

Tips For Rednecks

(Northern or Southern: Redneck has no geographical boundaries)

TIPS FOR ALL OCCASIONS

1. Never take a beer to a job interview.
2. Always identify people in your yard before shooting at them.
3. It's considered tacky to take a cooler to church.
4. If you have to vacuum the bed, it is time to change the sheets.
5. Even if you're certain that you are included in the will, it is still considered tacky to drive a U-Haul to the funeral home.

DINING OUT

1. When decanting wine, make sure that you tilt the paper cup, and pour slowly so as not to "bruise" the fruit of the vine.
2. If drinking directly from the bottle, always hold it with your fingers covering the label.

ENTERTAINING IN YOUR HOME

1. A centerpiece for the table should never be anything prepared by a taxidermist.
2. Do not allow the dog to eat at the table no matter how good his manners are.

PERSONAL HYGIENE

1. While ears need to be cleaned regularly, this is a job that should be done in private using one's OWN truck keys.
2. Proper use of toiletries can forestall bathing for several days. However, if you live alone, deodorant is a waste of good money.
3. Dirt and grease under the fingernails is a social no-no, as they tend to detract from a woman's jewelry and alter the taste of finger foods.

DATING (Outside the Family)

1. Always offer to bait your date's hook, especially on the first date.
2. Be aggressive. Let her know you're interested: "I've been wanting to go out with you since I read that stuff on the bathroom wall two years ago."
3. Establish with her parents what time she is expected back. Some will say 10:00 PM; Others might say "Monday." If the latter is the answer, it is the man's responsibility to get her to school on time.

THEATER ETIQUETTE

1. Crying babies should be taken to the lobby and picked up immediately after the movie has ended.
2. Refrain from talking to characters on the screen. Tests have proven they can't hear you.

WEDDINGS

1. Livestock, usually, is a poor choice for a wedding gift.
2. Kissing the bride for more than 5 seconds may get you shot.
3. For the groom, at least, rent a tux. A leisure suit with a cummerbund and a clean bowling shirt can create a tacky appearance.
4. Though uncomfortable, say "yes" to socks and shoes for this special occasion.

DRIVING ETIQUETTE

1. Dim your headlights for approaching vehicles; Even if the gun is loaded, and the deer is in sight.
 2. When approaching a four-way stop, the vehicle with the largest tires always has the right of way.
 3. Never tow another car using panty hose and duct tape.
 4. When sending your wife down the road with a gas can, it is impolite to ask her to bring back beer.
 5. Never relieve yourself from a moving vehicle, especially when driving.
 6. Do not lay rubber while traveling in a funeral procession.
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NOTHING IS NEW...

And the Lord spoke to Noah and said: "In six months I am going to make it rain for 40 days and 40 nights until it floods the whole Earth with water and all mankind and every living thing is destroyed."

"But," the Lord said to Noah and his three sons and their wives: "I will save a few good people, so build an ark and you and your family and two of every living thing on the Earth I have made will be saved."

In a great flash of lightning he delivered to Noah the specifications of the ark.

"Okay," said Noah, trembling with fear as he fumbled with the blue prints.

"Six months and it starts to rain," thundered the Lord. "Finish the ark or you better learn to swim for a long time."

The six months passed and it clouded up and started to rain heavily. The Lord looked down and saw that Noah was sitting at home, weeping in great anguish.

"Lord, please forgive me!" begged Noah. "I did my best but there have been problems. First, I took your plans to the district council to get a building permit and they did not meet the code. There weren't enough windows, the colour wasn't compatible with the environment and the engineers wouldn't sign off on wooden beams under the main floor."

"When I got the plans redrawn they argued I would need a fire prevention sprinkler system. It took three months to get the approvals and the cost has gone up 50%.

The council insisted I get a resource management consent since an ark is not a permitted activity. My neighbors objected because of the hammering noise and the lights at night because we were now running late. Some thought they might be shaded by the height of the ark and others complained that we had no plans for dealing with the smell from the animals."

"The council staff demanded we have an effluent disposal system and larger doors for safety purposes. Then we had a protest around the site by the greenies started a petition against the loss of habitat for the threatened little blue parrot. By this time I needed my carpenters to work long hours and some who wouldn't agree I fired. They went to the Employment Court and got their wages reinstated for the whole period, plus \$50,000 each for my causing them embarrassment."

"When I started compiling a list of animals the Privacy Commissioner intervened and demanded that I not release the list to my sons who were responsible for loading the ark. At this stage I had a visit from the Human Rights Commissioner because we had our wives doing the administration and none working as carpenters. They insisted we stop calling it Noah's Ark and use something gender neutral."

"Lord, by now we were starting to collect animals but I got sued by the animal rights people for putting too many animals together in one place without enough space.

The next day the safety and health inspectors arrived and wanted more safety standards. They are taking a case against me for not having a sign up to say it was a place of work and the Inland Revenue have been in to try to seize my assets, claiming I might sail any time, leaving the country without paying tax."

"Just when I thought I was in the clear the regional council heard there was going to be a flood and they are demanding that You obtain a resource consent that will have conditions about reinstating the Earth to its natural condition. They're concerned that the environmental and social effects may be adverse and that You must avoid, remedy or mitigate them. The councilors were offended that You thought You had jurisdiction over them. As You can see, Lord, it has been one delay after another and I don't think I can be finished for another two years."

"This morning the local iwi were here saying that we are building on land that belonged to them and they want half the ark under Article Two of the Treaty of Waitangi. They said if You were involved there were sacred issues to resolve and we would have to pay for their consultants to take a case to the Waitangi Tribunal. They have set up a tent on the top deck."

Just then the rain stopped and the sun began to shine brightly. A rainbow stretched across the sky. Noah looked up and sighed.

"Does this mean You are not going to destroy the Earth, Lord?" he asked hopefully.

"No," said the Lord sadly. "The Government has done it for me."