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defn: (noun) the language particular to a people or district, community, or class.

Mobile Phone Etiquette

Chances are you're addicted to your phone in one way or another. Whether you're an incessant texter, always on Facebook or constantly scrolling through your Twitter feed, being on the phone all the time is just what some of us do. But are your phone habits getting on everyone's nerves?

1. Don't ignore real life

Whether you're having dinner with the family or catching up with friends, give them your full attention! Your phone will be there waiting for you when it's time to leave, so there's no need to keep checking it every 10 seconds.

2. Don't use your phone in the toilet

It's a simple rule, but one you might be surprised by how many people break. It's never OK to call – or text – from the bathroom.

3. Don't shout

It goes without saying that no one enjoys being shouted at down the phone. But the rule applies to texters too – a person reading a message that's all in capital letters feels like they're being told off.

4. Don't be too needy

The trouble with most messaging services now, like iMessage or WhatsApp, is that you can see when people have read your message. Sometimes this can make you feel like you're entitled to a reply straight away, but

unfortunately that's not always the case. Remember that people might have had time to glance at their phone, but it's not the right time or place for them to get back to you straight away. Be patient – we're sure they're not ignoring you.

5. Don't misinterpret a text

Just like emails in the office, texts have got a lot to answer for when meaning gets lost in translation. Things like sarcasm often don't work that well when written down, and can come across snappy and abrasive.

6. Don't use your phone and drive

Another pretty serious rule, not to mention also illegal is using the phone while driving. No call or message is worth taking your eyes off the road for. If it's something urgent, pull over in a safe place and then use your phone.

7. Don't drunk dial

Sometimes your smartphone is not your friend when you've had a few drinks. What seems like an excellently crafted flirty text at midnight is a cringeworthy memory at 9am the next morning. Same goes for the late night calls to inappropriate people too.

8. Don't forget why voicemail was invented

Sometimes it can be easy to forget that if your phone rings, you don't have to answer it. If you're out and about with friends, in the office, catching up with your parents, or anywhere where your phone shouldn't be your priority, let your voicemail do the job it was designed to do.

9. Don't think the rules don't apply to you

If you've been asked to turn your phone off or put it on silent, either in person or by a sign up on the wall, it's likely to be for a reason.

10. Don't assume everyone wants to hear everything about your life

I'm talking to you. Yes, you! Sitting in the quiet area of the train. As lovely as the romantic dinner you're planning for your girlfriend sounds, the people around you have their own things to concentrate on and perhaps don't want to hear about it. Be aware of your surroundings and adjust the level of your voice accordingly.





Bassendean Youth Services

Bassendean Youth Services are situated underneath the McDonald Pavilion at Steel Blue Oval on the corner of West and Guildford Roads near the Skate Park.

The Youth Centre is open for young people to 'drop-in' between 3pm and 6pm Tuesday to Friday, and to 10pm every second Friday. The Centre offers a broadband internet and computer game café, PS3s, band room, pool table, and movie projector. Everything happening in the afternoons is free, and the centre is available for young people aged 12 to 25.

The centre also runs LAN parties, band rehearsals and activities most weeks. Structured activities are also offered every school holidays. Past activities have included: Adventure World, Go-Karting, Outdoor Rock Climbing, and Paintballing. Most of these activities only cost a few dollars per person.

During the next school holidays the Youth Service will run a number of activities. Come into the Youth Centre to find out what's happening next, or check out our website for more information - www.bys.net.au

Youth Advisory Council

The Bassendean Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is a group of young people who meet monthly to discuss current issues that interest or affect them.

The Bassendean YAC has been heavily consulted on the planning and construction of the Town's popular Skate Park and annual Youth Events. It has also given feedback to Local, State and Federal Governments on issues affecting young people including State Law reform, the National Novice Driver Review and the National Drugs campaign.

If you are between the ages of 12 and 25 years and either live, work, study or recreate in the Town of Bassendean (Bassendean, Ashfield or Eden Hill) then you are eligible to join the Bassendean YAC.

For further details on the YAC, contact the Youth Development Officer at the Town of Bassendean.

Alternative Education Program

Bassendean Youth Services continues to host Certificate II and III in General Education (the equivalent to Year 10 and 11) partnered by Community and Youth Training Services (CYTS).

The course is offered to young people who have missed out on completing their studies within the mainstream school system. The program runs 3 days per week and each student gets to tackle the work at their own pace, often on a one-to-one basis.

The fact that it has 'rolling' enrolment means that students can often access throughout the year dependent on waiting lists. The model has proven very successful and has been introduced at a number of Youth Centres throughout the region.

