

Manuals.plus /

› Penguin /

› How to Be a Brit User Manual

## Penguin 024197500X

# How to Be a Brit

**Brand:** Penguin | **Model:** Paperback (ISBN: 024197500X)

## INTRODUCTION

This manual provides an overview of "How to Be a Brit," a comprehensive guide by George Mikes to understanding the British way of life. Originally from Hungary, Mikes spent over four decades observing British customs and behaviors, compiling his insights into this humorous yet informative work. The book combines three of Mikes's major works: *How to be an Alien*, *How to be Inimitable*, and *How to be Decadent*.

The content delves into various aspects of British culture, from social etiquette to national characteristics, presented with a distinctive wit. It aims to offer readers a unique perspective on British identity and traditions.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

George Mikes (1912-1987) was a Hungarian-born British author, journalist, and humorist. He moved to London in 1938 and became known for his satirical observations on British society. His works are celebrated for their sharp wit and insightful commentary on cultural differences. Mikes's keen eye for detail and ability to find humor in everyday situations made him a beloved figure in British literature.

For more information about George Mikes, you can visit his author page: [George Mikes on Amazon](#).

## KEY THEMES AND CONTENT OVERVIEW

"How to Be a Brit" explores a range of topics central to British identity and daily life. The book's observations include:

- **Weather:** The pervasive role of weather in British conversation and daily life.
- **Social Etiquette:** Guidance on appropriate behavior, including the art of being subtly rude.
- **Emotional Restraint:** The concept of "panic quietly" and the British stiff upper lip.

- **Queuing:** The fundamental importance and unwritten rules of forming an orderly queue.
- **Tea:** A humorous take on the national beverage, despite its perceived shortcomings.
- **Planning Towns:** Satirical advice on urban planning, such as hiding street names.
- **Relationships:** A comparison of "Continental" and English approaches to personal relationships, including a humorous note on hot water bottles.

The book is praised for its "radiant humour" and its ability to remain relevant decades after its initial publication, offering insights that are both timeless and amusing.

## READING EXPERIENCE

To fully appreciate "How to Be a Brit," readers are encouraged to approach the text with an open mind and a sense of humor. The book is structured as a series of essays and observations, making it suitable for reading cover-to-cover or dipping into specific topics of interest. Its laconic yet witty style provides an engaging and thought-provoking experience.

Consider the historical context of its writing, as some observations, while still relevant, reflect the period in which they were made. The book serves as both a humorous guide and a cultural commentary.

## CARE AND HANDLING

To ensure the longevity of your paperback copy of "How to Be a Brit," please follow these guidelines:

- **Storage:** Store the book in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight to prevent fading and warping.
- **Handling:** Handle with clean, dry hands to avoid transferring oils or dirt to the pages.
- **Page Care:** Avoid folding page corners to mark your place; use a bookmark instead.
- **Liquid Exposure:** Keep the book away from liquids to prevent damage to the paper and ink.

Proper care will help preserve the book's condition for future readings.

## SPECIFICATIONS

Attribute	Detail
Publisher	Penguin
Publication Date	May 1, 2017
Edition	Reprint
Language	English
Print Length	272 pages
ISBN-10	024197500X
ISBN-13	978-0241975008
Item Weight	6.9 ounces
Dimensions	5 x 0.7 x 7.75 inches

## TROUBLESHOOTING / COMMON QUESTIONS

---

This section addresses common inquiries or points of clarification when engaging with the content of "How to Be a Brit."

1. **Q: Is the humor still relevant today?**

A: Many of Mikes's observations, particularly on British reserve, queuing, and weather obsession, remain remarkably fresh and relevant, even 70 years after initial publication.

2. **Q: Is this book suitable for all readers?**

A: The book is a humorous take on cultural observations. Readers should be aware of the satirical nature and historical context of the content.

3. **Q: Where can I find more works by George Mikes?**

A: George Mikes authored numerous books. You can explore his other titles through the author link provided in the "About the Author" section or by searching online booksellers.

## SUPPORT

---

For any inquiries regarding the publication or content of "How to Be a Brit," please contact the publisher, Penguin, directly. Specific contact information can typically be found on the publisher's official website or within the book's introductory pages.

## PRODUCT IMAGE

---

GEORGE MIKES

# HOW TO BE A BRIT



Includes the classic bestseller  
*How to be an Alien*

This image displays the front cover of the book "How to Be a Brit." It features an illustration of a man, presumably a Brit, standing on a platform with an umbrella and briefcase, looking at a delayed/cancelled train schedule board. The cover design is characteristic of the book's humorous and observational tone, with the author's name, George Mikes, at the top and a note about including "How to be an Alien" at the bottom. A small Penguin logo is visible on the right side.

