

UNDERSTANDING HAT ETIQUETTE

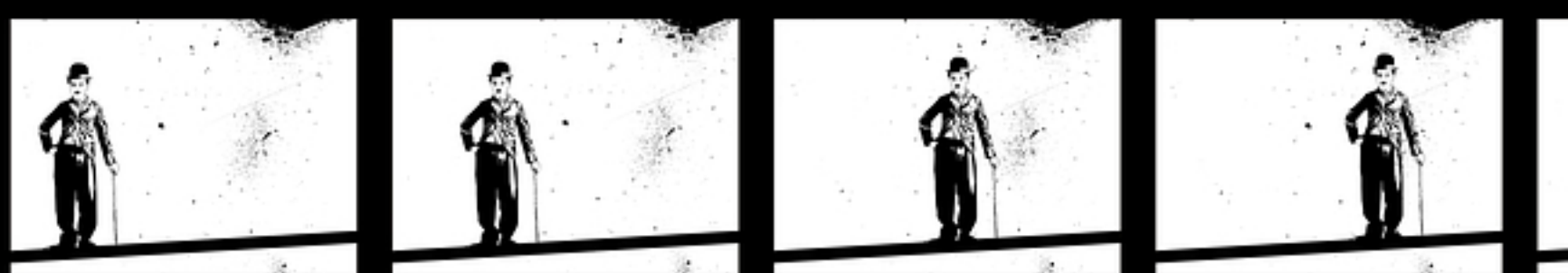


In past generations, wearing a hat was a daily occurrence for both men and women, and with that undertaking came societal rules that everyone conformed to.

While modern society doesn't judge hat wearers too harshly, there are still some rules of hat etiquette that we continue to follow today.

In the past, people were allowed to wear hats outside whenever they wanted. However, wearing your hat indoors depended on the situation.

For women, they could wear their hats indoors and outdoors whenever they wanted. Women only had to remove a hat inside if they wore a baseball cap, if they were attending a meal, or if their hat would provide an inconvenience or visual obstruction to someone else, like in a theater.



Men, however, had to remove their hats when going into homes, restaurants, schools, churches, and businesses.

The only time men were allowed to wear their hats indoors was if they were in a public space like a train station, hotel lobby, or on public transportation.



For people who wore hats with ornaments on them, women would wear the decorations on the right side of their hats, while the men were to wear them on the left.

After removing a hat, people were expected to hold it with the inner lining facing the body, so others couldn't see inside the hat.

Tipping the hat by grabbing the brim and pulling it down slightly was considered a polite way to greet someone.



In most modern instances, people have eschewed these rules. Men and women alike wear hats most anywhere, except in formal or business settings. It's still more polite if you remove your hat in homes, churches, theaters, and while the national anthem is being performed, but if you don't, most people won't comment on it.

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