



THE ULTIMATE

USA  
TIPPING GUIDE

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15%

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GUARANTEED

# USA TIPPING GUIDE

## Food Service

### Barista

No tip required, you can however throw some coins into the tip jar.

### Bartender

→ **\$1** per drink is common or **15%** of the total bill

### Maitre d'

→ **\$5 to \$25** for special efforts

### Pizza Delivery person

→ **10%** or minimum of **\$2**

### Takeout

Whenever you just stop by at a restaurant and order takeout, you don't have to tip, even if this restaurant has waiters. Nobody served you, they don't have to clean dishes, no tip.

### Waiter

→ **15% to 20%** depending on the level of service you've received. Paying less than 15% is a sign that you weren't happy with something. You can just not tip at all, but make sure you're not punishing the wrong person. If the kitchen screws up, it's not the waiter's fault.

## Buffet-Style Restaurant

→ **5% to 10%** of the total bill is suggested for the Waiter/Waitress. If your waiter did nothing but bringing some utensils, you don't have to tip anything.

## Hotel Staff

### Bellman/Porter or everyone who carries your luggage

→ **\$1 to \$2** per bag

### Concierge

→ **\$5 to 20** depending on the service. **\$20** if he does something exceptional. Nothing for directions.

### Housekeeper

→ **\$1 to \$5** per night. It motivates them to get tipped daily, but you can also leave the total on your last day.

### Valet Parking

→ **\$2 to \$5** when you get your car back

### Room service

→ **\$5** (unless gratuity is included in the check)

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## Travel

### Bus driver (not mass transit)

→ **\$1 to \$2**, if he/she handles luggage

### Chauffeur

→ **10-15%**

### Taxi Driver

→ **10%**, **\$2** minimum

## Airports

### Porter/skycap

→ **\$1** per bag. **\$2** for heavy items.

### in-flight personnel

none

### Wheelchair

→ **\$3 to \$5**

### Electric Cart Transport

→ **\$1 to \$2**

### Rental Car Shuttle Driver

→ **\$1** per bag or more if they help with luggage

## Personal Service

### Barber, Hair Stylist, Manicurist,

### Spa Service, Masseuse

→ You can't go wrong with roughly **15%**

### Shoe-shiner

→ **\$2 to \$3**

## Other

### Coat checker

→ **\$1** per coat

### Children's Party

→ **\$15 to \$25** for Clown depending on performance.

### Catering Server

→ **\$20** if one server. **\$10** each if more than one server.

### Dog Groomer

→ **15%** but no less than **\$2** per dog

### Tattoo Artist

→ A tip is not required, but you can give whatever you want if you feel the work is exceptional.

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## Furniture Deliverer

→ **\$5 to \$10**, if they install the furniture for you

## Grocery store bagger

→ No need to tip. It's part of the service.

## Mover

→ **\$5 to \$20** per person based on performance

## Tip Jars

→ You will notice a jar or container with cash in some stores to throw in money. That's totally optional. Customers usually don't put money in it, and if they do it's the change that they got back.

## Wedding

### Coat Room Attendants

→ It is customary to give fifty cents per guest. However, it may be to your advantage to arrange for a flat fee prior to the event.

### Limousine Driver

→ **15%** but check if the tip has already been added into the final bill.

## Florists, Photographers, Bakers, Musicians

→ Tipping only for extra special services, up to **15%**.

## Civil Ceremony Officials

(Judge, Justice of the Peace, City Clerk)

→ The average gratuity is between **\$50 to \$75**. If travel is involved, an additional gratuity is expected.

## Clergymen, Rabbis, Priests

→ **\$75** donation is considered proper  
→ **\$100** gratuity for the wedding officiant

## Organist and Musician

→ Fees might already be included in the rental fee for the church. If not, a gratuity of **\$35 to \$50** is appropriate.

## DJ

→ **\$25 to \$100**

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## Holiday Tips

Tipping service people with whom you have regular contact can build goodwill.

### Babysitter

→ One week's pay

### Day Care Teacher

→ \$15 to \$25 and a gift

### Doorman

→ Bottle of wine or box of chocolates

### Garbage collector

→ \$15 to \$25

### Gardener

→ One week's pay

### Housekeeper

→ One week's pay

### Janitor

→ \$15 to \$25

### Mail carrier

→ \$15 to \$20

### Nanny

→ One week's pay

### Newspaper delivery person

→ \$15 to \$25

### Parking attendant

→ \$15 to \$25

### Personal trainer

→ \$20 to \$50

## General Tipping Etiquette:

**If you use a coupon or gift certificate**, calculate your tip based on the total before discount.

### Tip above the norm if:

- Service is exceptional,
- You've been a burden, or
- You are a regular client.

**Don't tip if it's not deserved.** Poor service should not be rewarded.

If you take up a restaurant table for a long time, tip extra.

Tip discreetly. When in doubt, tip.

**Resources:** [www.getrichslowly.org](http://www.getrichslowly.org), [www.tipping.org](http://www.tipping.org)

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