

5. The respect for the Qur'an should be regarded as binding on every Muslim at all times. Sit in a secluded place facing the Qiblah in an extremely dignified manner. One should not lean against anything or stretch out one's legs or lie down whilst reciting.
6. The Qur'an must be placed on an elevated position such as a Qur'an stand, desk. Do not place the Qur'an on the musallah (carpet), Mimbar or any place on which people stand or sit.
7. It is the duty of every Muslim man, woman and children read ever day at least one section of the Qur'an in Arabic, then read the translation, with commentary. Do not worry about finishing the Holy Qur'an.
8. Read Ta'awwuz (A'oozu billah) Bismillah and Durood before commencing and after the recital.
9. Should read Bismillah beginning of the all Surah in the Qur'an, Except Surah Tawbah (Baraa'ah), Bismillah reading not allowed before this Surah.
10. Seeking refuge with Allah ﷻ from the rejected Shaitaan before reading the Qur'an, following Allah's saying:

﴿فَإِذَا قَرَأْتَ الْقُرْآنَ فَاسْتَعِذْ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ﴾

"When you recite The Qur'an, seek Allah's protection from the accursed Shaitaan," (Qur'an, 16: 98)

11. When one is, alone it is better to recite aloud. However if one is reading in a Masjid or where others are occupied in their 'Ibaadah, or there is fear of showing off, then it is best to recite softly. Recite in a melodious voice because this has been emphasised in many Ahaadith.
12. It is of the utmost importance that there is respect of the Qur'an by all readers of the Qur'an. Talk should be avoided while reciting the Qur'an, as well as laughter and playing around. If an important mat-ter has to be discussed with anyone

then the recital should be stopped and the Qur'an closed. If one desires to continue reading thereafter then read the Ta'awwuz (A'oozu billah), and Bismillah, and then continue from where one had stopped. Allah ﷻ, the Exalted, said:

﴿وَإِذَا قَرَأْتَ الْقُرْآنَ فَاسْتَعِذْ بِاللَّهِ وَانصِتُوا
لَعَلَّكُمْ تُرْحَمُونَ﴾

"When the Qur'an is read listen to it with attention and hold your peace: that you may receive Mercy." (Qur'an, 7: 204)

13. When one is not reading or reciting from the Qur'an, it should be closed and stored in a clean, respectable place. Nothing should be placed on top of it.
14. Do not place any other book or object (hat, cap or turban- etc.), on the Qur'an during or after recital.
15. Do not turn your back towards the Qur'an during or after recital, and do not sit with the Qur'an in such a position that it faces someone else's back.
16. Do not sit on a place which is higher than the Qur'an when the Qur'an is within sight. Do not sleep with your feet towards the Qur'an.
17. It is sinful to carelessly discard torn or worn pages of the Qur'an. Do not throw them in the waste basket or bin. Usable pages must be carefully put into a Paak (ritually clean) wrapper and buried in a Paak/clean place.
18. Besides the Qur'an, other pieces of paper or things with the names of Allah ﷻ and Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, must not be shown disrespect by being care-lessly discarded at places where these would be trampled upon.

We request you to make du'a for the Ummah as much as possible as we all need guidance. We Pray Allah ﷻ increases our patience, taqwa, truthfulness and pure intentions. And we also Pray that Allah ﷻ blesses us with many opportunities to increase our knowledge in everything that is beneficial to us.

The manners of the Qur'an

Purity of Intention

Special rules must follow when handling the Qur'an

The necessity of purity of intention is also demonstrated in the agreed upon Hadith Hazrat 'Umar bin Khataab ؓ narrates Rasulullah ﷺ said;

﴿إِنَّمَا الْأَعْمَالُ بِالنِّيَّاتِ ، وَإِنَّمَا لِْمُرِيٍّ مَا نَوَى فَمَنْ كَانَتْ هِجْرَتُهُ إِلَى اللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ ، فَهَاجَرَتْهُ إِلَى اللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ وَمَنْ كَانَتْ هِجْرَتُهُ إِلَى دُنْيَا يُصِيبُهَا ، أَوْ مَرْءٍ يَتَّبِرُ وَوَجْهًا فَهَاجَرَتْهُ إِلَى مَا هَا جَرَ إِلَيْهِ -﴾

"Verily, the deeds are by their intentions and for every one is what they intended. So he who made hijrah [migration] for Allah ﷻ and His Messenger ﷺ then his migration is for Allah ﷻ and His Messenger ﷺ; but he who made hijrah for the worldly gain or to marry a woman, then his migration is for that which he migrated to." (Muslim, Bukhari)



The first thing needed by the seeker of knowledge is to realize that seeking knowledge is worship ('Ibaadah). Some scholars said, "Knowledge is secret Prayer and worship of the heart." The condition of worship is Purity of Intention for Allah ﷻ the Exalted as demonstrated in the Ayah;

﴿وَمَا أُمِرُوا إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ مُخْلِصِينَ لَهُ
الدِّينَ حُنَفَاءَ﴾

"And they have been commanded no more than this: to worship Allah offering Him sincere devotion being True (in faith);" (Qur'an, 98: 5)

﴿وَإِنَّهُ لَتَذْكَرَةٌ لِلْمُتَّقِينَ﴾

Surely this Qur'an is a reminder to the God fearing
(Qur'an, 69: 48)

If purity of intention in seeking knowledge is lost, it is changed from of the best of ways of obeying to the worst of violations. Nothing destroys knowledge like showing off, shirk, or showing off purity of intention exemplified in the listener saying, "I learned and memorized." The student therefore, needs to purify himself from all that ruins good intentions such as: Showing off, wanting to exceed over others, using the seeking of knowledge as a tool for another intention such as position, money, greatness, or famousness, etc.

There are many tools to help us achieve purity of intention. Some are:

- Striving within the self and patience with the self.
- Compulsion in Taqwa (Piety) of Allah ﷻ.

﴿وَمَنْ يَتَّقِ اللَّهَ يَجْعَلْ لَهُ مَخْرَجًا ﴿٢٠﴾ وَيَرْزُقْهُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَا يَحْتَسِبُ ﴿٢١﴾﴾

"And for those who fear Allah He (ever) prepares a way out. And He provides for him from (sources) he never could imagine." (Qur'an, 65: 2, 3)

- In an agreed upon Hadith the Prophet ﷺ was asked; "O Messenger of Allah ﷺ, who is the most honored of people?" He ﷺ said, "The one with the most Taqwa (Piety)." He ﷺ also said; "The most that gets people in to Paradise Taqwa (Piety) of Allah ﷻ and good manners." (Tirmidhi)
- Bringing to conscience the greatness of the Creator and that knowing He is watching at all times. This is one of the levels of Ihsaan: worshipping Allah ﷻ as if you see Him, for if you do not see Him, He sees you.
- Avoid seeking praise so that you do not start to trying please only mankind. In a long Hadith related in Muslim, The Prophet ﷺ; "Informed us that the first to be used as fuel for the Hell fire on the Day of Resurrection are the reciter of the Qur'an, the mujaahid and the giver of charity; those that did those deeds so that it would be said; So and so is a reciter; so and so is courageous, so and so is generous, so and so gives charity." May Allah ﷻ protect us all from the Hell-Fire and give us all purity of intention.

Special rules must follow when handling the Qur'an

It is preferred that the Muslim be in the state of "Taharah"(purity), especially when touching the Qur'an with his hands directly. The Qur'an itself states that only those who are clean and pure should touch the sacred text, as shown in the generality of the Ayah:

﴿إِنَّهُ لَقُرْآنٌ كَرِيمٌ ﴿٢٠﴾ فِي كِتَابٍ مَكْنُونٍ ﴿٢١﴾
لَا يَسُئُهُ إِلَّا الْمُطَهَّرُونَ ﴿٢٢﴾﴾

"This is indeed a Holy Qur'an most honourable. In a book well-guarded. Which none shall touch but those who are clean..." (Qur'an, 56: 77, 78, 79)

The Arabic word translated as "clean" Mutah-hi-roon , a word that is also sometimes translated as "purified". Some argue that this purity or cleanliness is of the heart, i.e. that only Muslim believers should handle the Qur'an. However, the majority of Islamic scholars interpret these verses also refer to a physical cleanliness or purity, which is attained by making formal ablutions (Wudhu).

﴿فِيهِ رِجَالٌ يُحِبُّونَ أَنْ يَتَّطَهَّرُوا ط وَاللَّهُ
يُحِبُّ الْمُطَهَّرِينَ ﴿١٠٨﴾﴾

"In it are men who love to be purified; and Allah loveth those who make themselves pure." (Qur'an, 9: 108)

﴿إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُحِبُّ التَّوَّابِينَ وَيُحِبُّ الْمُتَطَهِّرِينَ ﴿٢٠٨﴾﴾

"Allah loves those who turn to Him constantly and He loves those who keep themselves pure and clean." (Qur'an, 2: 222)

Purification is half of Iman:

﴿أَطْهَرُ شَطْرُ الْإِيمَانِ﴾

"Purity is half of faith" (Cleanliness is half of faith).

Hazrat Abu Maalik al-Ash'aree ؓ narrates Rasulullah ﷺ said; "Purification is half of Iman. And Al-hamdu lillaah fills the Scales. And Subhaan-Allah and Al-hamdu lillah fill whatever is between the heaven and the earth. And Prayer is a light. And Sadqah is a clear proof. And Sabr (patience) is a shining light. And the Qur'an is a proof for or against you. Every person starts the day dealing for his own soul so he either sets it free or destroys it." (Muslim)

As a result of this general understanding, the following "rules" are usually followed when handling the Qur'an:

**When commencing and during Tilaawat
(The etiquette of reciting the Qur'an)**

1. One should make formal ablutions (Wudhu) before handling the Qur'an or reading from its text.
2. One who is in need of a formal bath should not touch the Qur'an until after bathing.
3. The individual's clothes, body & place of reading Qur'an must have be clean.
4. Use a Miswaak and ensure that the mouth is thoroughly cleansed of any strong or offensive smell such as garlic, raw onion, etc.