

SUBWAY ETIQUETTE FOR DUMMIES

The current PSAs are a start. Let's continue.
By Andrea Bartz

One of the best things about the MTA's "Courtesy Counts, Manners Make a Better Ride" campaign has to be the experience of watching transgressors behave impolitely *directly beneath signs asking them not to*. The plucky campaign illustrations are far from exhaustive, though. We asked modern etiquette expert Myka Meier, founder of NYC's Beaumont Etiquette, for extra pointers—some obvious, some less so. If you're reading this on the subway, feel free to hand it over to the rude girl next to you.

Quit Canoodling.



Handholding, a head on a shoulder, a quick peck goodbye: These examples of PDA are fine. But extended hugs and caresses are bound to ick out your fellow commuters.

See a Vanity Mirror? Us, Neither.



Playing with your hair leaves strands in the faces of unlucky strangers. Also, rule of thumb: Applying ChapStick is fine, but anything involving makeup tools—lip gloss, powder—is not.

The Train Car is Not a Phone Booth.



Remember phone booths? They had space for one person, likely so that everyone didn't have to listen to you discussing last night's date. "Use free Wi-Fi to text, not talk," Meier says.

Remember: Your Bag Has Mass.



You may not feel your ginormous purse whacking or digging into your neighbor, but believe us—she does. And she hates you. "Hold your bag in front of your belly instead," Meier advises.

Don't Drip all Over Everyone.



Wet umbrella? "Shake it onto the platform, then wrap the strap around to close it, squeezing rain out in the process," Meier says. Hold it between your knees so drops plague you alone.

Cross at the Ankles, Not at the Knees.



Sit with one foot bobbing, "and if the train makes a sudden jerk, you'll end up in a neighbor's lap," Meier warns. Plus, your shin is infringing on standers' space. Not cute.