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Graduation Traditions Important Parts of The Experience!



Earning your college degree is a time for celebration of all your hard work. Most of us know the most common graduation traditions. But do you know their origins and meaning?

Interesting Tradition Facts

Graduation Robes: One of the most iconic and recognizable symbols of graduation. The wearing of long robes originated nearly 700 years ago in the Europe, in buildings that were generally not heated. The long robes were a way to keep warm.

The Cap: Often called the mortarboard. Tossing the cap originated during a Naval Academy ceremony in 1912. Throwing them into the air symbolized completion of their academic life.

Moving the Tassel: Though the tassel was already on the cap, moving it from the right to the left started about 50 years ago. The action symbolizes receipt of the degree.

Class Rings: First used in 1835 by the US academy West Point. The rings were originally designed to represent different schools within the academy.

Pomp and Circumstance, written by Sir Edward Elgar in 1901. Was modified to celebrate the crowning of King Edward the VII. It has become a traditional musical selection for graduations.

The Diploma: Also called a Sheepskin. Originally handwritten on sheepskin, rolled and tied with a ribbon. A century ago, that changed to being printed on parchment paper with standardized sizing.

Graduation Selfies! One of the newest traditions. Some schools openly embrace the "selfie".

Sources: homeschooldiploma.com, independence.edu, and kbic.com.

Graduation Traditions World-Wide



- China Many female graduates wear a wedding dress.
- Sweden Graduates wear matching sailor hats and sing songs.
- Japan Graduates preform choreographed routines with singing and marching.
- Argentina Observers pelt graduates with food, including ketchup and syrup.
- Russia Female graduates wear black dresses and aprons.
- · Thailand Royal family members hand out diplomas.

Source: graduationsource.com and visual.ly

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