

Spa Etiquette

How much should I tip?

by Petula Brown

Odyssey Couleur | January/February 2005

A tip in the 10% to 20% per service range (pre-tax) that is the standard for most spas. So, if you visit a spa and receive, for instance, an \$80 massage and a \$60 facial and are very impressed with the service, expect to add an extra 20% to the final tab for each service (\$16 for the massage, \$12 for the facial). Were you pleased with the service, but not ecstatic? A 15% tip is the norm (\$12 for the massage, \$9 for the facial). Since tipping has become an issue for some spas, don't be surprised if gratuities are automatically added to the final bill. If you have a concern about your spa experience, discuss it with the spa staff prior to payment and change the tip amount if appropriate. You may also have the option to leave the tip as a separate cash payment for the massage therapist or aesthetician. Simply ask for a tip envelope and note your staff person's name on it to make sure it's delivered to the right person.