

ACBA: Cavy Show Fancy

HOTEL & MOTEL ETIQUETTE

From a Motel Maid's Point of View

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With plans being made for the ACBA Specialty and the ARBA Convention, it's never out of fashion to review...

With the National Conventions almost here, I thought I'd write about etiquette for exhibitors - from the maid's point of view.

With animals in the rooms, it's going to be a little overwhelming for the maid. Most hotel/motels don't allow animals. Most of them are also corporate owned, so "word of mouth" gets around. If rabbit/cavy breeders are not considerate of the hotel/motel's facility - it will be spread and future exhibitors at Nationals may not have any facilities for themselves or their animals. These hotels/motels are opening their doors to you - do be considerate.

Here are some tips:

- ❖ Don't leave all your belongings spread around the room - try to keep your clutter in one place.
- ❖ Don't leave clothes & personal items on the bed.
- ❖ Try to keep animal cages in one place.
- ❖ If possible, things should be along one vacant wall so the maid has space to maneuver. Don't leave things by the bed. The maid requires room to change the bed and being a contortionist is not a part of the job description.
- ❖ Try to remember to bring a tarp or sheet to put under your animals and some large trash bags to put your animal trash into. If you forget these, ask the head house-keeper. They may have these that they can loan you for the stay.

The majority of maids work for minimum wage, less than 30 hours per week and no benefits. A maid makes approximately \$2.50 per room, they are on a time schedule and if they take more than the allotted 30 minutes per room, they can lose their job. Many have to spend around \$5.00 per day in transportation just to get to work (the first 2 rooms are basically only to pay the transportation costs of the maid daily).

It is customary to tip your maid. After all, she is really working hard to make your stay pleasant (much more work than a taxi driver, which everyone tips). \$1.00 per day is appropriate. Tipping should be done daily. One maid may do your room all week and the day you check out may be her day off, so the next maid gets her daily tip even though she has not been there during your stay - but does have to clean up the mess you leave! Please leave the tip on the pillow so they will know it is for them (if left on the dresser, they may think it is yours and that they will be charged with theft if they touch it).

I don't know what the policies of your particular hotel/motel will be, but I do know it is important to be CONSIDERATE. Pick up excess mess (put in trash bag). Thank your maid by leaving a tip. Remember that rooms at future conventions are at stake!

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