Emily Post's Etiquette, 18
For nearly a century, one name has been trusted above all others when it comes to proper decorum: Emily Post. In this completely updated 18th Edition of the classic Emily Post’s Etiquette, the mantle is picked up by the great-great-grandchildren of the First Lady of Etiquette, who tackle the latest issues and demands of the twenty-first century “from texting and tweeting to iPhones, Facebook, and all forms of social media. The perfect guide for Millennials living on their own for the first time who wish to establish themselves properly in the workplace as well as for Baby Boomers in the midst of planning their children’s weddings, entering retirement, and helping to care for elderly parents.” Emily Post’s Etiquette, 18th Edition, remains the essential handbook to proper social behavior.

I had long wanted to own a copy of this and finally got around to buying one. I was definitely in the market for a quaint guide to manners for my edification and amusement. Unfortunately, the Emily Post empire has changed. Her books from the 60’s were unapologetically prescriptive: Do this,
Don't do that, Always do . . But after spending a couple of hours with this book, I believe that over the years the enterprise has been so watered-down that it's now entirely descriptive, instead of prescriptive: Some people do this, others do this. Some otherwise high-class folks can be caught these days resting their elbows on the table during dinner, the editorial staff has noticed. I know that. I don't need the book to tell me that "Some people hold the door open for ladies, others don't." Get some balls, guys.

At first I was beyond myself with excitement when this book finally arrived. Then I started reading it and was disappointed to see that the beautiful use of the English language and the firm but encouraging tone that characterized earlier editions of Etiquette was not present. I understand that the authors were being colloquial in order to be more "accessible", but it left me quite apathetic as opposed to inspired to be the very best that I could be. Also, etiquette by its very nature is quite conservative, and this book most certainly is not. Overall it's a good resource, and I mainly wanted this book for the reference material in the back (which, by the way, is extremely useful and the made the entire purchase worth my money), but it was very disappointing to see how our society has become so inelegant that even Emily Post Etiquette has succumbed. Aside from practical advice on technology, I would stick with the 17th Edition by Peggy Post alone.

I'm 70 years old. As I watch the world around me fall apart and children not have any idea of proper etiquette, I thought this book would would give some insight. It appears standard etiquette no longer exists. I am not an old foggie I simple believe good manners and etiquette stay.

Bought this so my kids could see that what I was telling them about manners wasn't just an old fashioned set of rules - especially about the use of texting, etc. This is great - a very common sense approach. Everyone should read at least the first chapter - this would be a much nicer world to live in.

I gave this book as a wedding gift after receiving, (not an invitation0, but an announcement for a relative's wedding, which stated that immediate family were the only ones invited, AND that 'CASH GIFTS WERE WELCOMED!!" I was flabbergasted!!! How tacky!!Hope they get the message! And, no, I didn't send any money!!!
A quick video review of Emily Post’s Etiquette, 18th Edition by Chris Barnhart.

Whenever in doubt, this is the book to check on all etiquette concerns. Also, it is a great book to just open to any page and find out what social faux pas’ I’ve been unintentionally making.

Really nicely updated for a modern audience. I had an old version, so wasn’t completely convinced I needed a "new model". But I am glad I added this book to my library. It has many contemporary topics, and is edited by the new generation of Posts.

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