

What to Do Before Leaving for the Masjid

- Go to the masjid with the best appearance:
 - Making wuḍū' before leaving for the masjid is preferred.
 - Wear your best clothes.
 - A man's clothes should cover his thighs, knees and shoulders; a woman's clothes should cover everything except her face and hands.
 - Wear a head cover, such as a kufi or turban is recommended.
 - Wear perfume and keep bad smells away from the masjid, such as onion, garlic and tobacco.
 - Brush your teeth with siwāk.
- Be eager to perform ṣalāh in the masjid.
- Say one of the established supplications for leaving the house, such as:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ، تَوَكَّلْتُ عَلَى اللَّهِ، لَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ

(Bismil-lāh, tawak-kaltu 'alal-lāh, wa lā ḥawla wa la quw-wata il-la bil-lāh.)

"In the Name of Allāh, I put my trust in Allāh, there is no might or power except with Allāh."

- Say the established supplication for heading to the masjid.

اللَّهُمَّ اجْعَلْ فِي قَلْبِي نُورًا، وَفِي لِسَانِي نُورًا، وَاجْعَلْ فِي سَمْعِي نُورًا، وَاجْعَلْ فِي بَصَرِي نُورًا، وَاجْعَلْ مِنْ خَلْفِي

نُورًا، وَمِنْ أَمَامِي نُورًا، وَاجْعَلْ مِنْ قَوْفِي نُورًا، وَمِنْ تَحْتِي نُورًا، اللَّهُمَّ أَعْظِنِي نُورًا...

(Allāhum-maj-'al fī qalbī nūran, wa fī lisānī nūran. Waj-'al fī sam'ī nūran waj-'al fī baṣarī nūran. Waj-'al min khalif nūran wa min amāmī nūran. Waj-'al min fawqī nūran wa min taḥtī nūran. Allāhum-ma a'ṭinī nūran...)

"O Allāh! Place in my heart light and on my tongue light. Place in my hearing light and place in my vision light. Place behind me light and in front of me light. Place above me light and below me light. O Allāh! Give me light..."

- Go to the masjid walking with tranquility and dignity.
- Do not interlace one's fingers.



Rulings for Attending the Masjid

- Remove your footwear or check them for filth.
- Enter with your right foot.
- Say one of the established supplications for entering the masjid, such as:

اللَّهُمَّ افْتَحْ لِي أَبْوَابَ رَحْمَتِكَ

(Allāhum-maf-taḥ lī ab-wāba raḥ-matik)

"O Allāh! Open for me the doors of Your mercy."

- Proceed to the front-most available spot in the rows.
- Greet those who are in the masjid.
- Pray two rak'ah before sitting.
- Pray towards a sutrah.
- Leave the masjid after the Adhān has been called is prohibited.
- Spend your time in the masjid wisely be reading Qur'ān, making sunnah and optional prayers, and avoid false speech and that which has no benefit.
- Buying and selling in the masjid is prohibited, as is announcing something is lost.
- Avoid raising one's voice.
- Avoid sleeping and nodding off.
- Line up the rows for ṣalāh and complete the first rows first.
- Do not pray by yourself behind a row unless there is no room to join.
- Join the imām in whatever position you find him in: standing, bowing, prostrating or sitting.
- Do not bother other worshipers by stepping over their shoulders, squeezing in the rows, raising one's voice with recitation of the Qur'ān or other speech, or passing directly in front of those praying.
- It is not permissible to reserve a place in the masjid.
- The person in a state of sexual defilement should not remain in the masjid except in the case of necessity in which case he/she

should make wuḍū' as he/she would for ṣalāh.

- Keep the masjid clean at all times from dirt, crumbs, trash, etc.
- Guardians are responsible for their children following these rules in the masjid.
- Say one of the legislated supplications when exiting the masjid, such as:

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْأَلُكَ مِنْ فَضْلِكَ

(Allāhum-ma in-nī as-a-luka min faḍ-lika.)

“O Allāh! I ask You for Your bounties.”



Rulings Related to Jumu'ah

- It is Sunnah to be close to the imām.
- Do not step over the shoulders of others in order to get closer to the imām.
- Busy yourself with dhikr, recitation of Qur'ān and prayer until the imām appears.
- One must be silent and listen to the khutbah.
- One should not raise their hands in supplication during the khutbah except in the case of praying for rain.
- One should perform two rak'ah for the masjid before sitting even during the khutbah.
- It is the Sunnah to pray four rak'ah after Jumu'ah.

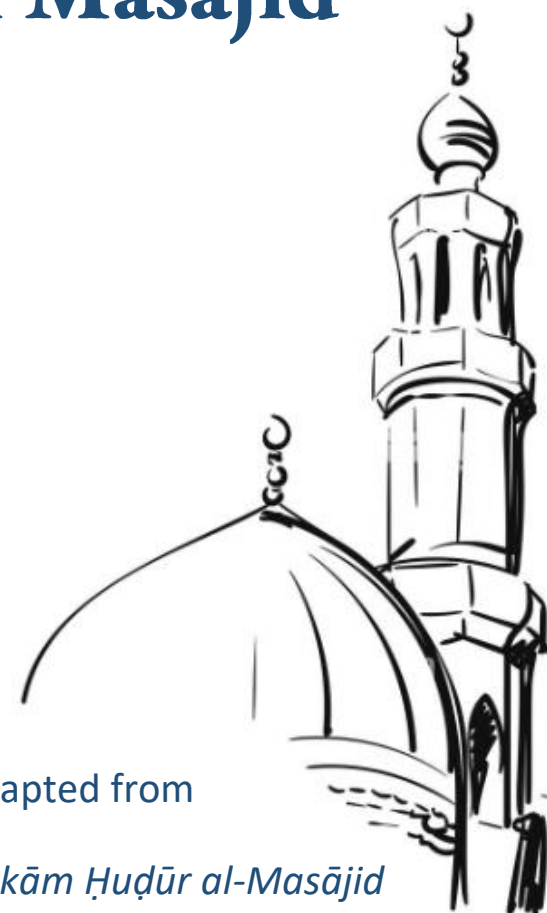


Conditions for Women Attending the Masjid

- She must not wear perfume to the masjid.
- She is commanded to lower her gaze just as men are commanded to lower their gaze.
- She must wear the Islāmically legislated hijāb.
- The woman who is menstruating or in post-partum bleeding should not remain in the masjid except for necessity.
- She must not mix with the men, not on the way to the masjid nor in the masjid.
- The best rows for women are the last rows and the worst rows for women are the front rows.
- She must not raise her voice in ṣalāh, in recitation, in saying: 'Āmīn', or in correcting the imām if he forgets; she should suffice with clapping in that instance.
- She should leave the masjid before the men and not crowd them in the pathways or doors of the masjid.



The Rulings and Manners of Masājid



Adapted from

Aḥkām Ḥuḍūr al-Masājid

by Shaykh 'Abdullāh al-Fawzān