

“Desired Relationship Outcomes”

Identifying your relationship goal(s) for dating is something you must reflect upon, because it will provide you the direction for your efforts.

You cannot hit a target you have not yet identified.

Below are the general relationship outcomes you may be desiring, and a brief explanation. Remember, everyone isn't looking for the same outcome(s) from dating. (And that's ok!)

Select desired outcome(s) from the list below.

Marriage, finding your future spouse

- Not much explanation needed, you're looking for someone to share the rest of your life with.

Serious, long-term relationship

- You're looking for something serious, though without the ultimate pressure of marriage. Maybe marriage is in the picture if things go well sometime in the future, but a committed relationship is what you're after. You're not looking to “play the field.”

Short-term relationship

- Not everyone is looking for something long term. Maybe you're focused on work, moving in a few months, but you want the commitment of a relationship...with the understanding that it's just enjoying the present, and isn't intended to be for forever.

Dating opportunities

- You just want to meet new people, enjoy their company, and have a good time. Are you looking for it to end in marriage or a committed relationship? Not really. Could it, though? Maybe. But it's not what you're thinking from Day One.

Casual sex with multiple partners

- Your goal is having sex, and you want to enjoy sex with multiple partners. You are not trying to be in a committed relationship, and your primary desire is sexual gratification, which is not necessarily exclusive of respect, mutual understanding, and benefit. Essentially, having multiple "fuck buddies" or "friends with benefits." (See explanation below)

"Friend with benefits"

- You want a friend you can talk to, hang out with, and **also** have sex with. This does not include a committed relationship of exclusivity.

"Fuck Buddy"

- You don't want a relationship, or even the effort of genuine friendship. You want someone who you can have sex with and fulfill your sexual needs. And that's it. But you are looking for one person to fulfill this role in your life, and not multiple partners as in "Casual sex with multiple partners."

NSA ("No Strings Attached")

- No "strings," no responsibilities, no expectations. You want to have sex without attachment and/or responsibility. You don't have to call, be a real friend, be committed/exclusive, or even cuddle and spend the night. It's...just...sex.

Hookup

- You're not even thinking ahead to wanting something like a consistent "Fuck Buddy" or "Friends with Benefits." You're just looking for someone to have sex with that meets your standards. What you want after that...you aren't sure. Hookups can be a one-time interaction, or they can become something that repeats and escalates into another of the listed outcomes.

New friends

- Some online daters are just looking to make new friends. Who else has good conversation? Who might also have the same interests?
- **NOTE:** This is often only the goal of a person who has experienced repeated failure with dating and Online Dating, and then justifies low (and poor) effort with low expectations. Why get on an online dating app/site if not to search for someone for more than friendship??

Networking opportunities

- Much like the individual using Online Dating to find new friends, some people will use the online dating platforms to network. These individuals are either coming from a place of failure and justifying such low expectations and effort, or they are individuals taking advantage of Online Dating to hopefully turn someone else's attraction into their financial or career gain.



BEFORE MOVING ON, WHAT IS YOUR DESIRED OUTCOME? (More than one desired outcome is OK!)