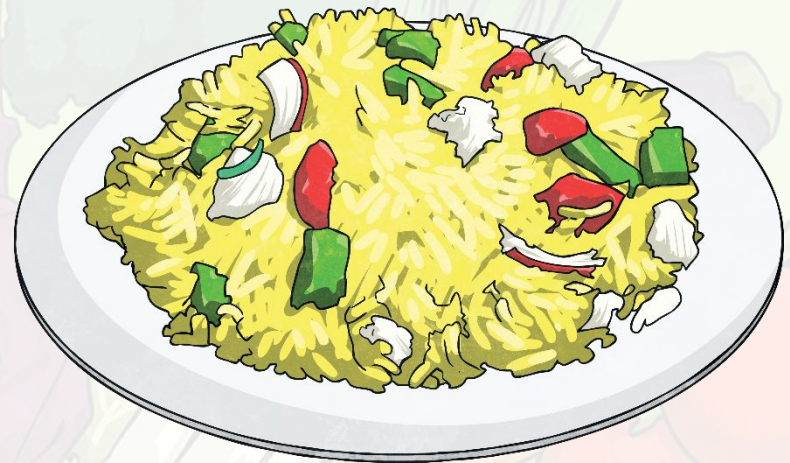


Clearing Your Plate

In England, India and Japan, it is considered good manners to clear your plate to show you've enjoyed and appreciated the meal.

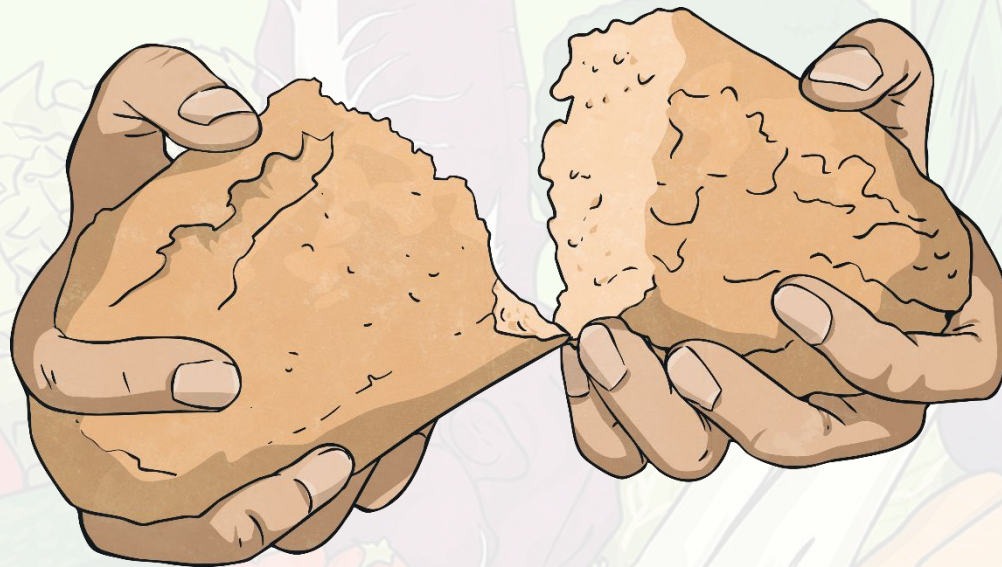
In China, clearing your plate means that you think the host didn't give you enough food to eat.



Eating With Your Hands

In some middle eastern countries, eating with your hands is perfectly acceptable. The right hand is used for handling food. Picking up food with the left hand is believed to be an insult to the host.

In Chile, you must use cutlery when you are eating.



Respect Your Elders

In South Korea, families have to wait for the eldest member of the family to take a bite before anyone else is allowed to start eating.



Slurping

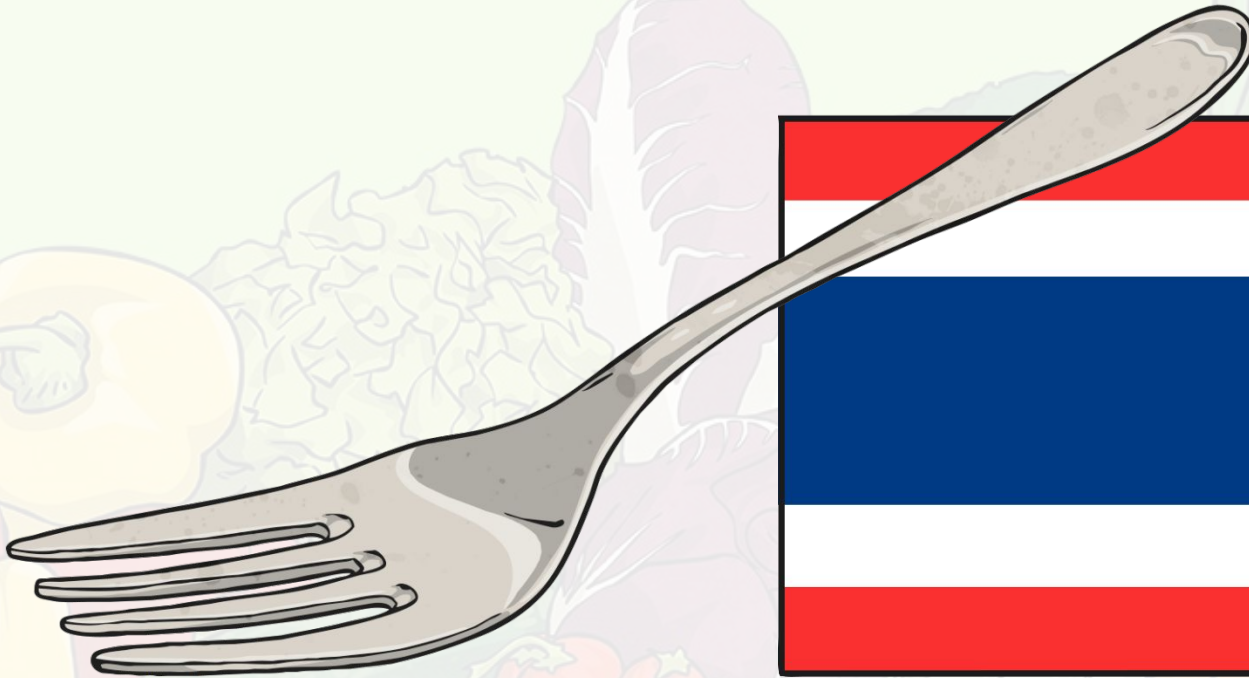
You might have been told that slurping your food is rude...
but not in Japan!

Slurping noodles is a sign you are really enjoying your food.
Drinking from a soup bowl is also acceptable.



Cutlery and Courses

In Thailand, it is rude to use a fork to pick up food from your plate.
People only use forks to push food onto a spoon.
The spoon is then put into the mouth.



Chopsticks

Be very careful when using chopsticks as you could easily offend your host!

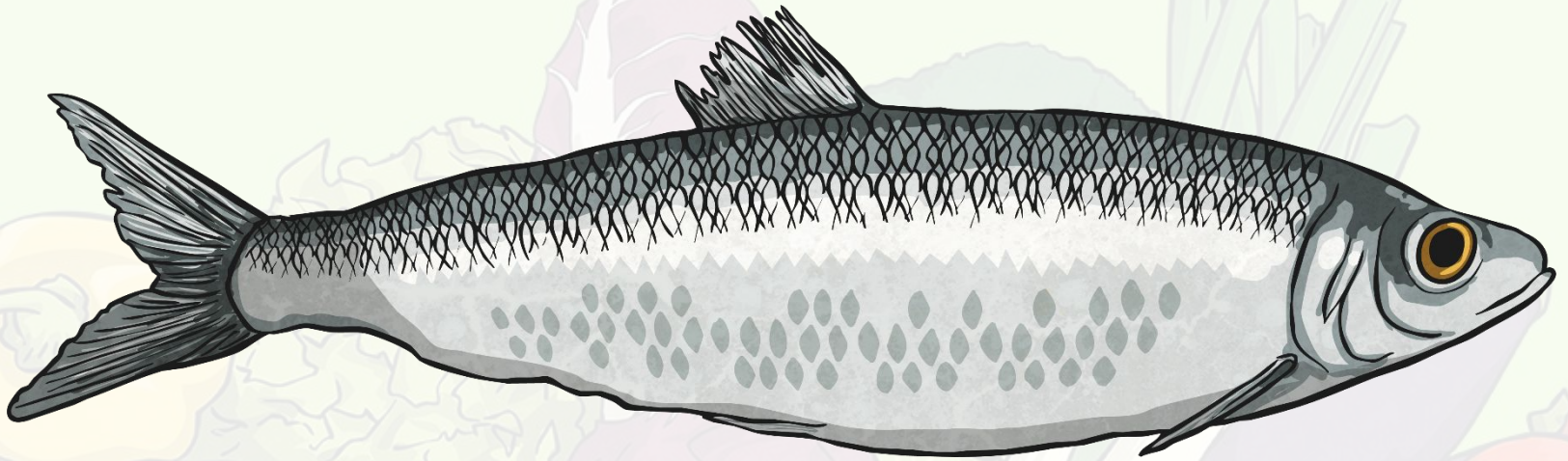
You should never:

- stick them upright in your bowl of rice
- cross them
- tap them on the bowl
- wave them at someone
- rest them on the table pointing at someone
- pass food with them



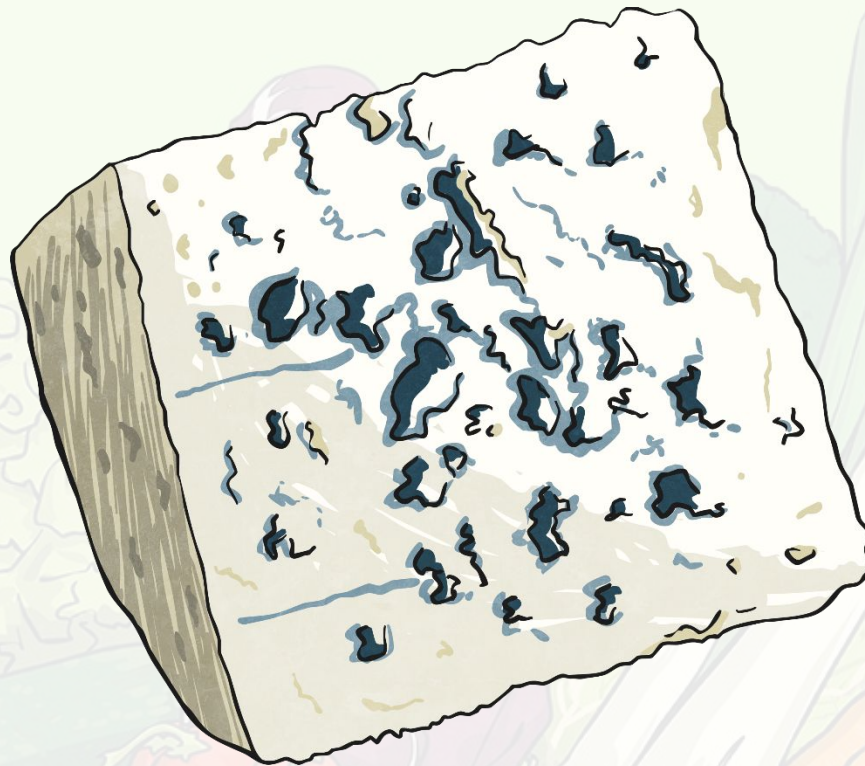
Fish

If you are served fish in China, you must never flip it over. There is a superstition that turning over the fish capsizes a boat somewhere!



Cheese

In Italy, you must never ask for cheese toppings unless it is offered. You shouldn't add it to pizza and it's even worse to add it to seafood!



Salt and Pepper

In Egypt and Portugal, asking for salt and pepper to add to your meal is deeply offensive to the cook.



More Food Customs

- In some parts of Thailand, Cambodia and the Philippines, fried spider is a delicacy.
- In some parts of Africa, people drink animal blood. It is believed to give strength and stamina.
- In Greenland and Iceland, shark meat is buried under sand for months. Once it is rotten, it is hung up to dry for a few more months before it is eaten.



Christmas Food Customs Around the World

- The fast-food fried chicken shop is very popular in Japan and is what many people choose to eat on Christmas Day. You have to order your meal weeks in advance!
- In England, many people set their Christmas Pudding on fire before eating it.
- Around Christmas time, the consumption of oysters increases significantly in France.
- In Lithuania, the Christmas meal is made up of 12 dishes.



Food Customs Matching Game

On the next slide, match the custom to the country.



Japan

Portugal

India

Thailand

China

Clearing your plate is seen as good manners. It shows the host you've enjoyed and appreciated the meal.

Only use a fork to push food onto a spoon. Never use it to pick the food up.

It's rude to ask for salt or pepper.

Flipping your fish over on your plate is seen as unlucky. It is like capsizing a boat.

Slurping your food is encouraged because it shows you are enjoying your food.



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