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Code for Coeds

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College freshmen enjoy the opportunity to develop social poise during functions such as this Navy graduation dance.

Lay a smooth groundwork of campus courtesy for the years ahead, advises Jean Erickson.

College is a big step. It was fun being at home and in your own high school world, but now you are rooming with a girl you probably have never seen before, starting studies new to you, beginning an entirely different world. Decide for yourself the student you want to be; lay the groundwork smoothly for your four years here. Some tips from an ex-freshman will help you get started on the right foot.

Simplicity and durability are the high lights on the campus fashion plate. Flat heeled shoes for flying feet, for speed is the thing when you dash for 8 o'clock classes. Sweaters, skirts, jackets and suits are for classroom wear; save plaid shirts and blue jeans for picnics and rodeo parties. Reserve your dressy dreams for parties, open houses, teas, exchanges and Sundays when you'll be expected to look like strictly top drawer material.

Group living may be new to you but consideration for others is rule number one. Perhaps your exam isn't until day after tomorrow, but the girl next door who has a chemistry test at eight will wish you knew the meaning of quiet hours.

Remember the ABC's of dining room etiquette. Stand quietly while grace is said; wait until the housemother is seated before you sit down; use the correct silver and when in doubt, follow the lead of your hostess. If you don't care for the food being served to you, refrain from discussing it with your neighbor. Become acquainted with the rules of your organization in regard to your housemother and guests. In the parlors, college women always rise when a housemother or guest enters the room. Cordiality is a keynote of good breeding and an indication of your social poise.

Classrooms are not beauty parlors so suppress the desire to comb hair and apply make-up while your professor is engrossed in the colonization of America. Sit up, take notice and notes. Don't expect your best friend to loan you hers. Take time to be on time to all classes. The late comer interrupts the professor and distracts the class. Just a word about cribs and wandering eyes--don't.

It's just as essential to relax on week-ends as it is to study during the week. Dating has a few rules of its own but essentially they are related to consideration for others. Never break a date unless it is absolutely unavoidable. You'll be blacklisted not only by the unfortunate lad but his friends as well. Compliments and words of appreciation may be brief but are essential if you want a return engagement.

Here at Iowa State you will become acquainted with all sizes, shapes and styles of people from violinists to vegetarians. You'll study and work side by side with students from all over the country. That is one of the finest things Iowa State offers you, the beginning of lifelong friendships. Whatever your affiliation, look outside your own group for additional friends with whom you have interests in common. Be your own judge as to the choice of friends, but always maintain loyalty for your own group.

After you've chosen your college activities, attend the meetings regularly and promptly. When you sign up for an activity it is your responsibility to do a good job. The impression you make in the beginning will last through your college life.

Remember to write home often. Mom and Dad are interested in what you are doing and thinking, what courses you are enrolled in, whom you are dating and everything about your college experience. Try to make your letters cheerful and optimistic.

If an account is kept of money spent, unnecessary spending can be curtailed. And it makes easier the trick of budget balancing. Avoid borrowing money, but if it is necessary, return it promptly. Not only do friends tire quickly of lending, but money seems to go faster when borrowed.

One last word, about loyalty to your college. It is a definite discourtesy to the campus of your choice to complain about the rules governing campus activities. These regulations were created for one major purpose, the betterment of you as an individual.