

They love it when we can sort everything out in one phonecall. If you need to phone them back, arrange a time that's convenient for them.





The Sound of Music... a pretty dodgy film but the music is even worse on the phone! If you can't avoid putting a caller on hold, explain why, sound apologetic and tell them you won't be a mo'.





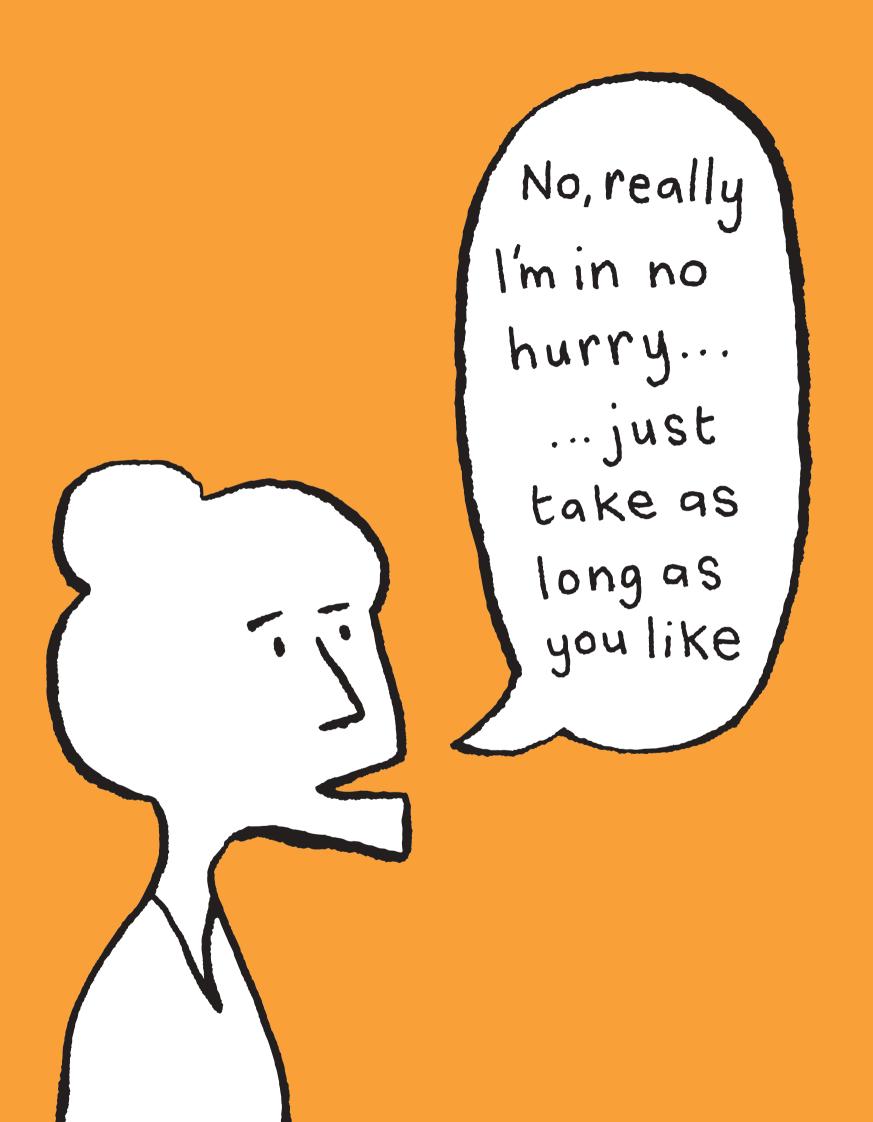
You can't know everything, but people like to feel that their call has been worthwhile. If you don't know the answer immediately, offer to call back later with more specific advice.





The car wouldn't start, it's raining and you've got a stinking headache. If you feel rubbish, don't let your voice give you away. Just pretend! People can hear a smile – and by sounding happy, you'll be surprised how it can make you feel better.





People love it when we deal with their queries quickly. Let them know what you're doing, so they're not left wondering.





People don't like being passed around but sometimes someone else is in a better position to help. If you have to transfer a customer, let them know who they need to speak to and why.





Tell it like it is. It's much better to be straight with people than bend the truth and disappoint them. If it's going to take a week, don't say two days!





It's hard sometimes – the systems don't always behave and things can take longer than you think. It's best to let the customer know what's going on and give them an idea of when it'll be fixed.





We know you're busy and there are loads of customers to talk to, but you can still make them smile by being friendly.





Just like us, our customers are only human... They love it when we solve their problems quickly – be chatty but keep to the point.





Remember when Mum said "no", so you'd ask Dad? Well, our customers try this old trick to see if they can get a better upgrade offer. We should pretend we don't know what they're up to, be consistent in what we say and offer the same upgrade deal.





If you need more time to sort out a customer's problem, explain why, and be realistic about how long it will take. People will usually be satisfied if they feel you're trying to deal with their problem quickly and effectively.

