

BIG DEAL Company's Hotel Tipping Cheat Sheet



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When you travel there are all of the little things not to forget. You'll need shampoo, toothpaste, and clean underwear (as Mother always says). But what about money to tip? Planning for tips is often overlooked and it can be complicated to navigate who to tip and how much. Fear not! BIG DEAL Company is here to save the day.

Housekeeping

These folks have the dirty job of keeping us clean which helps make your room a haven to return to after a busy day. They work quickly and efficiently doing their best to not disturb guests.

Tips for your housekeeping team can be left in the room. Take notice if you have different cleaners coming in each day as you will want to be sure each person gets appreciated. Consider dividing the full tip amount you've budgeted for your stay into daily tips and leaving that out each day.

Recommended Hotel Housekeeping Tip: at least \$5 per day

Valet

Ugh! Parking can be a nightmare but thanks to the convenience of valet services you can step right to the front door of your destination. A large portion of a valet's income is comprised of tips so it's nice to show your appreciation. Note that the standard is offering the tip when they retrieve your vehicle and not when they take it to park.

Recommended Valet Tip: \$2-\$5 per car retrieval. Be kind and consider extreme weather like snow or rain...maybe they should get a little more.

Shuttle Driver

Taking the shuttle to and from the airport is such a wonderful convenience. The custom is to tip the driver no matter what, particularly if they help with your bags. Consider the number of bags they're helping with and even the weight of the bag. They're working hard so you don't have to.

Recommended Shuttle Driver Tip: \$1 to \$2 per person or \$4 to \$5 per party. Again, keep in mind the weight of your bags and adjust accordingly.

Luggage Attendant

Luggage attendants are there to take your bags from hotel check-in to your room. Not all hotels offer this service, but it is customary to tip if they do.

Recommended Luggage Attendant Tip: \$1 per bag



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Concierge

Talk about your new best friend! The concierge is the one who can take your vacation from fun to fantastic. Whether they're booking reservations at suggested restaurants or getting tickets to the latest and greatest show, they are there to make sure you're happy.

The best time to tip is during the time of your request taking into account the difficulty of the task. If they're simply recommending a bar that is fairly simple. If they're booking you a table for a large group at a restaurant that could require some special effort. Consider the effort required and tip accordingly.

Recommended Hotel Concierge Tip: \$2 to \$5 for basic requests. Consider up to \$100 for the more difficult tasks and/or standout service.

Room Service

Yum, something smells delicious! Yep, it's room service and they are delivering food and drink straight to your room. Tipping is similar to standard restaurant tipping since it's similar to having a waiter come to your table. Some hotels automatically include gratuity to the bill and in that case, you don't need to add more. However, sometimes the auto-gratuity is quite low and it's nice to throw on a little extra. Find out when you order how your hotel handles it or take a look at the receipt they bring.

Recommended Room Service Tip: 15% to 20% of your total food bill

Spa

Who doesn't enjoy a nice massage or spa treatment while on vacation? Be prepared to tip your spa therapist or technician as a thank you for your Zen moment.

Recommended Spa Service Tip: 15% to 20% of the total cost

Final Tips for Tipping

When you're on vacation you are surrounded by people working hard to make your stay comfortable, clean, and worry free. By budgeting tips into your vacation spending, you'll be saying thank you to these individuals and assuring you get top-notch service. Be sure to **carry cash** in smaller bills and **tip at appropriate times** and you'll be golden. Bon voyage!



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