

KINKY PARTY ETIQUETTE

A GUIDE TO EXPECTATIONS

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DRESS CODE

The invitation should specify dress code. It may be themed (eg leopard print or sexy lingerie), fetish wear, or all black. If in doubt, ask, or wear all black. Don't assume nudity or bare breasts are acceptable unless specified.



READ THE SIGNS

literally, read any signs that on the walls, at stations, or behind the loo door.

DON'T STARE

While everything may be exciting and new, there's a difference between watching a scene with interest, and staring at a naked body or someone dressed in an unusual way. Watch, but don't make people feel uncomfortable.

KINK SHAMING

Avoid yukking anyone else's yum. If you don't like it, just remove yourself from the area without fuss or criticism.

FRENZY

When you've 'found your tribe' and all the excitement that goes with it, you want to try everything - right now like a 'bull in a china shop', you're experiencing frenzy. Recognise it. Slow down. You have a life time to explore everything, and don't need to put yourself or a Top at risk.

START CONVERSATIONS, PACMAN THEORY

Good etiquette is to include people who are looking lost, or uncomfortable.

Pacman theory suggests that whenever in a group, leave a space open (like a pacman shape) to facilitate single people joining in.

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CONSENT



Freely Given
Reversible
Informed
Enthusiastic
Specific

If you don't know about consent, it's imperative you research this in advance of attending any kink event.

Consent is the foundation of what we do and our culture.

Consent includes within play, during sex, hugging, physical contact, sending friend requests and using equipment.

ALCOHOL & DRUGS

While many venues permit alcohol, playing while under the influence is considered risky. Be careful of your intake. Be open and clear about consumption before play and don't be an ass if you over indulge.

Assume drugs are not permitted. If you're planning on a 'special cigarette', ask the host in advance.

EXPECTATION OF SEX AND/OR PLAY

Don't! By all means ask, but you're not entitled to it!

PUBLIC PARTY VS PRIVATE VS CLUB

Each venue has it's own rules and culture, although this guide will help. If you don't know - ask!

CONFIDENTIALITY

While you'll likely want to discuss the amazing things you just saw at a party, be discrete about WHO did what.

SMOKING

Find the assigned smoking area, don't disturb others.

FOOD

Some venues will provide food (eg pizza), some will suggest you bring a plate, some will have food available for sale. If it's not obvious from the invite, it's polite to offer to bring something to share eg a small cheese platter and crackers. You may also like to take aftercare snacks should you need them.



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DM

Dungeon Monitor

A dungeon monitors role is to ensure that play is happening safely. They have the authority to interrupt play, stop play, and evict people from the venue. They are also experienced and can answer questions and provide guidance. If a scene is bothering you, seek them out for clarification. They are friendly and approachable, and are an excellent source of information.

SACRED SPACE

During a party (which is different to a munch or skillshare) it's important to NEVER interrupt a scene.

The participants need to concentrate and stay safe. Also be aware of the space needed for a scene eg backswing from a whip or flogger. If you have concerns, seek out the DM or Organiser.

HOW TO ASK FOR PLAY

Be courageous and ask, just be considerate of the Top's time and energy. Recognise they're under no obligation to provide you with play. Be polite and accept rejection gracefully.

MAKING MISTAKES

Despite everyone's best intentions, mistakes happen. Apologise where possible, but don't insist that the apology be accepted. Where you can, make sure the mistake doesn't happen again.

D/S PROTOCOLS

Wearing a collar at a kink party may indicate the person is a submissive or slave of another person. If so, they may be under instruction not to speak, interact with or play with anyone else. If in doubt, ask. Respect the dynamic.



SAFE WORDS – RED

The traffic light system is widely used at parties. If you hear anyone call RED, all play must stop immediately. Orange or Amber means 'check-in' and Green is Go. People may have their own systems, If in doubt, ask.

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PRE NEGOTIATION

During a pre-play discussion, the Top may need to know the following:-

- ✓ What prior experience do you have?
- ✓ Do you have any potential triggers?
- ✓ Are you wanting sexual contact?
- ✓ How much alcohol have you had?
- ✓ Any drugs/medications?
- ✓ Health? STI's, injuries, heart, asthma?
- ✓ Photos?
- ✓ Do you understand and accept the risks?
- ✓ Who can you check in with tomorrow?
- ✓ Do you understand subspace/drop?
- ✓ What other play have you done so far?
- ✓ What are your limits?
- ✓ What are your aftercare requirements?
- ✓ What are your safe words?
- ✓ Who can join in the scene once it starts?

SUBSPACE / DROP

Subspace is a floaty sensation you may experience during play when your body detects pain or danger and releases endorphins and adrenaline into your body (a natural morphine). After play (up to many days afterwards) your system may be depleted of endorphins and feel sad, depressed, or remorseful. There are ways to naturally build endorphin levels. Seek advice if needed. Learn to distinguish what should be discussed immediately post play, and what should wait until drop has passed.

LIVING DOCUMENT

This is intended as a living document. Changes are welcome and encouraged.

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AFTERCARE

The requirement to give time and attention, sugary sweets and water to and play partner after an intense experience varies from person to person. If you can't offer it, if you have requirements, ask for it in advance. Don't interrupt anyone else's aftercare time.

POST PARTY FEEDBACK

Provide any constructive feedback direct to the organiser, not spread through the community or on social media.

Rule number 1: Don't be an ass.