolves in a rigid class society, but where do the rest of us go to learn how to live harmoniously with each other long after we have outgrown Miss Manners and Emily Post? You may not realize how much you need this book until you read it. This sassy, classy, redhead is assertive enough to take on the monumental task of spelling out everything you need to know about how to co-exist with almost eight billion other people without losing your sanity or your humanity. For example: do you know when it's OK to cold call someone? (Never.) When you should leave a voice mail? (Don't.) What to do when stuck in a row of airplane seats with four armrests for six arms? (The two end passengers get one and a half armrests each; the squishee in the middle gets two halves.) Be prepared to find out some things about yourself that you didn't want to know. Are you a cheapskate who has been under-tipping? A helpful person giving out unwanted advice? Amy is such a talented and entertaining writer that she can say the things your friends won't tell you and do it with such humor and tact that you actually enjoy the process!

This is not your grandmother's manners book! Comparing it to any book with a section on addressing wedding invitations would be a mistake. This book is about how to not end up in a viral video for being a jerk. It deals with etiquette issues that desperately need addressing (e.g. how to not be a cellphone boor) as well as the question of why people seem ruder than ever... and what we can do about it. Perhaps most importantly, it doesn't simply chirp to "set a good example" but is empowering in that explains how we can influence others to behave better, without being a jerk about it, of course....And it's funny too.(more details about this book are available on our website)

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