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Tip for service beyond call of duty

Jay Remer, **Financial Post**
Published: Saturday, May 23, 2009

Dear Etiquette Guy: From time to time I am asked to go to the local coffee shop and pick up coffee and muffins for our staff or for a business meeting. The order is usually for about 10 people. Should I tip the store owner, who also pours the coffee, makes muffins and mans the cash register? I never know if I am insulting them if I do tip or being stingy if I don't.

Wondering Wanda

Dear W. W.: You should definitely leave a gratuity. After all, they are going beyond the call of duty to assemble a large order for you. The advice comes, however, as a recommendation that should you require emergency muffins or a delivery in the future, you will be in a position of strength. There is also no downside to making people feel good. Hey, it might make you feel good, too. - Jay Remer is the Etiquette Guy. He is trained and certified by the Protocol School of Washington as a consultant for corporate etiquette and international protocol. He lives in St. Andrews, N. B. E-mail your etiquette questions to jay@etiquetteguy.com and visit his Web site at www.etiquetteguy.com.

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