

Useful verbs for waiters/waitresses

Customer Service & Communication

greet – to say hello to someone
welcome – to receive someone politely
smile – to make a happy face
speak – to talk with someone
talk – to have a conversation
listen – to pay attention to what someone says
ask – to say something to get an answer
answer – to reply to a question
explain – to make something clear
repeat – to say again
describe – to tell what something is like
thank – to say you are grateful
apologize – to say sorry
promise – to say you will do something
suggest – to give an idea
advise – to give an opinion or recommendation
inform – to tell information
recommend – to say something is good
confirm – to say something is correct
discuss – to talk about something

Serving, Food & Restaurant Work

serve – to bring food or drinks to guests
carry – to take things in your hands
bring – to take something to someone
clear – to take things away from a table
clean – to remove dirt or mess
prepare – to make ready before serving
set – to arrange things on a table
place – to put something in a position
fill – to make something full
pour – to make liquid flow into a glass
open – to make not closed
close – to shut something
cut – to divide with a knife
mix – to combine ingredients
taste – to try food by eating a little
check – to make sure everything is fine
remove – to take something away
deliver – to bring something to someone

bring – to deliver food to a guest
serve – to give food or drinks

Cleaning & Setup

wash – to use water and soap
wipe – to make something dry or clean
dry – to remove water
sweep – to clean the floor
mop – to wash the floor
polish – to make something shine
arrange – to put things in order
tidy – to make a place neat
fold – to bend cloth neatly
refill – to add more items
replace – to put a new one instead
collect – to take things together
store – to keep something safely
decorate – to make something look nice
cover – to put a cloth or lid on something
move – to change position
prepare – to get ready for guests
check – to look if it is ready
set – to arrange for service
organize – to put everything in order

Work & Daily Routine

start – to begin something
finish – to end something
come – to arrive somewhere
go – to leave or move away
work – to do your job
help – to give support
learn – to get new knowledge
train – to practice a skill
check – to look carefully
follow – to do what someone says
wait – to stay until something happens
stand – to be on your feet
sit – to be on a chair
move – to change place
use – to do something with an object
wear – to have clothes on
hold – to keep in your hands
look – to direct your eyes

think – to use your mind

try – to make an effort

Hotel & Teamwork

meet – to see or talk to people

join – to become part of a group

support – to help or back up someone

manage – to organize or direct people

organize – to plan and arrange

report – to give information to a manager

communicate – to share information

plan – to decide what to do

prepare – to get ready

follow – to do what is asked

respect – to show care for others

understand – to know what someone means

share – to give part of something

listen – to pay attention

thank – to show appreciation

smile – to be friendly

help – to support someone

assist – to work together

greet – to welcome someone

explain – to make clear something

Taking Orders & Payment

order – to ask for food or drink

write – to put words on paper

note – to write down something important

check – to look at carefully

bring – to take food to the table

confirm – to say the order is correct

serve – to give food or drinks

repeat – to say again to be sure

charge – to ask for payment

pay – to give money for something

count – to say numbers one by one

receive – to get money or items

return – to give change or something back

prepare – to get ready

call – to phone or contact someone

sign – to write your name

check – to look at the bill

finish – to complete the payment

thank – to say thank you for visiting
invite – to welcome them again

Everyday Actions

accept – to say yes to something
add – to put something more
agree – to have the same opinion
allow – to let someone do something
believe – to think something is true
bring – to take or deliver something
buy – to get something with money
choose – to decide what you want
close – to make not open
come – to move toward someone
continue – to keep doing something
decide – to make a choice
do – to perform an action
draw – to make a picture
drink – to take liquid into your mouth
eat – to put food in your mouth
enjoy – to like something
find – to discover something
forget – to not remember
get – to receive something

Actions & Tools

fix – to repair something
hold – to keep in your hand
keep – to continue having something
let – to allow something
look – to use your eyes
make – to create or produce something
move – to change place or position
open – to make not closed
pick – to choose or take something
place – to put somewhere
put – to move something to a place
read – to look at and understand words
remove – to take away something
replace – to put something new instead of old
run – to move fast with your legs
say – to speak words
see – to use your eyes
sell – to give something for money

send – to make something go to another place
show – to let someone see something

Movement & Travel

arrive – to get to a place
depart – to leave a place
drive – to control a car or vehicle
fly – to travel by plane
go – to move from one place to another
leave – to go away from somewhere
return – to come back
run – to move fast
walk – to move on your feet
follow – to go after someone
turn – to change direction
move – to change place
pass – to go by something
stay – to not move away
stop – to finish or end
travel – to go from one place to another
reach – to arrive at a place
explore – to see or visit a place
climb – to go up something

Thinking & Feeling

think – to use your mind
know – to understand something
learn – to get knowledge
remember – to keep in your mind
understand – to know the meaning
believe – to think something is true
consider – to think about carefully
decide – to make a choice
expect – to think something will happen
imagine – to think of something not real
notice – to see or hear something
prefer – to like one thing more than another
realize – to understand something suddenly
recognize – to know someone or something
worry – to feel anxious
hope – to want something to happen
like – to enjoy something
love – to like something very much

hate – to not like something

enjoy – to like doing something
