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# Online Dating

## BLISS

### In Five

### Simple Steps



The Practical Guide  
To Internet Dating  
For Love Seekers!



The Dirty Playbook Of Online Dating

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# What You Need to Know About Online Dating... First!

## Tastes Differ

There are so many kinds of people around. Just look around you -- how many people you know look the same?

**Sizes, builds, shapes, features...** they are all so different!

And when it comes to character, *it's a very different story altogether*. Take a trip down memory lane, go back to your classrooms and look around.

*So how many of your classmates did you genuinely liked as people? Was it easy to get along with all of them?*

We do not have to like everybody. The tastes and interests of one person might match with ours while the tastes and interests of another person may be at complete loggerheads with ours.

**Same goes for dating but with some strings attached.** There are a hundred and one things **that should match before two people** decide to spend the rest of their lives with each other.

Many people do not need any help with dating. Maybe most of us do not need any help in making the right choice but **isn't it good to get a few pointers on the dating process as such? Particularly on online dating?**

It is with this objective that this matter was prepared.

## Reading This E-Book

I know you are busy but need a date too ☺

So this eBook requires **just a proper single glance** to get the gist of it. About 10-15 minutes to run your eyes along the entire length of this book. It's that simple. I can promise you that if you use this book to guide you, there is *no need to fear at all...you just won't stumble*.

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# What Makes Online Dating So Different?

The concept of finding a life partner with the help of the Internet is a recent concept when compared with the history of mankind as such. Online dating is finding a partner online and then converting it into a real relationship.

On the flop side, many unlucky people *have been goofed and jilted* online.

## The Magic of the Internet

The Internet allows for unlimited possibilities in communication, and **it is this feature** that has proved to *be a boon, as well as bane* for online dating.

Couples can start from scratch and get to know everything about each other *before the actual meeting* takes place. Tastes and preferences, likes and dislikes, interests and obsessions can freely be discussed on a one to one basis sitting behind a computer.

But this possibility for unlimited communication leaves a lot of space for guile as well. The human race is endowed with a remarkable *ability to use, misuse and abuse* the same thing. And naturally, online dating too is not an exception.

It is because of this reason that **a little bit of homework** is good before you actually hit the road.



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## How Did Online Dating Become So Popular?

The reason is *pretty simple*. The Internet opens up a whole new world of communication and contact. Some of the reasons are...

- **Speed:** During the olden days, a single to and fro correspondence would stretch over a week. Today, the time taken for the first letter and the response has been *brought to an amazing 2 minutes!*
- **Privacy:** The Internet provides for *absolute privacy*. One can communicate with another person in the privacy of one's bedroom or bath room or wherever one chooses to be. *There is no fear of eavesdropping (ugh) or over hearing (shudder!)* thanks to e-mail and chat facilities.
- **More Options and Opportunities:** The Internet provides for other options like voice chat or video conferencing and *stops short only of the physical touch*. You can **see a person, talk to a person, and listen** to the person's voice, can you think of a better way to start a date?
- **Economy:** The best part of online dating is that, everything comes for peanuts. All you need is a PC and an Internet Connection **and you are set**.

## Be Clear About What You Want

*Man is a social being as well as a lonely being.* People long for company.

And company comes from that **special person** with whom **you share** sweet nothings, simple pleasures and pains, someone with whom he or she can build a whole new life, and someone with whom you can raise a family.

This is a fundamental need of man: **to find a life mate**.

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## Marriage Or A Casual Relationship?

What you want is *entirely your business*. I don't want to sound nosey but I would like to draw a fine line between the kinds of dating that is involved in these two quests.

Obviously *in a casual relationship we are looking for fun*. And mind you, fun can have a lot of connotations. So here the object of one's desire will obviously be a person who is not inclined towards a serious relationship.

If both parties are of the same view then it is well and good because they understand each other perfectly and **do not expect much** from such a relationship. This leaves no room for heartbreak.

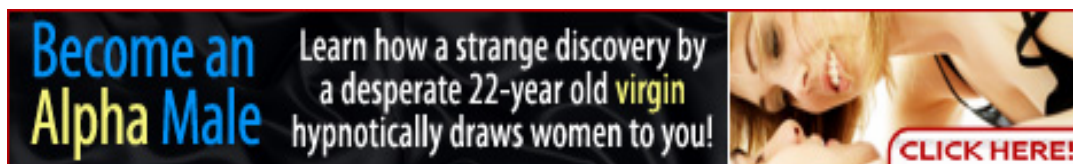
It is when *one party is in for something more serious* and the other party is into sheer frivolousness that the problems start. So you should be **absolutely clear** about what you are looking for from the start, and you should *make your intentions* very clear to the other person.

Remember, even if it is a casual relationship, there should be **mutual understanding** at least about the nature of the relationship.

Of course, there is yet another possibility where a *casual relationship can blossom into something more serious*. But, again in such cases it is your instincts that can help you identify what is good and what is bad.

No matter how strong a person is, anyone can be taken for a ride or be taken for granted. Being jilted is never a nice experience.

*So those of you who are going in for a casual relationship, for heavens sake, be on your guard!* Marriage is altogether a different story but we will deal with that later.



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## Dating Comes From a Fundamental Need

Let's face it, **of course sex is important**, but sex is by far **NOT** the most important reason for dating.

**Important!** Maybe during the age of thoughtless youth, when new hormones are being pumped in and out, sex is on every one's mind. But as one matures (*mind you that does not mean growing old and gray*) sex takes the back seat and mutual support, likes and dislikes, cooperation, caring and sharing come to the forefront.

We start thinking about building up a world of our own and we need someone **to share it with**, and not just someone to sleep with.

Sex is a **fundamental need** of every human being. We all have it in us to give and receive physical pleasure. But when you sit and think about it for a minute, you can see that this urge is actually the result of another urge.

There is a more primary urge in every human being to breed and produce offspring, and it is this urge that gives rise to such a powerful sexual desire. *But whatever be the urge, the most dignified means to satisfy it is dating.*

Nobody, not one of us, is complete without a partner; and it is to satisfy this need that people date. Because of this, the rest of this manual will be dedicated not to finding the right sex partner, *but to finding the right life partner.*

## Online Dating Is Here To Stay

**Online dating is a real thing now!** Let's compare it to the old system of evening balls or social gatherings. Imagine you are this big gathering where there are a lot of men and women looking out for suitable partners.

Suppose you bump into one or two people with whom you seem to strike an immediate rapport. You are then able to take this person out onto a balcony with just the moon to keep an eye on you.

You get to talk to this person for hours and hours; just talk and nothing else. You get to discuss likes and dislikes then finally when it is time to part you leave with a promise to meet on a following day at an equally enjoyable spot. These talks go on for days and weeks and finally you decide that this indeed is THE person with whom you want to spend the rest of your life with.

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Then of course you start meeting in more open places, you hold hands and even kiss. You begin to go out for lunch and dinner and spend even more intimate time together. When the moment is right and your decision is made, it then becomes time for you to say, "I do."

*Sigh! It sounds like a nice fairy tale, doesn't it? ☺*

Well it needn't be. *The concept of online dating is just what has been described above.* If you click the right buttons everything could work out fine for you and we have evidence to prove it.

You can chat for hours, video conference, or do whatever it is you care to do without arousing the interest of others or attracting the wrong kind of attention.

## How To Get The Most Out Of Online Dating

You need to know how to go about it in order to get the best out of it and from getting the fingers burned.

The following 5 steps will help you get started the right way.



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# Step 1: Getting Started

*"Only fools rush in where angels fear to tread".*

It is always best to approach unfamiliar territory with caution. You need to plan before you actually go out there. *Be sure about yourself and be sure about what you want.*

There are a lot of nice people out there, but your *approach is the key* that can get you the kind of response that you want.

By just entering a chat room and saying "I'm available" you are merely putting yourself up for sale, and will most likely not get the results you desire.

In a chat room, all are equal. Don't enter a chat room like sauntering into a ball room dressed in your best. Then everyone turns to stare at you and the most eligible person (read that as the sexiest person of the opposite sex) catches your eye and makes his or her way towards you.

*That kind of thing happens only on James Bond movies* and we all know that James Bond never goes in for a serious relationship. It's all fun and games for him.

## Where Do You Start?

**The first tip:** Do NOT go straight into a singles' chat room and try to find somebody who would interest you. Such chat rooms are virtually flooded with people who have only one thing on their mind - sex. You will never get the kind of person who matches your interests and tastes.

In other words, **if you are looking for something more enduring, like a partner for life, then you are going to have to be a little more patient.** The pick of the litter is not easy to find. But you do find it; it is going to be worth the effort.

So instead of going into a singles' chat room, what you could do is, you could try the whole thing out from a different angle. *You could try working backwards.*

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## More Than Looks

Sit for a minute and try and think about **the things that interest you** and things that *you would find interesting in a person*.

Again the distinction has to be drawn between a serious relationship and a casual one. In a casual relationship, the importance is always for the physical attributes.

On the other hand, if we have a serious relationship, then the physical qualities becomes just one among the many. *Compatibility is probably the most important factor over here*. Along with that there are certain qualities that obviously we will be looking out for. We are talking about qualities of the mind. After all, **beauty is only skin-deep!**

The idea is that it is possible to grow to like the looks of a person. *Once you find the character of the person agreeable you will start liking the person as a whole*. It is entirely possible to fall in love with a person if the person does not look like a movie star. That is **one of the tricks** that nature plays.

There are many people who insist on taking a look at the other person's picture before actually committing to an online relationship. This is more suitable for a casual relationship. It is bound to sizzle off after some time. After all, how long can you keep staring at a person? And what happens if the person doesn't stare back at you?

Or even worse, what happens if you find the person staring at another person? Looks may be important, but they certainly are not the most important thing and *should never be used as the deciding factor* if you are thinking about a serious relationship.

## Common Interests

A human being is not like a piece of glass where you can look and see the other side. A human being is **more like a diamond**, which when held against light reflects and deflects light so that a myriad of colors are seen. *We're complex*.

We have a lot of interest and the interests of one person need not match with the interests of another. *So, what are your interests?*

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Mind you, you might have to do **some serious thinking before** you level down your preferences. There might be a lot of things that you enjoy doing but never seriously thought off.

Your interests could be something like sports or outdoor activities. Or you could think of interests like social work or cross-words or religious interests. *Keep the ball rolling.*

Your tastes and interests could be very different. So let them be. And once you have decided on what your interests are then half the story is done.

Here is a [free audio resource](#) where the dating expert Kelly tells how men can develop better confidence with women quickly through online dating.

## What Interests You In A Person?

This is the **important part**. Think about what you would like in another person. Secondly, having the same interests doesn't necessarily mean that you can get along with a person.

For e.g. if you are someone who likes to talk a lot, *it doesn't mean that you could like another person who likes to talk a lot as well*. If two people try to keep talking at the same time then obviously, there cannot be any dialogue.

So also, if you are the silent reserved type and the other person too is the silent reserved type, there will hardly be any dialogue at all! The word over here is "compatible." *The interests of partners should complement each other and not clash.*

## Keyword Searches

So now that you have decided what is it that interests you in a person and what your interests and tastes are, **try such key word searches** on a search engine like Google. Arrive at chat rooms where these interests are discussed.

The idea here is **not** to advertise you as a person *who is in search of a life partner*. You remember how we spoke about *working backwards; this is how it is done*.

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## Likes Versus Dislikes

Now chalk out a list of qualities that you **genuinely dislike** in a person. Dislikes are just as important as or *even more important than likes*.

We all have to make compromises here and there, but if we start away by condoning things, which we genuinely dislike, *it is going to tell on the relationship at sometime or the other*.

A lot of people make this mistake when they are courting. They put up their best behavior, which is very good of course, but they try to be very adjusting and accommodating which is NOT very good.

Remember, you are not on a camping trip trying to impress; you are looking for someone to be living the rest of your life with.

So it is best not to be very "*oh so very accommodating and adjusting*."

You can afford to stick to things that you are very particular about. And if you have any thoughts that *you will be able to mould the person* out of his or her offending habits at a later date, *forget it*.

The moment you start trying to mould or cajole the person out of his or her habits, whatever they may be, **the word becomes 'nagging'** and he or she will love you less for it.

It really **doesn't** work that way. So *it's best to have a clear idea about qualities and habits that you genuinely dislike in a person* and steer clear of the 'lesser mortals' who have those habits.

Once you have a fairly clear idea about your likes and dislikes *you are in a better position to make the right choice*. You do not have to worry or be over anxious that you just might not find any one at all. He or she is out there, and if you are barking up the right tree you will succeed.



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## Friends First

Try to look at this endeavor not as a prospective husband/wife hunt *but as an effort to make a lot of friends*. Good friends! Friends that you can laugh aloud with, friends who make you laugh.

The best thing about friends is that you can be yourself with them. And they too can be themselves with you. And that means letting it all out. We must remember that apart from being the dutiful husband or wife, your spouse should be your best friend as well.

**All this is a very far cry from sex right?** That is why we did mention earlier that looks and sex should be the last criteria in the selection of a life partner. The marriage proposal must come as a natural sequence and it should by no means be the first thing that comes out as soon as you warm up to a person. You cannot very well say something like, "*Hey, you know what, I think we have the same tastes so let's get married.*"

I hope you have got the hang of what we meant by working backwards now?

## Mr. Right and Ms. Wrong

*What if the person who proposes to you wasn't really what you had in mind?* Well, there is a point worth considering here. What if you find *someone who loves you*, isn't that better?

Suppose some one does come and propose to you but unfortunately, you are not in the least interested? You have every right to turn the proposal down but please do it gracefully.

There is no need to hurt the other person's ego. This person is obviously a friend of yours, and surely you care deeply for him or her. However, if you know that you cannot marry this person, *a turned-down proposal is better than a divorce*.

Try to explain your feelings in the gentlest way possible.

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## Step 2: Making Yourself Look Like A Million Dollars

Nobody is perfect! But it does not mean that we cannot try to look our best! Work on your image, work on your profile, and work on your appearance.

Many people go by the philosophy, "*This is me, whether you like it or not it's your problem. I am not going to change.*" Well, nobody is asking you to change, but what are you trying to do? Scare people off?

The fact is *such statements are just a manifestation of your own insecurity.* It is this insecurity that makes us sound gruff and uncaring when it comes to improving our appearances.

Come on, what are you afraid of? Whatever you are afraid of, *others are afraid of the same thing.* In this world, most people are neither for us nor against us. *They are thinking about themselves.*

Presenting oneself is very important, but surprisingly this is something which people *tend to neglect the most.* Most of us have a laid back attitude when it comes to painting a picture about ourselves.

### The Dream Profile

Your online profile is your starting tool to online dating!

We have to understand that a relationship is really worth much more than a job, because it is probably **the most important decision** in your life. So now let us discuss ways in which you can spruce up your profile.

You can of course [get a professional](#) to do the job for you since it saves you the effort. It certainly does look better to have a picture in your profile, *but due to privacy issues you can refrain from including a picture initially.*

The best thing you could do is once you are comfortable chatting with a person and are **convinced** that this person *does not have any devious intentions*, you could send your picture over as an attachment or a file.

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But this, too, is **best done a mutual exchange** basis. It would be unfair if you know what the other person looks like but the other person is kept in the dark and vice versa.

## The Face In The Mirror

Remember to send a decent picture of yours. Get a professional to do the job for you and with the digital techniques of today, they can do a very good job.

At the same time do **work on your expression** before the photograph is taken. Stand in front of your mirror and try out various expressions till you get something that *you think is the best for you*. And remember that it has to be a picture of you smiling.

You should not have the classic hang dog expression, or the "*butter-will-not-melt-in-my-mouth expression*". Smile, it costs you nothing and it really lights up a person's face.

Now, the first thing that you should do is take out a pencil and paper and write down the raw details about yourself like you age, your height and your weight.

This is the **skeleton** of which we are going to work on. And when we have added enough flesh and blood to this backbone, why even you will be impressed by your profile! But first let us steer clear of certain pit falls into which most people fall.

## The Modesty Pitfall

Most of us have been trained to be very modest. When it comes to saying something good about our selves *we feel very queasy*. Right, nobody is asking you to do any trumpet blowing *but facts have to be stated as facts*.

If you are a music lover and have a good voice too, I can't see why you can't put it down like that itself. Why can't you declare simply without sounding very proud that you have good voice? A pointer that you could bear in mind would be to add something like, "*My friends think that I sing rather well*".

You can't feel too bad about something as simple as that! It is as good as saying "*Some people think that I sing well, but it is for you to decide whether*



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*I have a good voice or not."* Similar statements that you can work on and even add are given below.

- *"Lots of people appreciate my cooking."*
- *"I am no Rembrandt, but I enjoy painting."*
- *"I like decorating, and many of my friends think that my tastes are not too bad."*

So go ahead, if you really have a talent, you might as well as **let others know** about it, after all a talented person would any way like to be appreciated by a partner.

There is one question that I want to address right now. If you have chatted with a stranger with whom you are trying to build a rapport, soon a question comes up. *"what do you look like?"*

I have often wondered about the sense of this question. The best answers that I could come up with are *"I look like a cross between an orangutan and a Tasmanian devil"*.

But of course we cannot give such answers however funny they sound, might just rub the person in the wrong way. What the person actually means is, *"Are you good looking or not?"*

*A very tricky question indeed!* How can you answer such a question with out sounding either super modest or extremely vain? The answer to that is not to tell them the answer directly. You can say something like:

- *"I am as fresh as peppermint."*
- *"I look like a bunch of fresh lilies."*
- *"I have the appeal of a bowl of fresh fruit."*

If the person still does not take the hint, then give them a detailed description of every inch and let he or she decide for himself or herself.



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## The Braggart Pitfall

Bragging is a major turnoff. Stay completely clear of it. This is especially true in the case of physical attributes. You might be one hell of a looker, but let the other person decide, remember that *what wine is for Peter can turn of to be venom for Paul*.

You can make implied statements like, "*I am certainly not a bad looker,*" or "*Opinion is divided, some people think that I am good looking while others think that I am not.*" But perhaps the best way of describing yourself would be to **add a touch of humor** to it.

If you are chubby you could say something like, "*I am round in all the right places...I hope.*" If you are tall you could say something like, "*Some say I should play basketball.*" If you are on the short side you could say something like, "*I might seem to lacking in size but I assure you, it is all there.*"

You know what is the best part about such witty remarks about oneself? *Humor always works*. All of us have been blessed with a sense of humor to some degree at least and if a person is able to make funny comments about himself or herself, that always acts as a turn on. *And you can take my word for it; humor sells like a billion dollars*.

## The Hackneyed Pitfall

We have seen and heard other people describe themselves and these kind of descriptions sort of sink into our heads. The moment some one asks us to describe ourselves, *we start off by using such hackneyed phrases*.

I think it is much better to completely **steer clear of hackneyed phrases**. It makes us look like just another face in the crowd. Tell me, unless you have an identical twin, have you ever seen any one who looks exactly like you?

Then why on earth should your description of yourself sound like a banal organ that has been played again and again. *Try to sound as original as you can*. Make yourself sound interesting.

Try to use as many similes and comparisons as possible. If you are blonde, well don't just say that you are blonde. You could descriptions like, "*My hair is the color of freshly harvested hay.*"

If you are a brunette you could say something like:

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*"My hair color would make a raven blush." If you have red hair, you could try something like, "My hair is like the setting sun."*

Let me also add that *you do not have to belittle yourself*. Every coin has two sides and it all depends on the way you look at it.

For e.g. if you have dark skin, there is absolutely no reason to feel bad about it. It all depends on how you put it across. You could try expressions like, *"If you like chocolate then you are going to love the color of my skin."* Or *"My body looks like polished wood."*

Remember, beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder, and it is left to you to convince the beholder. Most people are willing to believe what you tell them, provided **you tell them convincingly** enough.

## The Boredom Pitfall

If you are painting a self portrait you might as well use the right colors. Before we leave our homes what do we do? We all spend at least five minutes in front of our mirrors in an attempt to make our selves look as presentable and as impressive as possible.

Well, the same thing applies to our profile. **Remove all drab details** about yourself that might be of no interest to the reader. If your job is something like *editing journals on the etymology of words derived from ancient Aramaic*, well, just say that **you have an editing job**.

Anything can be presented in two ways. *You can either make it interesting or boring*; so work on your profile until you are sure that it will not bore a reader to death. The best test for this would be to hand it over to a close friend and ask that friend's opinion.

## The Vagueness Pitfall

At the same time what ever you put down about yourself must not be confusing.

It just does not work to put down a statement like, *"While I am not really given to sports, nor am I considered to be an outdoor person, I have developed a passing interest in watching football, and have had my stints with Terra firma."*

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**Phew!** If, anything drives people away, statements like this certainly do. For Heaven's sake avoid phrases like "*I am different,*" especially when you are talking about your appearance. The other person will in all likelihood conjure up images of a three horned monster or a lion tailed monkey.

Another example is when you use phrases like, "*I don't play by the rules,*" or "*I am game for something new.*" These expressions can be **hopelessly misleading** and it is the easiest thing in the world to add a sexual innuendo to such an expression and that would be a sure shot method of biting off more than you can chew.

## The Web of Deceit

While you might take some care to conceal your identity it is best **not to lie**.

Do not try to bluff your way to a relationship. Because sometime or the other the whole thing will come into the open and as we all know, one lie leads to another and then before you know it the whole relationship will crash.

*Be as honest and as frank as you can, taking care to conceal your identity.*

There is no need to hide things about you. Of course you do not have to tell the person every ghastly, gory detail about yourself, but at the same time you do not have to conjure up stuff about you that just is not true.

If at all you do paint a very rosy picture about yourself, including things that just are not true, or are far-fetched exaggerations, and the other person does flip for you, in reality you will be basking in another person's glory. This picture you have painted is just not you.



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## Your Alter Ego!

When you choose a handle to identify yourself by, *you have to be sharp*. Do not try to attract as many partners as possible. After all, what are we looking for, quality or quantity? *Try to attract only the kind of people you are interested in and who would find you interesting*.

That's the reason to use a handle that **better defines** the kind of person you are. Do not try to sound like a sex god or a sex goddess. If you are, let the other person decide for him self or her self; (it is much better than having the person come up with statements like "*Is it in yet?*"). So **steer clear of** handles like Megastud, Handsomehunk, Superbabe or Bedlover.

Instead of that you could try handles that gives **one an immediate idea** about the kind of person you are. If you are an outdoor person use something like Natureguy or Naturegirl; if you are a music freak use something like Musicman or Musicmaid. If you are into theatre and stuff like that you could choose a name like Theatreguy or Theatregirl.

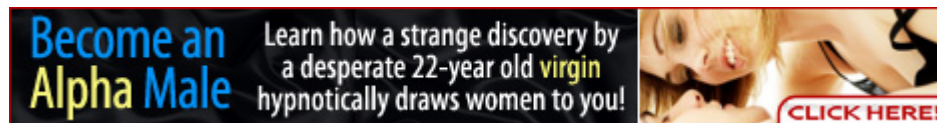
The point is to *win over people who are interested in the same stuff as you are*.

## Brevity is Key!

**Keep your profile as brief as possible**. Nobody wants to read through lines and lines of another person's profile.

But that doesn't mean that you have to limit the whole thing to just a few words. A too brief profile would sound as if you do not have time for all this, but you are just doing it for the heck of it. *Just bring in the right balance!*

The best style that you could use would be to be **100% natural**. Write your profile *as you would describe yourself to a person directly*. The **conversation style has the widest appeal**. Make it simple and stay away from big words and hackneyed expressions.



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## You are Unique!

Look at yourself in the mirror. *Do you look like anyone else?*

So in spite of having the same building blocks, if we can look so different why do we have to sound alike? *Think about yourself in a different way.* Do not just consider your likes and dislikes when you are writing your profile, consider **your endearing qualities** as well.

Don't know these qualities in you? Ask your best friends why they like you. Who knows, their **answers just might surprise** you! But at least you will get an idea of what you can include in your profile.

**Try out the following exercise** to find out *what kind of a person you are*. I won't say that the results are **absolutely fool proof** but they certainly might be interesting.

## The Animal Test

Which among the following animals do you identify with most?

- ➡ A shark
- ➡ A rabbit
- ➡ A bear
- ➡ A hen
- ➡ A dog and finally
- ➡ A cat

- ✔ If you chose a **shark**, you are generally an aggressive kind of person who has no time for others who are not up to the mark. You won't think twice about slicing through those who stand in your way and you have a very clear idea about what you want and you know how to get it too.
- ✔ If you chose a **rabbit** you are generally sweet tempered but timid. You bend very easily. You like to stay clear from the limelight as far as possible and do not interfere much in the affairs of others.

- 
- ✔ If you chose the **bear**, you are a warm person by nature but not very sure about whether others like you. Hence you might go out of your way to win friends and love reassuring others.
  - ✔ If you chose the **hen**, then you are one of those people who constantly fuss about minor details. You keep your eyes open but you are very dependable though sometimes you might end up poking your nose into things that do not concern you.
  - ✔ If you chose the **dog** you are a happy go lucky person. You are willing to help others but if you do not watch out, more than once you might be taken for a ride. You do not bother about trifles but when you lose your head, it is really lost.
  - ✔ Hmm, you chose the **cat** did you? Well you live in a world of your own; you do not trouble others and do not like others troubling you. In short you are very much the modern apartment creature who knows all the manners but uses them only to be civil.

Now, the descriptions given here are *just general guidelines* but it does give you a cue about how to write your own profile. *Think about the animal or bird that you like best.* Do not consider physical attributes but *think of traits or characteristics* that you like.

Then just sit down and write a brief description about the animal and hey presto! Before you even know it, *your profile is ready.*

Remember, each one of us has **something remarkable** about us. It is all a question of finding out what those qualities are. Do not always believe what other people have to say about you. Don't you have something to say about yourself?

Pretend as if you were talking to your best friend. Talk to yourself. If your best friend were to ask you what his or her endearing qualities are then wouldn't you be quick to reassure the person?

Well, *the same thing applies to you as well.* You can be your own best friend. And when you try out this exercise on yourself, well, you have **a list of your plus points ready.**

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## Step 3: Letting The Relationship Blossom

All right. Now you are ready with your interests chalked out and your profile posted. It's *almost like being seated alone* at this posh restaurant, dressed to kill, with a glass of champagne in one hand and the other hand swung over the back of the chair. You have a smile on your lips, a twinkle in your eye and an invitation on your face.

*So what happens next?* This person who appears to be the perfect match for you catches your eye and saunters towards you. Now what do you do? *In effect*, while you spend time idling in a virtual chat room; this is the mood that you are going to generate.

So what happens when a person takes the cue and starts chatting? The Internet is like any other highway. It is not safe until you get to know your way around.

So what I would suggest would be to **trust your instincts** and proceed with caution. You can sound like a very warm person but *please be extremely cautious* about giving out any personal information.

### Nicknames and Pet names

Important! Let the other person know that *you would prefer to be known by the handle you use*. Or even better, *you could tell the person to call you a pet name*, because at a later date, if the relationship really blossoms it doesn't look nice if you have to say something like, "*Gee, I'm sorry, but my name isn't really Janice, it is Heptullah, I guess I lied to you.*"

Another way is to be known by some celebrity. You could call yourself Cinderella, Archie, Betty or Veronica. You can start chatting this way. *Keep to the general and stay away from the specific initially.*

**What's The REAL Secret To First Date Success With a Woman?...** [Click Here To Find Out](#)



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## Helping your Memory

The human brain is capable of **storing and processing** such a wide range of information that even a supercomputer would shy away when compared to it.

*Still we forget things!* You might meet a lot of people over the net and you might chat with a couple of them. So eventually *it might become difficult to remember all of them* and their details as well.

*Even worse*, you might become confused and *mix up details*. It would look bad for you if you call a person the wrong name, or ask the person the wrong details. If you have been chatting with a number of persons, for heaven's sake create separate files for each person and **store them** in your computer.

When you add them to your friends list use handles or nicknames that can help you remember the person the moment you start chatting at a later date.

Now, in case you do not really remember the person, then it is not advisable to play the guessing game. The other person might get very offended if you say something like, "Is it Sarah or Mary?"

In such cases when you have a genuine lapse of memory, the best thing to do is to be honest with the person and say, "I know we chatted the other day, but I'm terribly sorry, can you please refresh my memory about you?"

## Small Talk

There are few topics that are best as ice breakers so that an intimacy is not developed and at the same time you do not have to struggle for matters of common interest. You can talk about the weather, sports, movies, music and even food.

But at the same *it is in bad taste to discuss religion, politics and family matters* in the initial stages. You can crack jokes *but dirty jokes are an absolute no-no* at least in the first few talks.

Once you have talked more than once or twice and you feel comfortable with the person you can give the person your **secondary e-mail address** but remember *this is the first step towards virtual intimacy* so you have to trust your instincts and nothing else. This takes things out of the public chat rooms and into the private inboxes.

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## Beware of Instant Intimacy

*The person you are chatting is reaching out to you in the same way as you are reaching out to that person; there is a tendency for an intimacy to build up even before you know it.*

The medium ceases to be the deciding factor and when a person presses you for information which you have to supply immediately *you might let certain details slip out* too early unless you are well prepared.

You have to be **on your guard**. Keep constantly reminding yourself that the person you are chatting with is, *after all a stranger* and a goodness-knows-what. *Avoid instant intimacy altogether.*

It doesn't matter if the other person finds you cold or reserved. You can easily escape by telling the other person that it *takes sometime for you to become comfortable with a person*. That in fact is a good quality because it is as good as saying, "Well, I'm sorry I'm not the loose kind who plays around."

Now, how to find out if the other person is lying? The Net can be a very unsafe place and you need to be **absolutely sure** about the good faith of the other person before revealing any personal details of yours. *So the next part has been devoted specifically for that.*

## 4 Ways To Tell If Someone Is Lying

1. As discussed earlier, we are not going to resort to singles' chat rooms dedicated specifically to online dating. Instead *we will be in chat rooms of specific interest*. So one very effective way of finding out if a person is lying would be to **ask the person very pointed questions about the area of interest**. If the person fumbles or gives vague answers then you do not have to waste your time on such a person.
2. From the moment you first make contact, jot down whatever details the person chooses to reveal to you and in subsequent encounters nonchalantly question the person about the details, **if there is a contradiction in the two details** then you can be as sure as pat that the person is lying.

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3. **Ask the person seemingly general questions but which in fact should have a very definite purpose**, for e.g. ask the person what he or she is looking for in such a relationship. Note down the answer. After two or three encounters again repeat the question and see whether the two answers match.
  4. **You could try pretending that you have chatted with the person before and innocently ask the person if he or she is such and such person (make something up) and try offering compliments** to the person like, "I really enjoyed chatting with you the other day. You were perfectly charming..." and so on. If the person *falls for cheap flattery* like this, then obviously he or she makes it a hobby to chat with people under various identities.

And so the chatting goes on until the person **really grows** on you. When you feel that you can really trust the person, you may try giving the person your telephone number.

The safest thing you can do about telephone numbers is to **mutually exchange it** preferably at the same time. It's really no big deal, you can afford to tell the person that you are just being wary, the person will understand.

If he or she does not, then there is a good chance that he or she will not understand a lot of other things as well. In that case, *dump the person*.



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## Step 4: Meeting Face To Face

Your online dating has taken wings by now. Once you have started talking over the telephone, *there is no reason to postpone a direct meeting*. But wait; there is no need to push it. You should not sound over anxious to meet this girl or guy.

Let the decision to meet *evolve over a number of telephone calls*. Bear these things in mind before you two actually meet.

### The Rendezvous

Do not invite someone home *before you have really met the person*. **Choose a public place** where there are plenty of people around, just to be safe.

Meet in a restaurant over lunch or dinner. There is one thing about having food together. When people sit together and have food together *they get to know a lot about each other*.

Table manners speak volumes about a person's upbringing and background and you can learn a lot about a person by observing him or her eat. Also, warm food has a wonderful effect on the human mind. It releases all those digestive juices and sets the tongue wagging. People loosen up a lot, especially after a glass of wine or two.

Never commit the **mistake of thinking** that the first meeting must end up in bed. No, it does not have to be so.

There is **no compulsion** on your part that you have to take the person home with you. Let that too evolve, so it is best to keep any such situations that might lead to a bed room scene completely at bay.

Be **clear about the time**. Evenings are tricky times to meet. If you have dinner together, then there comes the possibility of dropping the other person home.

And of course you can't just accept a ride and walk away after being dropped without inviting the other person in. And then one thing will lead to the other and then the inevitable is bound to happen.

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Lunch time is **the best time** because in the day time most of us are busy with work and we can just spare an hour or a half for lunch. Also, you can always leave on the pretext that you have to get back to work or something like that. Very few people end up going home together after lunch. Another thing is that at lunch the element of romance does not really come in.

Take care to be at the arranged spot on time, you certainly do not want to keep a person you are meeting for the first time waiting. **Dress appropriately** for the occasion, keep it simple but at the same time it should be something that looks good on you.

## Leaving Your Mark Behind

Now, suppose this date did work out as planned and you really and thoroughly enjoyed the company of the other person. *So how do you make sure that the other person does think about you?*

The answer is simple. Just **leave your mark** behind. Mind you, a business or visiting card is NOT appropriate here. Something **more personalized** would be more appropriate.

Put your **artistic and creative talents** into full gear. If you are poetic, pen down a few lines on a small card and hand it to the person. Mind you, *the lines should not be about the person*, but about **general topics** like friendship, relationships, togetherness, etc. Do the writing in advance.

Maybe you could get some dried flowers and stick them onto a card and copy down the lines of somebody else, but admit that the lines are not your to the person.

Keep such a token with you and wait for the right moment. Just before you part, hand it over to the person with a very shy expression on your face and a timid, *"I made this for you..."* Believe me, **its miles better to say** "I made this for you" than *"I bought this for you"*.

So what happens if you are not too sure that you want to see this person again? Well keep it with you itself and save it for the next person.

If the person is the right person, and if you did hand the person this **personalized token**, the person is sure to think of you in a much fonder way.

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## Clothes Makes A Man (Or Woman)

No need to be dressed to kill when you go out to lunch. The best thing about lunch dates is that most of us *would be in our work clothes* and that saves us the agony of choosing the right thing to wear on a first date.

A wonderful thing that you could do when going on a first date is to *make it a group activity*, preferably a foursome. This takes away the awkwardness of the situation and definitely takes away all those embarrassing moments of silence.

A group has another advantage in that **lesser attention** will be focused on each other so that there is **less stress** and as a result both partners would be more relaxed. It is also safer too, since there is safety in numbers.

But the company should be mutually agreeable and not be thrust upon the other person. But take care to *avoid any person who you know to be a chatterbox*; it takes all the fun away if one person dominates the conversation.

You may drink if you want to, but **do not drink too much** on your first date. Not only is it in bad taste but when you are drunk, you might blurt out something which you didn't mean to and that might ruin every thing.

## Footing the Bill

It is a good idea to decide before hand your **decision to go Dutch**, which means that each person should pay for whatever he or she has. If nothing works out of this relation you sure do not want to be obliged to the person.

When you choose the place, **avoid secluded spots** and places that you are not familiar with. *But the ambience is indeed important*. You cannot expect to have a tête-à-tête in a crowded shopping mall, can you?



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## Many Dates

What happens if you get more than one to date at more or less the same time? Hey, that is probably the very thing we are looking out for. You could go on different dates and *choose the one most suited for you*.

There is no need to feel guilty *as long as you do not promise anyone that you are not seeing anyone else*.

## Offline Dating: How To Make That Great Impression

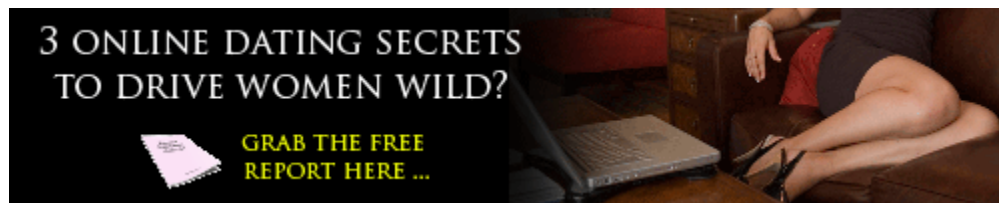
When you are dating online, you are at an advantage. For e.g. the other person does not really see you and you do not really have to bother about appearances. You can devote your entire energy towards sounding intelligent and witty.

But when you actually sit in front of your online date, there are a **thousand things** that you have to pay attention to. On your first date at least you certainly have to keep up appearances.

Let us start with your physical appearance. It is very important that *you have to appear well groomed*. Take special care about things like **nails, hair, and teeth**. Check for bad breath too because that indeed is the worst turn off. Smell nice too.

What you wear **should not be loud** and attract the wrong kind of attention. Wear something that you are comfortable in and *at the same time that looks good on you*.

Ladies, please be careful about your make-up, and remember that make-up is meant to *accentuate your looks not to hide it*. Avoid garish colors.



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## The Secret is Charm

All the things that have been said so far are about how you can create a favorable impression. There is something that is **equally or even more important** than that, and *that is to make the other person feel comfortable*. Help the other person relax.

After chatting online for a while, you do know a great deal about each other. The best thing you can do is to ease the tension and break the ice. Sometimes the ice gets so thick that you can literally feel it. Break it up by cracking a joke or two.

But the joke should be spontaneous and in keeping with the situation or else it will fall flat. Do not rehearse a joke because a rehearsed joke sounds ...well...rehearsed.

The [key word here is charm](#). Use all the charm that you can muster. Try to be as considerate and as thoughtful as possible. Do not dominate the conversation but try to get the other person talking.

People generally love to talk about themselves so try to get the other person talking by asking about the person's work. Show interest in whatever the other person says. Here is an [inexpensive resource which includes audios](#) if you want to become a master charmer.

Try to be a good conversationalist. A good conversationalist is *not only a person who talks well*, but *is one who listens well as well*. So be a good listener. And while you are listening try not to get distracted by something else or the other person might feel that you are losing interest in what he or she is saying.

The next question is, *"What do you do if you find that the other person is dominating the conversation?"*

Well, in that case listen patiently for a minute or two and then give a subtle sign like a raised eyebrow or a smile through the corner of your mouth. If the other person is intelligent enough, he or she will get the cue. If not, then decide that *you don't have to listen to this person for the rest of your life*.

Humor rarely fails. But again take care not to over do it. There is only one thing worse than a total lack of humor and that is too much humor.



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## Gifts?

It is a good idea to take a gift along with you, but remember that *when you are courting the gifts should be limited to flowers or chocolates only*. While you are chatting try to find out *what the other person likes in flowers and chocolates*. You certainly don't want to give the person flowers that he or she is allergic to.

The object of your gift should not be to woo the person *but to create a good and lasting impression*. There is **no sense in splurging** a lot on your first date for there is no guarantee that every thing should work out well the first time itself. Do not over do it and at the same time do not appear cheap and stingy either.

However if your date has forgotten to bring you a gift, *be quick to reassure the person that it is perfectly alright*. Do not let the other person feel uneasy. In fact, that is a **wonderful way to make the conversation** light. You can jokingly tell the other person to get you a gift the next time.



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## Step 5: Once Bitten...

*If this first date does not work out what should you do?*

The answer is very simple, repeat the whole process again!

Instead of putting all your eggs in one basket, keep the avenues open. Don't just bank on one person, because if that doesn't work out, you might lose heart. You can hope for the best *but expect the contrary as well*.

*Only the very lucky ones get the right pick at the first go itself.* For the rest of us, we just have to keep trying till we succeed. Take your time, give yourself some breathing space and then make the right moves again.

Nobody can force you into making a commitment. Of course, if you get the right cues and **something deep down inside tells you** that this is the right person for you, then what are you waiting for, go ahead and show the green signal.

But on the other hand if **someone is trying to force you** into making a commitment and you feel hard pressed, *gently try to break away*. All you have to do is to be firm and tell the person that you need more time.

However, you can't keep a person waiting indefinitely.

Tell the person that you need perhaps a week's time or more than that. But don't let the person realize that you are checking out other people. Just tell them that *this is probably the most important decision in your life* so you just want to be sure.



**Why Do Babes Date Jerks?**  
**Don't Read This if**  
**You're a Nice Guy...**

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## In Closing...

Before signing off – If things do not work out please take care to **part gracefully**. In such instances it is not the best decision to say such things over chat.

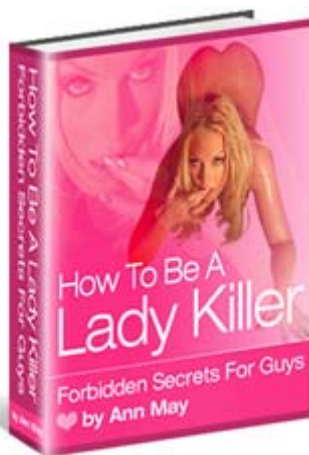
The best thing you could do is send the person an e-mail telling him or her that he or she was not really what you had in mind, *but you would like to remain good friends all the same*.

You do not have to worry about being pestered by the other person in future; the “good friends” part never fails. Most people dislike to be called a good friend after a close encounter. *In most cases the relationship just sizzles out after this*. However please remember that it is indeed bad manners to part with out a word and just stop answering mails without any information at all.

So that is all about it. You need to go out there and make your presence felt and come back with the catch of a lifetime.

To your first dating success online!

**Recommended Reading:** If you have time, grab a copy of [How To Be A Lady Killer](#). This is a very comprehensive and in-depth book on dating with some sizzling dating success tips that you may not want to miss.



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