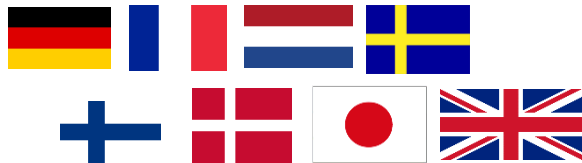


Business Etiquette: Apologizing for Being Late

Do's



Don'ts



Apologize for any delay, even if it be only by one minute – especially with **Japanese**, for which being late borders on dishonor. Apologize profusely for a delay, but avoid explaining the reason for it to a **British**: he will think you are making up an excuse.

Apologies are welcome as long as they are short and informal. **Eastern Europeans, Americans and Chinese** generally pick getting down to brass tacks over engaging in formalities – even though in different ways.

No need to apologize for being late to business partners from these nations – unless, of course, the delay is huge or the business partner himself points it out first. **Southern cultures** tend to be more flexible in terms of timetables than Northern countries are.