
- **Have dinner ready.** Plan ahead, even the night before, to have a delicious meal ready on time for his return. This is a way of letting him know that you have been thinking about him and are concerned about his needs. Most men are hungry when they get home and the prospect of a good meal is part of the warm welcome needed.

- **Prepare yourself.** Take 15 minutes to rest so you'll be refreshed when he arrives. Touch up your make-up, put a ribbon in your hair and be fresh-looking. He has just been with a lot of work-weary people.

- **Be a little gay and a little more interesting for him.** His boring day may need a lift and one of your duties is to provide it.

- **Clear away the clutter.** Make one last trip through the main part of the house just before your husband arrives. Run a dust-cloth over the tables.

- **During the cooler months of the year you should prepare and light a fire for him to unwind by.** Your husband will feel he has reached a haven of rest and order, and it will give you a lift too. After all, catering to his comfort will provide you with immense personal satisfaction.

- **Minimize noise.** At the time of his arrival eliminate all noise of the washer, dryer or vacuum. Encourage children to be quiet.

- **Listen to him.** You may have a dozen important things to tell him, but the moment of his arrival is not the time. Let him talk first - remember, his topics of conversation are more important than yours.

- **Don't greet him with complaints and problems.** Don't complain if he's late for dinner or even if he stays out all night. Count this as minor compared to what he might have gone through at work.

- **Make him comfortable.** Have him lean back in a comfortable chair or lie him down in the bedroom. Have a cool or warm drink ready for him.

- **Arrange his pillow and offer to take off his shoes.** Speak in a low, soothing and pleasant voice.

- **Don't ask him questions about his actions or question his judgment or integrity.** Remember, he is the master of the house and as such will always exercise his will with fairness and truthfulness. You have no right to question him.

- **A good wife always knows her place.**

1) What does this list suggest in terms of 1950s male gender roles?

_________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________

2) What does this list suggest in terms of 1950s female gender roles?

_________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________

3) Which item on the list do you think would be most challenged today?

_________________________________________________________

4) Why do you believe this would be the case?

_________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________

5) Which item on the list do you think would be most accepted today?

_________________________________________________________

6) Why do you believe this would be the case?

_________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________

7) List seven adjectives (either from the text or from your own thinking) to describe the good housewife...

_________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________