

The Queen's Handbag

It is not exactly a state secret that the Queen, who always carries a handbag, occasionally uses it to convey private messages to her staff and attendants. The most well-known examples are when she transfers her handbag from her left arm to her right, indicating that she wishes the current conversation to end. At a dinner party, the handbag appearing on the table signals the end of the dinner party. The handbag on the ground, or the Queen spinning her wedding ring, means she wants the conversation to end quickly.

Clever, subtle, and elegant, worthy of a queen. But what if you learned these were not the only secret signals? Wouldn't you want to know about the others so you could penetrate the imperturbable royal facade?

Fortunately, based on leaks from an unnamed royal, we are able to reveal for the first time the Queen's other secret signals.

The Queen associates each finger on her left hand with one of her children. For Charles, her index finger; Andrew gets the middle finger; Ann is the ring finger, and Edward the pinky. Watch carefully to see which finger she is subtly tapping, pointing, or flexing.

When the Queen transfers her handbag from her left arm to her right, but then transfers it back to her left arm, she is saying "never mind."

When the Queen opens her handbook, briefly looks inside, and quickly snaps it shut, she is indicating that she has forgotten where she is and why she is there.

When the Queen points the narrow end of her handbag at an attractive younger man, she is wishing she was 80 years younger and indulging in a private fantasy.

When the Queen points the narrow end of her handbag at an attractive younger woman, she is thinking the woman will never be as rich or famous as the Queen, so who cares about her youthful beauty.

When the Queen places her handbag under her left arm, she is preparing to smile.

When the Queen places her handbag under her right arm she is smiling (look carefully).

When the Queen opens her handbag and takes out a jar of marmalade marked *By Appointment to HRH The Queen*, she is thinking "my royal jelly."

When the Queen opens her handbag and checks a small calculator, she is obsessing about all the days of her life.

When the Queen opens her handbag and jiggles a change purse, she is telling the royal treasurer to prepare an up-to-date accounting of the royal fortune.

When the Queen opens her handbag, extracts a dog biscuit and winks, she is reminding the world of her greatest accomplishment: creating the dorgi, a dachshund-corgi mix.

When the Queen opens her handbag and removes a dog biscuit, she is requesting that one of her corgis be brought in to interrupt the current occasion. If the Queen holds up a gloved handful of dog biscuits, it means the Queen is bored and all the hounds should be released, chaos be damned.

When the Queen opens her handbag and withdraws a live rabbit she is answering those who doubt that the Queen has time and interest to develop new skills.

When the Queen attempts to sit on her handbag, she is conveying that she can no longer keep up the royal charade, and now just wants to be left alone.

For the historical record: it is not true that the British nuclear football is kept in the Queen's handbag.