



Types of service in commercial and non-commercial provision

You need to be able to understand and know the different types of service within commercial and non-commercial provision. They are split into two main categories of food service and residential service.



Food service

The different types of food services in the catering sector are listed below. You should know the meaning of each one and be able to provide examples. For instance;

Table service

- Plate: the food is put on plates in the kitchen and served by waiting staff. Good portion control and food presentation consistent.
- Silver: a waiter will transfer food from a serving dish to the customer's plate using a silver spoon and fork at their table.
- Banquet: a range of foods suitable for large catered events such as weddings, parties, or award ceremonies.
- Family style: the food is placed on serving bowls on the customer's table for customers to share between them.
- Gueridon: is served from a trolley to the customer's table, the food is then cooked and/or finished and presented in front of the customer. Creates an atmosphere of sophistication and entertainment.

Counter service

- Cafeteria: all types of food and drink are shown on a long counter for customers to move along with a tray for them to choose what they want to eat.
- Fast food: the food and drink is displayed on a menu behind the counter, often with pictures. Quick, simple, and usually served with disposable packaging.
- Buffet: a range of foods served on a big serving table where customers walk up to collect their plate and help themselves to food and drink. The food can be hot or cold, and some items could be served by waiting staff.

Personal service

- Tray or trolley: the meals are served on trays from a trolley and customers sometimes order items in advance.
- Home delivery: the customer's order is made over the phone or online, and is then delivered by the business to their address.
- Takeaway: food that's cooked by the business onsite and then eaten elsewhere.

Residential service

Listed below are the different types of residential types of service in the hospitality and catering sector. You should know the different types of service offered in various hospitality provisions.

Rooms:

- single/ double/ king/ family
- suite (en-suite bath/ shower room, shared facilities).

Refreshments:

- breakfast/ lunch/ evening meal
- 24-hour room service/ restaurant available.

Leisure facilities:

- spa
- gym
- swimming pool.

Conference and function facilities:

- large rooms
- overhead projector and computer
- pens and paper provided
- refreshments available.

