## THE FREEMASONS TOOLBOX

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## Rotating Seating In Refectory

Our refectory activities are a great way for Brethren to learn more about each other. To achieve this and, ensure that members mix more freely without 'clicky' groups, as well as visitors being made to feel welcome, Lodges are recommended to carefully consider their seating arrangements in refectory.

Whether the Lodge uses a traditional head table or separated round/square tables get agreement to a policy where Lodge members are encouraged:

- to sit with visitors as their first priority;
- to sit with a Lodge member different from the one they have sat with at the previous refectory.
- to try and sit next to as many different individuals as possible over a year.

While many Lodges have traditional seating layouts it is nice from time to time to try something a little different and therefore varying the seating layouts could be considered.

## Tips

- Do not pressure an unwilling member
- Provide encouragement to new members
- Encourage older and/ or senior members to mix with newer members and with younger members

