

# BAR TALK

## Tipping is also a city in China

By Gator



### Translations for the beering-impaired

Whenever I am seated near a person who does not tip the bartender, I frequently ask them why not, out of forensic curiosity. Here are some of the responses I have heard, with translations, and a few comments from real bartenders about what they *really* mean:

**“I don’t believe in tipping, but I will buy a drink for the bartender sometimes, if she’s hot.”** Translation: *I don’t believe in paying people who do work for me, unless sex is somehow involved!*

Gee, thanks. Many bartenders are fighting a battle with borderline alcoholism, and you’re going to be all helpful. Never mind that the bartender’s rent must be paid. Never mind the State Law that says the bartender ought to be the most sober person on the premises. Answer this question for me, mister drink-buying non-tipper: Would you go to work for a boss who said he wouldn’t pay you, but would gladly give you a shot of liquor in lieu of services rendered? Especially if he’s trying to get in your pants? Of course not. So stop being a dickhead, and maybe those “hot” bartenders won’t think of you as such a prick. Just a clue.

**“I only tip if I get excellent service.”** Translation: *I never tip.*

This is a person who can’t really define what “excellent service” is, because it has apparently never happened to them. Wonder why...

**“With the high prices they are charging for their drinks, I shouldn’t have to tip, they’re already getting rich off me.”** Translation: *I actually can’t afford to drink here, but I am here anyway, with my five bucks.*

Dude, the bartender doesn’t get any of the drink money. Nobody is *that* dumb. Face it, you’re a cheap bastard, or else you are broke.

**“I don’t have to tip, I’m not a regular here.”** Translation: *I’m not a regular anywhere, because they always eventually run me off!*

It may surprise you to know that the staff is glad you’re not a regular, because you’re a pain in the ass.

**“I don’t have to tip, I’m a regular here.”** Translation: *I finally found a place that hasn’t run me off, yet.*

It may surprise you to know that staff is not glad you’re a regular here, because you’re a pain in the ass.

**“I only tip attractive female bartenders who flirt with me.”** Translation: *I am hoping to buy sex for \$1, any takers?*

So, you think that hot babe on the sober side of the bar is going to publicly embarrass herself by flirting with you, hoping for a whole dollar? Only in New Jersey and Canada my friend.

Here’s a suggestion: Stop fucking around playing penny-ante and actually hire a hooker. And get ready to add a couple of zeroes to that buckaroo, buckaroo.

**“I know what you’re saying, but I can’t afford to tip.”** Translation: *I’m a loser.*

Well then, Mr. Rockefeller, you cannot afford to drink in a bar either, and ought to attend church instead, or do your drinking out of a brown paper bag under an overpass with a shopping cart nearby. Get a job, make money, work hard, and play hard, like a real man.

**“I only tip where they serve food.”** Translation: *I never tip.*

Yes, and you only buy food at restaurants that have a drive-thru window. I think you should go drink some place that serves food then. But you never do.

**“I would tip if the bartender would pour me a really good drink.”** Translation: *If you will steal from your boss for me, I will toss you a few coins.*

How thou hast fallen, O Lucifer! You actually want the bartender to commit embezzlement, a felony in Texas, in exchange for your measly little contribution - and then you get a bad attitude when she decides not to sell her soul for your chump change!

**“I would tip if the bartender would flash her tits.”** Translation: *For one dollar, I am hoping to get another human being to degrade themselves publicly, after which I will go all around town telling everyone what a slut she is.*

No matter how witty and handsome you are. No matter how urbane and suave you are. Regardless of the Harley, the mini-Cooper, or the yacht - you have just become a creep. Creep you are and creep you shall be, and you will never be able to cross back over that Rubicon of non-creepyness and have the bartender’s respect again. All of this could be avoided if you had the sense to tip first, and maybe sometimes you get lucky. But you can’t see that, can you? You have made sure that the bartender will never think of you as a friend, always as a weirdo.

Think about it, because I’m telling you the truth.

**“I shouldn’t have to tip, I bring a lot of business to this bar, hell, they should tip me!”**

Translation: *I know a lot of losers just like myself.*

Thank you for holding meetings of the Local Losers Society here. You can count on me to be slow to respond to your bellowing for more beer, and quick to cut off and kick out anyone who even hints at being a problem-child.

**“Tipping is optional. I choose not to.”** Translation: *I am willing to take advantage of other people any time I am legally allowed to do so.*

One thing this tells me immediately: You are no Texan, and probably not a southerner. We have something here we refer to as chivalry. Yes, you are legally correct: Tipping is optional. Drinking is also optional. Why don’t you choose not to do so, or at least to do so somewhere else, preferably in another state or country?

**“I tip at the end of the night.”** Translation: *I never tip.*

Okay. How about if I save all of your drinks until the end of the night? Besides which, you do *not* tip at the end of the night, because you invariably end up getting bounced out of the bar because you do something stupid!

**“Look at those tip jars full of money. Hell, the bartender’s making a killing! They don’t need my help.”** Translation: *I have just enough money left in my pocket to buy some crack.*

Attention bartenders: This is why you must keep emptying the tip jars. Leave \$1 in each one. To a moron, ten \$1 bills in a tip jar looks like the Bill Gates fortune under glass. Yes, there really are people who are that dumb!

**There are more, but you get the idea.** The fact is, people don’t tip for only 3 reasons: They’re *broke* or they’re *assholes*, or they’re *broke assholes*. Servers automatically file non-tippers into one of these three categories. Those are the only 3 options

**On the other side of the proverbial coin**, most experienced servers also know that those who do choose to tip correctly (not by trying to shove a dollar bill into the bartenders undies) fall into just one category: *People who are cool, and ought to get good service and respect.*

**If you’re a non-tipper** and you’ve read this far, I tip my invisible hat to you in respect. Please do not take offense. Sometimes a slap in the face is an insult - but other times it is used medicinally, to revive someone who has blacked out. My intent is the latter of the two, not calculated to piss anyone off, and based purely on good intentions.

**Peace... Gator**