

Consent practices in the studio

Consent is clear, communicated, enthusiastic, the initiator's responsibility and can be renegotiated or withheld at any time. It means listening to each other, respecting each other and being mindful of all our interactions. Practicing consent is an important step in creating a culture we want to live in; a culture in which people are respected and have the autonomy to decide what is best for them.

We support and encourage folks to explore rope in safe, exciting, consensual ways. While doing this it is incredibly important to discuss safety, boundaries and care. **Everyone deserves boundaries and safety when and if they choose to engage in rope.** Your first partner is you. Knowing and exploring our boundaries is a lifelong conversation with ourselves.

No one is responsible for fulfilling our ropery wants but ourselves. Wants consist of the things that we enjoy doing and give us pleasure (in the broadest sense of the word). While it can be exciting and empowering to share these things with others, **other people are never responsible for fulfilling your wants.**

Cannot be held to a predetermined agreement

Consent is not a contract; people can change their minds.

Agreement that is mutually communicated

Listen and pay attention to words, feelings, and context. **Respect indecision** (it is not a yes). Mixed messages mean “no.”

Responsibility of the initiator

The person wishing to initiate an act or change an act is responsible for initiating the conversation about consent. This might include initiating a rope scene, touching different body parts, or transitioning from tying to touching.

Enthusiasm

Is your partner verbally and physically enthusiastic? **Check in.** If you have doubts, don't proceed.

Step-by-step (ongoing)

Especially when transitioning from one activity to another, consent can be renegotiated or withheld at any time.

Check in every step of the way.



Anatomie Studio Etiquette

CONSENT, SAFETY
& SEX-POSITIVITY



1. Giving Space

When people are tying, whether solo or with others, give them plenty of space for their 'scene.' If you would like to watch, keep to a reasonable distance and be unintrusive. In particular **do not interrupt a scene to ask questions, touch people or their equipment (rope included).**

2. Touching

Give and receive enthusiastic, active consent for activities and any kind of touching. We call these conversations 'negotiation'. Here are some tips:

- **Both parties must be informed of the activity's risks before consenting**
- Ask what is okay and not okay
- Clearly state what you like and dislike
- When in doubt, don't do the thing

Respect "no" ("no" is a complete sentence). Silence is not consent, freezing is not consent. **Mixed messages mean "no."**

3. Using the Suspension Points

Use of the points is reserved for experienced people. If you see people suspending, they have very likely completed our courses or have received tuition elsewhere. **Suspension is edge play. It is risky.** Do not endanger yourself or others by suspending before you are ready. Come ask us about classes if you'd like to learn!