

Navigating the New Norm: Evolving Trends and Phone Manners

ATLANTA, GEORGIA, US, June 18, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Moneypenny and VoiceNation provide receptionist and PA services to thousands of businesses across the US, from health care and large legal firms to small businesses and tradesmen and large corporations too, and their highly skilled employees have perfected the art of being friendly yet efficient on the phone.

Their decades spent handling calls mean they can spot the latest trends in what is acceptable and unacceptable in modern phone manners, and a recent Yougov survey* of 1,216 adults in the US highlights the most unacceptable phone behaviours:

- Eight out of ten (81%) find eating or chewing during a phone call to be completely unacceptable
- Nearly eight out of 10 (79%) disapprove of people talking loudly on their phone when in a public place
- Similarly, 72% find use of speakerphone in a shared environment to be inappropriate
- 70% find shifting focus from a call to interact with someone else, without informing the person on the phone, to be rude
- Two thirds of Americans (66%) skipping greetings on a call is unacceptable behavior
- 67% object to late night calls while 57% object to early morning calls

The survey showed that certain phone behaviours are more acceptable for some generations than others:

Younger adults are more relaxed about timings of calls

Almost half (45%) of 18-34s think late night phone calls are acceptable, a sentiment shared with only 9% of over 55s. The same trend is observed in feelings towards early morning calls, with more than half (51%) of the younger group deeming these acceptable compared to just 20% of the older cohort.

Younger age groups less likely to mind calls without a hi or goodbye

35% of 18-24s find it acceptable to start or end a call without a hi or goodbye, while only 25% of 35-54s and 18% of over 55s feel the same way.

Eating or chewing loudly on calls is more of a problem for women than men

The survey shows clear gender differences in attitudes towards manners during calls, with 86% of US women finding it unacceptable to eat or chew loudly during a call, while fewer men (75%) felt the same way.

Similarly, 84% of women think talking loudly on a phone in a public place is unacceptable, compared with 74% of men who felt the same way.

Richard Culberson CEO North America from Moneypenny and VoiceNation comments: "This survey backs up what we've been noticing during our call handling – young people are much less likely to say hello or goodbye and we wonder if this is due to 'telephobia' among the younger generations, who are less confident or practised in handling calls compared to older generations. We advise anyone using the phone, whether to call a friend, family member, or company, to use basic courtesy such as greetings, giving the person at the end of the phone their full attention, and lowering their tone when in a public place."

Here are Richard's top telephone etiquette tips:

- No-one likes a rude, grumpy caller, so start a call with a hi you'll have a nicer call experience if you start in a friendly manner
- Put down that latte or chocolate bar until after the call has ended. No-one wants to hear chomping and slurping, however well you know them!
- Give the person you are calling your full attention, with no distractions it shows you are treating them with respect
- Think about what the other person is likely to be doing when you decide to call if it's early morning or late at night they are likely to be sleepy and they won't be giving you their full attention
- Keep the volume down in a public place other people don't want to hear about your latest date, or work disaster, and you don't want them listening in to the gossip either
- Consider texting ahead of, or instead of, a call. Many people nowadays find unexpected phone calls intrusive, so it helps to give them the heads up before you dial

ENDS

Notes to editors:

This study was conducted by Yougov online on 5-8 April 2024, with a nationally representative sample of 1,216 adults (aged 18+ years) in the US, using a questionnaire designed by YouGov. Data figures have been weighted by age, race, gender, education, and region to be representative of all adults in the US (18 years or older), and reflect the latest population estimates from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey.

For further information please contact: Mary Jane Greenhalgh Maryjane.greenhalgh@moneypenny.co.uk

MJ Greenhalgh Moneypenny email us here EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information. © 1995-2024 Newsmatics Inc. All Right Reserved.