

The
Ultimate
Romantics
Guide
to
Power
Flirting

v.1.0.0

Presented by
The-Ultimate-Romantic.com

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The Ultimate Romantic's Guide To Power Flirting

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What is “Power Flirting”?

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It's flirting on steroids!

You probably noticed if you read the previous report, “[The 5 Secrets To Ultimate Seduction](#)”, that flirting is high on the list of “power skills” when it comes to the “art and craft” of seduction.

It doesn't matter whether you are a man or a woman. Flirting rocks when it comes to successfully attracting a suitable companion or mate into your inner circle of contacts, and it's “step one” in the process of Ultimate Seduction!

And we know where that leads! (Hopefully ...!) ;-)

Flirting is the process of making playful romantic or sexual overtures.

The nearest parallel in the animal world are the “courtship rituals” (sometimes actual “dances”) that members of the opposite sex engage in during the process of attracting and selecting (or being selected as) a mate, for the purpose of procreation and perpetuating the species.

For humans, however, flirting can be a fun and pleasant pastime undertaken for it's own sake. It's all part of the exhilarating emotional and relational interplay that occurs between the sexes.

[Note: In this guide, we will be limiting our discussion to romantic and sexual interplay *between* the sexes. You will naturally find that many of the principles may just as easily apply to same-sex flirtations - we simply will not be focussing on that aspect of

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the subject here.]

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Flirting is a form of “adult play”. Of course in an ulterior way it is play with a “purpose”.

Just as we can consume food for the sheer pleasure of it, we can also engage in the “play” of flirting.

Many regular practitioners of the flirting arts, in fact, can become quite sophisticated and skilled in the “game”.

The difference is similar to that between the gourmet and connoisseur who can appreciate the subtle nuances of a fine meal or wine, and with someone whose idea of “haute cuisine” is a quick late-night run down to the local hamburger establishment.

There are places (and people) for both tastes, and for a nearly infinite variety of tastes in between.

So whether you are simply looking to add some basic flirtation skills to your playbook as the best way to “score” some action tonight, or whether you revel in the subtle nuance and meaning of the game itself, you will find value in these pages.

As we mentioned, flirting at it's most basic level is how we initially express a sexual or romantic interest in another person, in a fun, playful, open, low-pressure, and non-threatening way.

Generally, if you are attracted to another person, you will flirt with them in some way as a way of discovering whether they are attracted to you as well.

You (or the other person) will do this in a way that

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minimizes your initial emotional investment, as well as the emotional “risk” of rejection.

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No harm, no foul.

Because “flirting” is a way by which you can uncover if a person in whom you are interested or attracted, is attracted or (at least potentially) interested in you as well.

If you flirt, and they don't flirt back, it's probably good to assume that you should move on and invest your time and energies in someone else, who may display more of an interest.

As we continue this lesson, keep this in mind: Flirting is FUN! If you find yourself becoming overly serious about it, or too emotionally invested in the outcome, you've put yourself at a disadvantage!

Understand this. Attraction is not a choice! You cannot “reason” someone into being attracted to you. They will either be attracted to you, for a variety of reasons or on a variety of possible levels, or they won't be - and all the logic in the world is not going to change their mind.

It might, however, lead to a great deal of angst and unpleasantness. If not jail time. So regardless of how “attracted” you are to someone, use your flirting knowledge and skills to uncover the truth of their attraction to you as quickly as possible, so that you don't spend time and energy chasing shadows.

If it becomes apparent that they simply are not attracted to you, or worse, are simply “leading you on” as some sort of cruel sadistic game that they like to play -- then “cut bait” (as the fishermen say) and move on!

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There are lots (and lots!) of other fish in the sea. With your new-found skills and knowlege in the art of flirting, you are going to meet a lot of them, and have a really fun time doing it (even if all you're looking for is a quick 'burger and fries'!)

Trust me. When it "clicks" - and I mean REALLY "clicks" - you'll KNOW, and the game will be "on"!

Flirting is extremely important at the beginning of a relationship or contact, because it is a gauge of how interested (or attracted) the other person is to you.

If you detect someone "flirting" with you, and you are attracted, flirt back!

Game on!

Often you will experience what you might think of as "drive-by" flirting. Someone flirts you flirt back ... there seems to be a "connection" or genuine attraction there, and then suddenly they disengage and are gone.

What's up with that?

Instead of feeling "victimized" and bewildered, just accept it as part of the "game" that it is. It's "play", and sometimes all that someone wants is a few rounds of light verbal play that "feel good", and that's it. Or at least for the time being.

Perhaps they'll come back around looking for a "rematch". Flirting is not an activity that begins "promptly at 6:00 o'clock" and end's up rolling around in a bed no later than 10:15. It's a process - and one that could go

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on for days, weeks, or even years.

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It might end up somewhere significant - it might not. It may seem counter-intuitive, but try to detach yourself from the outcome, if you happen to be looking for one.

Remember that "Flirting Is FUN!" Take the pressure off of yourself and the situation, and you will be amazed at the results!

Remember, you'll be doing your own share of "drive-by" flirting too. Maybe it was fun, there was an attraction, but the time just wasn't "right", or the extra "spark" just wasn't there. That's okay.

One of the reasons that flirtation is so attractive and appealing, is that to successfully "flirt", you **MUST** have a certain level of self-confidence and good feelings about yourself.

It is the sort of presence that communicates to the other person that you are comfortable with yourself, like yourself, and just naturally assume that they (will) like you too.

It's the sense you have about yourself that says that you are pleased and comfortable with who you are, and whether the other person likes you or not, it's not going to change the positive way that you feel about yourself.

It's the sense that other people's liking you is merely "icing on the cake" to the great and wonderful life that you have!

If you are someone who is suffering from an emotional deficit, who is very "needy", you are going to have

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problems in the flirting (and relationships) game.

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I'm not saying that you won't be able to flirt. In fact successful flirting will likely become a very affirming experience for you!

However, if you tend to be a little on the "low-self-esteem" side, you will need to be on your guard to keep things "light", and not fall into the trap of "fishing" for compliments and affirmations from the other person.

Remember - self confidence is an *aphrodisiac*. If you are self-confident and comfortable with yourself, you will not NEED endless compliments to feel good.

Paradoxically, by being so comfortable with yourself, you will then be more attractive, others will be more attracted to you, and you will unavoidably receive affirmation just from the fact of their being so obviously attracted to being with you.

If this does not come naturally to you - practice it. Fake it until you make it. And play in the shallow end of the pool at first!

And if we find that someone is NOT attracted to us, does that mean that we are not attractive, or worthy of love?

Of course not! It only means that you are trying to hang out with the wrong people! Remember that people are different, in an infinite number of ways. The trick is to find those that YOU "click" with.

Even the seemingly most "popular" or attractive people will not be liked by everyone - and very likely they were

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not always as successful with people as you see them now. Very likely, they've had to work at it too. Or their apparent outward success may only mask other, deeper problems in their lives.

Notes

Earlier we mentioned that flirting can be enjoyed simply for its own sake - as a form of mutual "entertainment" and enjoyment, and as an activity of connecting with and relating to other human beings in a social context.

This is really no different than any other activity that you might enjoy in the company of others - whether it is a musical "jam" session, or sports, or political debate.

All of these are activities that many people enjoy, just for their own sake, or just for the opportunity to socialize and interact with other people.

The only difference here is, that flirting has a distinct romantic and sexual basis. It is a human "courtship ritual" - a mating dance - whether it is ultimately consummated or not.

While the "dance" may have at its evolutionary root the drive to procreate and to select a mate, flirting is also a method for creating enough of an interpersonal attraction or connection for two interested individuals, in order for them to engage in a "casual" or limited sexual liaison, rather than for establishing a long-term relationship.

As we will explore later, (and as you might recall from "[**The 5 Secrets To Ultimate Seduction**](#)"), flirting is an integral part of the process of arousal, especially for women. If done well, it only adds to the power and intensity of the sexual experience, for both (or all) partners! Flirting is Foreplay!

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Flirting is “invitational mystery”. Flirting creates, or builds, sexual tension - the sense of anticipation - and lends itself to an imagining of the possibilities in store!

For both men and women, the sexual experience is a mental one, as much (if not more) than it is an emotional or physical one.

There are three distinct aspects to flirting. Each has it's own characteristics and roll to play in the overall experience, and indicates a certain stage or progression of the “game”

These aspects or stages can be identified as follows, and pretty much occur in this order:

1. Body Language
2. Conversation
3. Physical Contact

BODY LANGUAGE

“Body Language”, or what we identify as the physical movements, postures, expressions, and/or gestures that communicate our emotions, are thought by many experts to be *even more powerful* than spoken language in communicating information.

This is in part because body language occurs mostly on an *unconscious* level. In other words, the person communicating is often unaware of just what he or she is communicating, or how it is being communicated. It thus tends to be a more honest indicator of the individual's inner “truth”.

In many cases, the information being communicated through body language can totally contradict the information that is being communicated verbally.

This is why it is so difficult to have a conversation over the telephone, or via letters, Instant Messaging, or e-mail. We tend to be missing the visual clues that can inform us as to the emotional context of the information, or even as to its truth or validity.

Research indicates that our actual verbal communication, or spoken words, conveys only a mere 7% of what we communicate. Our tone of voice, it is estimated, conveys approximately 35% to 40%, and our posture, expression, and gestures convey a whopping 50%. To this you might also be able to add the pheromonal, or information conveyed through our scent.

While some people possess such an awareness of

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their own physical cues that they are able to at least partially control or modify the information that they convey through their body language, usually such things are happening on an unconscious level.

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Frequently we find that we are unable to control the messages, even if we are explicitly conscious of them! That's how powerful, and how potentially useful, they are.

Have you ever noticed how difficult it is to "read" a person who is wearing sunglasses? Police officers and poker players use this to their advantage.

You've heard the expressions, "*the eyes have it*", and "*the eyes are the windows to the soul*"?

The human body is made up of 529 muscles. Of these, 53 are in the face. That's fully 10% - and facial expressions are capable of communicating a tremendous amount of information.

Yet if you block out a person's face except for their eyes, you can still obtain a great deal of information from visual cues. If on the other hand you block out the eyes, you will receive almost no reliable information.

Have you ever met someone who smiled at you warmly, but whose smile ended just below their eyes? What was your impression of the sincerity of that person?

Body language however is NOT an exact science. You cannot simply look at a person and say, "they did THAT, therefore that means THIS".

There are some general rules that SEEM to hold true

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the majority of the time. However, circumstances, culture, training, and even personal idiosyncrasies can lead to a mis-reading of even the most obvious gesture or posture.

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So don't take what you are about to read as gospel. They are possible indicators or guidelines only. Everything happens in a context, and you must consider the whole. Your own emotional state at the moment will affect your perception, and this too must be taken into account.

If you watch a couple that is deep in conversation with each other, you'll often notice that they will shift their positions until they mimic each other in almost a mirror image. They will face each other, relax, and shift their breathing patterns to match each other's. They will also tend to adjust their voice volume and pitch to more closely match that of the other.

You've probably experienced encounters where everything just felt "wrong" - that somehow you were "out of sync" with each other. Body language was one way that this was being communicated.

Similarly, you've probably experienced times when everything has just "clicked". When you moved, they moved. Both of you were relaxed, comfortable, and seeming to be just where you needed to be (physically), at just the right moment.

As you begin to understand the basics of body language, you'll begin to pick up on these signs, making you more aware of how your dates or companions really feel at any particular moment in a conversation, or even before a conversation begins.

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You will also become more aware of the non-verbal cues that YOU are sending out.

For example, if you are speaking and acting self-confidently, but your posture indicates indecision and subordination, which message do you think will come through more loudly?

Even if your companion isn't conscious of the cues, he or she is likely to feel somehow "uncomfortable", like something isn't "quite right".

Armed with knowledge of how your body communicates information, you can take at least some steps to make sure that your non-verbal communications are in step with your verbal ones - or are at least not directly contradicting them!

Body language is more than just a quiver or a shiver - it is made up of dozens of tiny clues and cues that include posture, gestures, facial expressions, eye contact, tone of voice, and others.

Both men and women send out unconscious, non-verbal cues. Women, however, it is estimated send out roughly FIVE TIMES more sexual body language than men!

This may be because, on an evolutionary level, women may understand that men are very "visually" oriented. Or perhaps this tendency in women is WHY men have become so visually oriented!

A few of the more commonly-recognized body language cues include (for both men and women):

- **Personal Space** - One of the most important cues to watch out for. If he or she enters your “personal space” (usually defined as the physical distance from you within which you generally will feel uncomfortable if you have not explicitly given a person permission to be there), this is an excellent sign that he or she wants to get closer to you.

If he or she enters this space too quickly however, before trust is developed or permission given, this can be viewed as overly aggressive and threatening. This may also be a clue as to the level of aggressiveness in the person’s personality, which may tell you whether or not you will be comfortable with that person.

Since women will often feel “put off”, pressured, or even threatened by a “direct” approach, it is often less threatening for a man to begin a conversation with a woman “from the side”, or even over a shoulder.

- **The Arm Cross** - A classic, and not a good sign. This usually indicates that the person is “closed” to you, cautious, or defensive. If this posture is maintained, it is a good sign that he or she is not interested and it’s time to back off and/or move on.

On the other hand, arms spread apart, on the back of a neighboring chair, or even held behind the body, indicates an open-ness, with

“defenses down”.

Notes

And guys - if she holds her arms down, or better yet behind her, and begins to arch her back, as if to push her breasts toward you, she is DEFINITELY interested in more than just what you're saying! Game On!

- **A Smile** - A relaxed, natural smile indicates openness, friendliness, a positive attitude, a good mood, and communicates that he or she is enjoying your company, and that you're fun to be with.

Watch out for a tense or tight smile, or a smile that “ends just beneath the eyes”. This is the smile of someone trying superficially to be sociable, but who is really not open or interested.

CONVERSATION

Conversation plays an extremely important role in the flirting process, as it is the phase during which you begin to get to “know” one another, and begin to form impressions as to the other person’s likes, dislikes, personality, and so on.

This does not necessarily mean a conversation that is full of weighty matters such as geopolitics or the theological implications of the meaning of life. Nor does it mean that you give a recital of your resume and portfolio. Remember, Flirting Is FUN! Think of conversation in terms of verbal “banter”, or fencing - block, parry, thrust!

If they’re genuinely interested and attracted to you, there will be plenty of time and opportunity to “fill in the details”. So keep it light and “fun” for now! Tease. Use (tasteful) humor. “Bust” on each other a little. Show that you are confident and self-assured by NOT seeking signs of approval from the other person. Be who you ARE. Let yourself hang out, and let the other person “take it or leave it”.

If the attraction is there, they will want to find out more about you. They will ask specific questions, often in response to your questions. They will listen to your answers, and respond specifically to them. Very importantly, they will be genuinely open to your answers, and will not maliciously belittle you. Meanness is a method of creating emotional distance.

There is a fine line between light-hearted, flirtatious “teasing” and “ball-busting”, and meanness. Don’t seek

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to put the other person down, belittle them, and “grind them under the heel” of your intellect. That just shows them that you are actually a weak person who is not very confident.

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The best clue to whether you are approaching the line or have crossed it, is whether the other person laughs. If they laugh or giggle (genuinely, and not just a polite “ha-ha” laugh), then they are enjoying the banter.

If they stop laughing, though, and begin to look hurt or pained, you’d be well advised to back off right away, apologize (briefly - you don’t have to overdo it), and change the subject back to something a little more positive.

If you haven’t already gone way overboard, most people will generally accept one genuine apology and move on. Continue to put yourself in that position, however, and you will begin to be regarded as weak and mean, and not a good companion.

If you sense that the conversation is getting out of control, you might do well to call a truce and break it off for a bit. You might be able to come back around and try again after tempers have cooled.

Keep it light, keep it humorous, keep it charming. SMILE! Flirting is FUN!

It is a good idea to remember that men and women think differently, and may take entirely different things away from a conversation. Take this into account.

In general, men will be more comfortable talking about physical THINGS - their job, their car, their hobbies, or

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maybe their latest techno-toy. They love to come up with the solutions to problems, and give their expert opinion on everything from sports, to cars, to politics.

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Women, on the other hand, in addition to being seemingly able to talk endlessly about the most (apparently) trivial of matters, in excruciating detail, will be more comfortable talking about relationships, their friends, what their friends are doing, what their friends are wearing, what their friends said, and what some other friends said about what their friends said.

She is probably also quite used to being in the company of men who will bore her with renditions of their opinions. So if you want to make points, ask her what HER opinion is, and be prepared to listen!

In general, the key to good, flirtatious conversation is to:

- **Listen attentively** - make eye contact.
- **Talk about things of mutual interest** - Find out what your common interests, hobbies, friends, or activities are. Talk about them!
- **Don't dominate the conversation** - Don't endlessly talk about yourself. Answer his or her questions, and be sure to ask questions about him or her as well. Listen to the answers!
- **A good conversational technique** is to listen to the last thing that the other person just said, and then ask a follow-up question that is based on something in the other person's statement. (If you get good at this you can keep a conversation going for hours, never say

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a word about yourself, and have the other person telling their friends what a “wonderful conversationalist” you are.

Notes

People LOVE to talk about themselves and their interests. Listen to them, and they'll adore you!)

PHYSICAL CONTACT

There are several different methods of “flirtatious touching”, but it is one of the more important signs to watch for at the beginning of the flirting process.

After you have established the person’s open-ness through your observation of their body language, and have engaged them in a light-hearted, flirtatious conversation, now is the time for a “physical” check.

This physical check is nothing more than a seemingly accidental or unconscious “casual” touch. It may be a gentle touch to the arm or hand as you laugh at a joke.

If you’re a guy, don’t jump ahead and go for the old “hand on the knee” ploy. That’s way too aggressive and threatening. This is a test - not a proposition.

Whatever you do, make sure that the touch is friendly, casual, and positive. Watch and note whether the other person responds positively to the touch.

If the person accepts your touch with a friendly gesture, a smile, or a returned touch, then all has gone well.

If on the other hand he or she moves away or ignores the touch, then they are not (yet) open to going further.

Don’t press it. Back off, and either continue your conversation and watch for other body language clues before trying another test, or break it off and either move on, or save it for another day.

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Remember, there is not a time limit on successful flirtation. It is not a timed event. Sure, you may be hot to score a bed-mate for later in the evening, but if the other person isn't in the same frame of mind, or if you are just not "it" for them (at least tonight) you'll do more harm than good trying to go there too soon. Successful flirtation can take hours, or it can take days or weeks.

Notes

Tip: Especially for you guys reading this - practiced "masters" at the seductive arts report that it takes AT LEAST 7-8 hours of contact from initial introduction to "in the sack", and THAT's with someone that they've identified as specifically "looking to score" themselves.

With someone that you're seriously interested in, and especially as a beginner, it should probably take quite a bit more time, not less.

Don't be a predator. Project the impression that you "don't care" if you have ever sex with her or not. Take the pressure off, and she'll be much more likely to trust you, and to open up to you (emotionally and physically).

For both men and women, touch is powerful. Use it wisely. Touch can communicate to the other person that you have let your defenses down, are accepting them, that you like them and are open to them, and are open to getting emotionally, and possibly physically, closer.

ESPECIALLY FOR MEN

Face it, guys. Sometimes it's pretty OBVIOUS when a woman is "flirting" with us.

I mean, c'mon. We may not always be all that "quick on the up-take", but there are times when you just can't miss it. And then the question in our mind is, what do we do about it?

But first questions first. If it's NOT "obvious", how can we "know" that we're being "flirted with"?

There are no real hard-and-fast rules. Every one is different, and every woman will act and respond differently. But there are some general guidelines, and some things you can be aware of, and be on the lookout for.

If you think that a woman is open to flirting, or perhaps more, then put your toe in the water and check it out!

Flirting, other than being fun, and an opening stage to seduction, is all about "testing the waters", in a non-threatening, limited way, to see if a woman is open or not.

If she's warm to it, take it a little further. If she's not, then let it go and move on. Don't be a pest, and for gosh sakes, don't be some sort of psychotic stalker. Both are traits of weakness (or weakness in the extreme!), and as we know, weakness is NOT attractive to a woman!

Appearance Matters

Notes

Think about the women you've observed over the years.

Isn't it true that you can often just look at a woman, and almost instantly tell if she's single or in a relationship?

How do you do that?

The truth is, women will put out an enormous number of non-verbal "clues" that will tell you, almost sub-consciously, whether she is "open" to a relationship, or if she isn't. It isn't about being married, either. It's whether she is open to attracting and relating to someone new.

Never mind that all you (or she) might be looking for is a night of lustful fun. To a woman, it's ALL about relationship. Even if it's a very short one - say for a few hours or a night.

She must believe that you care. If you don't, she has to convince herself that you do, at least for a little while.

Here are a few general guidelines that will help you identify a woman who is "open" or in the market for a relationship:

- **Wears "sexy" clothes**, especially clothes that show off her cleavage.
- **If not in full makeup, is at least neat and clean in appearance.** Most women will use more makeup and take more care with their hair and general appearance, at times they

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are more open and “looking”.

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- Weather-permitting of course, **the more open her shoes are** (as in open-toed sandals or similar), the more willing she is to be open.
- **Has a tall, straight posture** while sitting or walking
- **Sways her hips** while walking
- **Tosses, plays with, or twirls her hair**
- **Plays with her jewelry**, especially her necklace, and especially if she is playing with it and lightly stroking the area between her throat and just above her cleavage.
- **Smiles or laughs a lot**
- **Quickly and easily engages** with you (or others) **in conversation** - whether you initiate it or she does.
- **Face her body squarely or directly toward you** when speaking to you (compared to speaking to you “from the side” or “over the shoulder”.)
- **Tilts her head and/or exposes her neck** (even more easy to spot if she has long hair and is constantly sweeping it back to expose her neck.
- **Raises her eyebrows and opens her eyes**

wide.

Notes

Note that she may exhibit these behaviors with you, or you may observe her with these behaviors from a distance.

Also notice that while most women will dress attractively most of the time, that there is a (sometimes subtle) difference between dressing attractively, and dressing provocatively, or dressing to attract.

Be careful. Some women dress provocatively simply because they enjoy the attention it gets them. They want to feel pretty and desirable, but it may not mean that they are “open” or “looking”.

Nor does a woman's being “open” or “looking” necessarily mean that she is going to be open and looking for YOU. Attraction is not a choice. Don't sweat it.

All of the general guidelines and signs that you will read about here have to be considered within a context of the whole.

And even if it seems obvious and apparent that a woman is open and looking, you need to check it out and test the waters a little, before committing all of your forces (and your ego) to the game.

This is where flirting comes in. It is a means of “testing the water” in a light-hearted and low-commitment way.

If the woman responds favorably, you can take it further. If she does not respond, or if she responds negatively, you can beat a gracious and dignified retreat, no harm done.

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Here are some other signs to watch for, particularly while you are engaging her in conversation or active flirtation (since they will then pertain particularly to YOU):

- **Giggles or laughs at your comments and jokes**
- **Giggles or laughs when you laugh**
- **Smiles at you**
- **Makes frequent eye contact with you**
- **Licks or bites her lips.**
- **Puts her fingernail between her teeth**
- **Touches her cheek**
- **Plays with her jewelry, especially necklace and earrings.**
- **Exposes her palms and the insides of her wrists**
- **Winks at you**
- **Tosses, plays with, or twirls her hair**
- **Crosses and uncrosses her legs**
- **Slips her foot in and out of her shoe**
- **Holds a lingering gaze a few seconds longer than usual**

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Notes

- Engages with you in friendly banter or teasing
- Smiles and giggles at your teasing
- Smiles at you suggestively or coyly
- Swirls her finger along the edge of her glass while looking at you or listening to you.
- Suggestively slides something along her lips while watchin you, such as a straw or bite of food, especially a piece of fruit, or something long.
- “Casually” touches your arm, shoulder, thigh, or hand while talking to you
- Raises or lowers her voice volume to match yours (mirroring)
- Raises her eyebrows and opens her eyes wide as you are speaking
- Leans in toward you, listens attentively to what you are saying
- Occasionally leans back, or positions herself in such a way that her back is arched, and her breasts are pressed out toward you (hands and arms at her sides or behind her)

Many of these gestures and clues can and may be

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performed consciously and deliberately, but often many of them are done unconsciously, giving you an honest outward indication of a woman's internal emotional state.

Notes

These nonverbal, flirtatious cues can signify that a woman is interested and attracted to you. You just need to know what they are, recognize them, and be observant enough to pick up on them in real-time!

Many, if not most of these flirtatious clues exude an almost blatant sexual suggestiveness. Even the most brain-dead male will eventually pick up on at least some of them, even if it's only sub-consciously, and even if they haven't got a clue (or the courage) to do anything about it.

To the trained and observant eye, these cues represent a treasure-trove of information, relating to a woman's state of mind, her internal emotional state, whether she is open and looking for a new relationship, and (very important) whether she is interested and attracted to YOU.

One of the most common, and readily observable, flirtatious behaviors is the "hair flip". When a woman runs her fingers through her hair, or flips her hair, she's generally trying to get your attention (or at least someone's attention. - maybe the guy sitting next to you!)

Traps To Watch Out For

Here are a few "negative signs" that you need to be aware of, so that you can avoid a situation where the woman is NOT open, or is deciding that maybe you're NOT the one, after all.

If you notice a woman exhibiting any of these cues or behaviors, it generally means that she's not (or is no longer) interested, and that it's time to "cut bait" and move on.

- **She's hunched over**, arms crossed or folded in front of her (closed).
- **She is tapping her fingers** or on her glass (bored or impatient)
- **She taps her foot** or keeps her legs uncrossed.
- **She won't look you directly in the eye**, avoids your gaze completely.
- **She doesn't smile at you, and doesn't giggle or laugh at your jokes**, or only does so politely and without much enthusiasm.
- **She seems distracted**, isn't paying attention to what you're saying, and doesn't respond to your questions or comments, or does so very slowly, almost reluctantly.
- **She aligns her body away from you** or turns away, indicating that she is "closed" to you.

Some women like to "toy" with a man, hook him, and then let him dangle.

Remember, the more that you "try" to get her attention and approval, the weaker you will appear, and the more repelled the woman will be.

So don't "hang on" to a situation gone south, trying to regain the connection. Just smile and move on confidently.

This often has the effect of confusing the woman, and throwing her off her "game". Why did you leave so quickly? Didn't you find her attractive? How can this be?

Suddenly, she finds herself in a position where she wants and needs YOUR approval, and the challenge is to attract you back, if only so that SHE can be the one to dump YOU.

Remember, genuine strength and self-confidence in a man are extremely attractive to women. They almost can't help it.

So don't be a wuss. When the situation calls for it, walk away. Do it with dignity, grace, and a smile, and you'll live on to flirt another day (if she doesn't follow you right out the door!)

How to Approach Her

For most men (even the most suave), the most nerve-racking moments are between the time when you've observed a woman, decided that she's at least open to a relationship or conversation, perhaps even that she is making signals indicating that she's interested in YOU — and that moment of truth when you approach her to actually open a conversation.

It doesn't help that most women will tend to travel in

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packs (there's safety in numbers). So not only do you have the risk of being "shot down", but you risk being shot down in front of her friends.

Notes

Or perhaps she has approached YOU, and you're so shocked and surprised that you can't think of two words to say!

Here are some things to keep in mind while approaching a woman:

- **Have self-confidence** and exude it from every pore when approaching her. Keep your head held high, your shoulders back, and your chest out - but be relaxed and not stiff about it!
- **Smile - Smile - Smile!** An easy, confident, friendly smile. Not some big cheesy grin.
- **Keep the encounter easy-going and care-free.** Stay in the moment. Don't worry about where it's going - and don't think about whether you're going to be able to take her home tonight.

If necessary, make it a brief "fly-by" encounter, with a simple greeting and a funny comment, then move on. Circle back later.

- **Don't approach her directly** (face on) or move immediately into her personal space, as both of these are aggressive and threatening.

For most people this space is a perimeter

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about 3-4 feet around them. This may be difficult to avoid in a crowded club, however.

Notes

A good approach is to move into an adjoining space, half-facing away from her, and then giving your opening line or remark over your shoulder. This is non-invasive and non-threatening, and gives you a dignified “out” if her initial response is not positive.

If the conversation progresses, gradually turn in until you are facing her, to indicate openness. If she is interested she will mirror your position.

Gradually move closer into her “personal space”. If she recoils or backs away, back off. She’s not ready or “open” to you yet. If she lets you get closer, or better yet, responds by drawing closer to you as well, that’s good!

Easy boy! Take it slow. One step forward, half a step back. Keep her guessing.

- **Have a good opening line prepared and in mind.** Try to avoid the most common and over-used cheesy “pick-up” lines. Most women have heard them a thousand times already, and will instantly pigeon-hole you as “one of *them*”.

Be different. Be original. Be you! Be flirtatious, but avoid being overly suggestive at this early stage. Light humor tends to work well. Or perhaps an observation or question about something in the room. Ask her opin-

ion.

Notes

- **If your opening gambit receives a positive response, introduce yourself.** Tell her your name - first name only for now. If she responds with hers, she's at least a little open. If she doesn't, you can try asking her for her name. Does she give it to you readily? Or does she seem unsure and reluctant? What does that tell you?
- **Speak openly and honestly.** You don't have to answer every question directly. It helps to keep a little mystery going.

This isn't an interrogation and you're not in court. You can even answer a question with a question.

Be slightly mysterious, and mischievous, but not blatantly evasive, as she'll tend to wonder if maybe you're hiding the fact that you're an escaped convict, or something.

- **Avoid straight recitations of your resume.** Let her ask questions about you, and then answer them, but not completely.

If you can answer questions in such a way as to leave her open to ask another question in follow-up, do so. You'll hold her interest longer, and present more of a challenge.

- **Nod, or give other more verbal cues to show that you're listening.**

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Notes

- **Every now and then, throw her a curve and change the subject completely**, even asking her an entirely off-the-wall question. This will intrigue her and keep her guessing.
- **Every now and then, break off the conversation completely**. Lean back and look around. Maybe even get up and leave. Go get a drink, go talk to another friend, go to the bathroom.

This lets her know that you are comfortable, self-confident, and independent, and don't need her constant approval. Circle back and start the conversation again. One step forward, half a step back. Flirtation is a dance.

- **Be funny, light-hearted, and humorous**. When asked what attracts them most to a man, most women will say it's because, "*he makes me laugh*".
- **Don't dominate the conversation**, and don't talk about yourself too much. Answer her questions, and ask questions about her. Listen to the answers.
- **Find your common interests, and use them as fodder for conversation**. It could be a favorite band, music, friends, hobbies, activities, favorites, and so on.

If you can't find much in common, try just asking her about herself and her interests.

Don't just say, "*so tell me about yourself ...*"

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Ask specific questions, and follow up with questions based on her answers.

Notes

Most people love to talk about themselves, and a good conversationalist can keep a conversation going for hours, never once talking about themselves, just listening to what the other person is saying, and following up with probing and clarifying questions.

Remember, most women are natural-born talkers, and the more they talk the more open and comfortable they will feel with you.

If they don't seem very talkative at first, it's probably because they are a bit shy and perhaps intimidated by new social situations. Get them warmed up, though, and they'll likely talk your ear off.

- **Most men tend to define themselves by their job or career, while most women are more interested in how you spend your off-time, your family, and your friendships.** (*Don't*, however, start talking about your last girlfriend or the other women you've been with. She doesn't want to simply be the next target on your hit list.)
- **Be aware that most men are "big picture" talkers, speaking in broad generalities and making sweeping statements.** Women on the other hand, will tend to talk in excruciating detail, all leading up to their main "point".

Learn to put up with it. Better yet, learn to

appreciate it. Don't hurry her, cut her off, or finish her sentences for her. If you get a little lost in the detail, it's okay to go back and try to summarize what you've heard, and try to relate it to what you've decided to be the main point. This will tell her that you were actually listening, which is something she probably won't be used to in a man.

Notes

- **Sometimes there is no “point” - women just need to talk to feel better.** If she seems to be describing a problem, don't rush forward with your opinion or a “fix” for what you think her problem is.

If you offer an opinion or a solution, and she seems annoyed, you can bet that you missed the point. She didn't want you to fix it - she wanted you to listen to and affirm what she was saying.

ESPECIALLY FOR WOMEN

It's not generally that hard to know when a man is trying to flirt with us. I mean - really, girls. Most of them are not all that subtle about it.

Sometimes the biggest challenge is in trying to get them to "slow it down" a little, so that we can get to know them and decide if they are someone that we'd like to get to know, or get a little closer to.

When men flirt with a woman, they generally use cues and gestures that emphasize and exude their strength, power, and masculinity.

Some will strut, laugh or talk loudly, or do other (sometimes really silly things) meant to "show off", to get your attention and admiration.

The real key is, is he trying to get your attention? Is he trying to impress you? Is he trying to get you to admire him? If so, he's flirting with you.

Things To Watch For

Here are some general guidelines to watch for. If you notice a number of these being aimed in your direction, and you're attracted, flirt back! Game on!

His appearance. It matters.

Generally, men who are open and looking for a new

relationship or connection with a woman will be more attentive to their clothing, grooming, and personal hygiene, or at least more than they would be if otherwise left to their own devices.

Notes

Men will of course naturally run the gamut from being prissy neat-freaks, to being grotesque slobs. The question in your mind is, “.. *if this is how he is when he's trying to impress / attract me, how will he be once he doesn't think he has to any more?*”

Even if all you are looking for is an evenings worth of companionship and fun, how close do you really want to be with a man who looks (and smells) like perhaps his last shower was yesterday?

On the other hand, a man who is obviously over-doing it with the aftershave or cologne, probably isn't all that secure about himself.

How a man dresses, privately and in public, gives you clues and indications to his personality:

- **How is he dressed?** Is he dressed casually? More formally? Punk? Gangsta? Is he impeccably neat? Or a bit more wrinkled and relaxed?
- **How is his personal grooming?** Is he neat and clean? Has he shaved recently? Or is his facial hair neatly trimmed? Does he look (and smell) like he's made friends with a bar of soap recently? Is his cologne or aftershave appropriate and classy? Or does it smell cheap and over-done?

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Notes

- **Check out his shoes.** Is he wearing dress shoes, athletic shoes, or casual loafers? Do his socks match? (Is he WEARING socks?)
- **Collar buttons.** Is his top shirt button (or buttons) unbuttoned? Unless he's wearing a tie, his top button should be unbuttoned. Buttoned all the way up (without a tie) indicates a real uptightness and perhaps worse. Two buttons undone indicates that he's "looking". More than two buttons indicates a real wolf. Watch out!
- **What sort of jewelry is he wearing?** Large and gaudy? Subdued or non-existent? Gold or silver? Earrings? Bracelet(s)? Neck-chain?

The social circles that you travel in will often dictate the level of jewelry worn by men, but excessive amounts or gaudiness will often indicate a lack of self-confidence and a need to impress you with his apparent financial wealth.

- **Wedding ring?** No doubt you've already looked to see if one of those rings is a wedding ring, or if there is a tan line where it's supposed to be ... ! Not all married men wear wedding rings, of course, but it doesn't hurt to check.

Being married doesn't mean you can't flirt with them, either. Sometimes it can even be more fun, because you don't have to worry quite as much about their motives or inten-

tions. Just be aware of the situation, and know your (and his) limits.

Notes

Flirting Cues

A man may be flirting with you if he:

- **Arches his back, puffing out his chest**
- **Starts doing “stunts”**, or feats of skill and/or strength, glancing over at you to see if you are noticing
- **“Struts”**, and sways his pelvis (when walking), or cocks it at an angle (if standing)
- **You repeatedly catch him looking at you**, trying to look nonchalant and “cool”, as if he really wasn't but you just happened to be standing there
- **Laughs (and talks) loudly**, occasionally glancing in your direction to see if you're noticing.
- **Tugs his tie** (if he's wearing one)
- **Clasps the back of his neck** (puffs out his chest)
- **Squares his shoulders**
- **Stands erect and stiffens his stance**
- **Hooks his thumbs in his pants pockets**,

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perhaps casually “pointing” downward toward his crotch

Notes

- **Winks at you from a distance** (no, not very subtle, is he?)
- **Smiles at you suggestively**
- **Engages you in direct lingering eye contact**, especially if repeatedly over a period of time. If he’s talking with you directly, he maintains eye contact while you are speaking.

He will probably tend to look away while he is speaking, as if seeing in his minds eye the thing he is talking about.

This seems to be a male characteristic - to the degree that if a man keeps constant eye contact with you both while listening and speaking, you will probably be a little “weirded out”, and find him a bit too intense.

- **“Casually” touches you while talking with you**
- **Teases you in a friendly manner.** Smiles and laughs at your comments.
- **Makes suggestive comments or tells stories or jokes with sexual undertones.** Uses “*double entendre*”, innuendo, or words and phrases with more than one meaning, at least one of them suggestively risqué or sexual in nature.

Things To Watch Out For

Generally, you will want to watch out for signs of over-aggressiveness, maliciously violent tendencies, abusiveness, and indications that his apparent self-confidence is merely a cover for some deeper psychological problems.

- **He walks over almost over-confidently**, with an air that is more arrogant and aggressive than self-confident and self-assured.
- **He approaches you in a controlling and domineering manner**, and proceeds to totally dominate the conversation, talking mostly about himself with little or no prompting from you, and you can't get him to stop or to change the subject.
- **He doesn't seem to be listening to what you are saying**, and/or his comments and replies have nothing to do with anything that you said.
- **He approaches you too directly, and invades your "personal space" right away.**
- **His "teasing" is (or becomes) mean and belittling**, and he doesn't seem to catch on or know when he's crossing the line, or doesn't care.
- **Is overly coarse and vulgar in his conversation and language**, before he has gotten to know you. While such language may be

common and acceptable in some social circles, usually a man will temporarily “clean up his act” around a woman he is interested in and respects, at least until he knows that she shares his sense of the vulgar.

Notes

How To Approach A Man

If you've read his cues well and have responded in a positive and inviting way, he will either approach you, or yes, you can approach him.

These are modern times! Many perfectly desirable men are nervous about approaching women, and worried about rejection.

The key, if you are interested and attracted, is to make it as easy for them as possible to meet you.

In a different era, proper women of breeding would “accidentally” drop a handkerchief at the foot of a man that she wanted to meet.

Today, while such a dated and corny maneuver is probably out of the question, the principle still applies. You can “accidentally” bump into him on the dance floor, or at the bar, or in the hall!

While perhaps not the handkerchief drop, you can still “drop” something in his vicinity. Men of noble nature will almost automatically come to the aid of a fair maiden - giving you the perfect opportunity to smile at him, thank him, and make him feel like your hero!

Offer to buy him a drink, or a cup of coffee, a latte, or

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whatever beverage flies in your social circles.

Notes

Be as open and inviting in your posture and manner as possible.

Catch his eye, smile, maintain eye contact for a moment, then drop your gaze. This is what is sometimes referred to as "coy". Do it several times if you need to, over a period of time.

Most men will (eventually) pick up on this flirtatious signal and approach you.

Or, you can use the direct approach yourself - just walk up and ask him a question, his advice, or his opinion on something (maybe that you are considering buying). *"I need a man's opinion ..."*

The point is not that you can't be forward about making the first move. In this modern day many men will find it a welcome relief if you do "make the first move".

However, once you've taken the initiative and "broken the ice", allow him to take the lead, or gently guide him to do so.

Men are still men, and while your taking the initiative to "break the ice" may be something of a relief, most men will be still "put off" in the long run by women who are TOO assertive and aggressive.

Men want to lead. They want you to admire them, they want to be your "hero" and they want make you happy. Let them!

This doesn't mean that you can't be a strong, asser-

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tive woman. By all means, be yourself, and be true to your nature! Just be careful in this case to only “go after” men who are at least as strong and as self-confident as you are.

Notes

You may enjoy playing the role of “Amazon Woman” and dominating the men in your life, but it is the rare man for whom that won't get very old in very short order - and you for your part will soon resent him for his weakness.

That's a sure-fire formula for relational unhappiness. Keep your “Dominatrix” in the bedroom (or the boardroom), and make sure you find a man who enjoys it there!

If the guy is approaching you, maintain your “open and inviting” posture. Be classy and charming. Encourage him with your look.

Smile suggestively and affirmingly. Smiling is probably THE most important thing that you can do to make yourself more attractive and approachable. When a woman smiles, for men the sun shines.

Remember, even if he appears totally comfortable and self-assured, if he is as interested in you as you apparently are in him, he is probably still more than a little nervous, and worried about rejection.

This is amplified if you are in a group of your girlfriends. It's almost natural when a man approaches for everyone in the group to exchange glances and either get all flustered and try to act like no one sees him coming, or to break out into laughter.

Either of these can be mis-interpreted. If everyone is

finding such humor in his approach, or is trying to ignore him, what does that say to him?

Notes

Keep all of this in mind. Take his likely nervousness into account, and play nice. Be encouraging. You do want to meet him, don't you?

The Conversation

Once you've managed to get over that first hurdle of making the approach, you have to keep it going!

Here are some tips:

- **Women, especially in groups and when talking with each other, tend to talk very rapidly and with great energy.**

The conversation can change direction in a heartbeat, and generally contains a number of levels and sub-plots.

When talking with men, keep the conversation simple and direct, and use clear, simple statements rather than complex ones with several layers of meaning.

Most men will easily become overloaded with *"too much detail"*!

To you the details are critically important to the point of the conversation. To him too much detail obscures the "point", and might make him wonder if there really is a "point" at all.

Keep this in mind when you are talking to a man. Trim out some of the detail, or at least try to spell out for him what it all has to do with what you were talking about.

If his eyes start to glaze over while you are talking to him, make sure that what you're talking about is "on topic", or that you're not swamping him with too much detail.

- **Men are generally less "touchy-feely" or emotionally oriented than women.**

The verbal processing areas of men's brains are generally less sophisticated or developed than are women's - which is why women are the talkers, and men are not. Their skills and talents lie in other areas - many of them quite pleasurable for you!

- **Laugh at his jokes**, but be genuine, and don't over-do it either. If you don't find him funny, then you're probably not that attracted to him.
- **Keep your eyes on *him*, especially when he's speaking to you, to let him know that you are listening and interested.**

Men tend to not engage in direct eye contact as much as women do, so don't be put off if he tends to talk to you while staring off into space.

It's probably the only way that he can keep

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his thoughts straight, and looking at you would probably make them fly clean out of his head. (And that's a compliment to you!).

Notes

In fact, you will probably be uncomfortable with a man who maintains constant eye contact with you - there's just something disturbing about it - perhaps a sub-conscious realization that "something isn't quite right".

- **He should, however, look at you and even maintain eye contact while YOU are speaking to HIM.** If he doesn't, you might question how much he's actually interested.
- **Find common interests or experiences, and make them fodder for your conversation.** Don't talk about yourself too much, and be careful about lapsing into detailed blow-by-blow accounts of conversations, shopping trips, your friends, or your relationships.

If you see his eyes start to glaze over, change the subject, quick!

- **Ask him about his job, interests, and hobbies.** Men tend to define themselves by their jobs and careers. They will also more easily and naturally talk about THINGS, rather than feelings or relationships.

Try sports, his (and your) favorite teams, a favorite band, his car, his techno-toys, etc.

- **Men will tend to have opinions on just about everything.** If they don't, they will

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make one up. Ask him for his opinion on something, or some current issue, or his recommendation on cars, sports, etc.

Notes

If you disagree, try not to get into an argument over the point. This is flirting, not a debate!

You can tell him your disagreement, but then move on to a different topic on which you are more in agreement.

At least you've given him fair warning, and if the relationship gets serious, you'll have ample opportunity to hash it out later.

- **Make a mental note of your disagreements.** No one will agree on everything, but if you find yourself developing a picture of someone with whom you have less in common than you had perhaps hoped or thought, take it into account and prepare to graciously move on.

If you're still strongly attracted and are only looking for a short-term lustful romance, then perhaps you can just avoid those matters altogether and still have a good time together, for an evening or two or three.

Miscellaneous Tips

(For Both Men and Women)

- **If a person's friends or companions are paying attention to you when he or she isn't around, this is often a good indicator that the person has talked to their friends about you and is interested.** Conversely, if his or her friends seem to be ignoring you, or are seemingly uncomfortable, then maybe the comments have not been as positive.
- **There is a lot of similarity between good listening skills, and good flirting skills.** Good listening skills mean being attentive and responsive to what is being said, and following up with probing and clarifying questions in order to get a better understanding of either the person, or what they are communicating to you.
- **Just because you may not be a body-builder or a beauty queen doesn't mean that you can't be good at flirtation, or at a relationship.** Believe me, the "beautiful people" of this world have their own problems. If you are a little (or a lot) overweight, or "Rubenesque", you will find an incredible number of people who find that incredibly sexy and attractive.
- **The most powerful word in any language is a person's own name.** Once you know

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it, use it as often as possible when speaking to that person. Doing so will increase the level of intimacy and connectedness between you.

Notes

- **Always leave them wanting more.** Don't hang around until they are waiting for you to leave. Have some fun (we did say that flirting was FUN, didn't we?), then move on to flirt another day.

Don't bore, and don't wear out your welcome. Limit the time you spend flirting with any one person. Excuse yourself Say, "*I have to go meet my friends now ...*" and leave, or go start another conversation with a different group. You can use the opportunity to ask "*can I call you?*" and get a phone number or email address.

- **When flirting, don't fixate on just one person.** Set a goal like, "*I will flirt with three people tonight*". Seeing you in the company of others (and having a good time) will raise your social status in the eyes of those people observing you, and raise your "flirtation" value.
- **Wear, bring, or carry something unusual.** Make it something that can be a real conversation-starter, that people can ask you about. "*... that's an interesting _____ - where did you find it?*" If you see something unusual or striking that the other person is wearing or carrying, ask them about it.

- **Don't "tease" in the manner of offering more than you intend to give.**

Notes

Flirting is about mystery, and possibilities. Just make sure that the possibilities are actually possible!

Especially for women, but also for men - don't suggest the possibility of a sexual tryst or a meaningful relationship, if you have no intention of going there with the person in question. There are words to describe you.

- **Don't cling, whine, or be "needy".** Don't fidget, and keep those nervous habits under control, like biting your nails, chewing on your hair, plucking at your eyebrow, bouncing your leg, tapping or drumming your fingers, snapping your gum, stirring your drink, and so on.
- **Don't dwell on your performance, or the outcome!** If there is something to learn, make a note of it and move on!
- **Crossed legs or ankles can be flirtatious on women,** if not done in a tightly clenched manner. Periodically crossing and uncrossing the legs carries a flirtatious message, while keeping them constantly crossed (or un-crossed) tends to send an opposite message.

Men should stick with crossed ankles. Both men and women should sit with their legs (or ankles) crossed in the direction of the person they are flirting (or trying to flirt)

with. This conveys an sense of open-ness and “includes” the other person.

Notes

- **The open palms and inner wrist are very seductive and alluring.** Combined with the power of touch, this can be very powerful.

Learn a few things about palm reading or hand massage. This gives you an excuse to take the hand of the other person, open the palm, and expose the wrist.

You can also continue to hold the person's hand after the “reading”, perhaps rubbing it gently and rhythmically (also very powerful, and suggestive).

Note whether the other person allows you to keep their hand, or pulls away.

- **Sunglasses (or tinted lenses) can be effectively used to enable you to browse a room without being too obvious about it.** In addition, you can half-lower them occasionally for a mysterious or seductive look.

Removing your sunglasses (or even your glasses) when you are speaking to someone creates the sense that you are “opening” to them, and allowing them to read your eyes.

If you wear glasses normally, consider wearing contacts, at least some of the time. Modern contacts are remarkably comfortable, and can be aquired for nearly any prescription

requirement.

Notes

- **When being introduced to someone** (or when introducing yourself), put out your hand for a handshake, repeat the other person's name (when they tell you) and follow up with an open-ended question.

This indicates interest and opens up the possibility of a conversation, rather than an awkward silence following the introduction.

- **Avoid asking questions that call for simple "Yes/No responses.** Try to ask open-ended questions that lead the other person to a more detailed response.

Be prepared to ask follow-up questions to keep the conversation moving. One technique is to pick something out of what the other person just said, and ask a question about it.

In this way you can easily generate a conversation that will encompass a surprising array of topics in a very short time.

- **Avoid the use of the cheesy standard "pick-up" line, unless you are prepared to use it tongue-in-cheek and make a joke out of it.** By all means, pick up a few books or magazines on the subject, and use them for inspiration and ideas, but be sincere, creative, and original.

Remember, if you're a guy, the woman you're

trying to talk to has probably heard all of the “standard” lines a thousand times or more, and they bore her. Don’t be like the others. Surprise her.

Notes

One simple and remarkably effective opening line is the simple and friendly, “Hey! What’s up? Be prepared to follow it up with another, more specific question. Remember, you want to get the other person to respond to you, and to start a conversation.

Think - *“Interesting, confident, and funny”!*

- **When you first arrive at a party or social event**, grab some food or a drink and walk the room. Observe what seems to be going on socially, and what the dynamic or “tone” of the crowd seems to be.

Look for the people who are sitting alone or who seem “lost”. They will often be the easiest to flirt with, and the most appreciative of your attention.

- **Make the assumption that everyone that you approach or talk to is going to be nervous.**

Look for ways to make them feel more comfortable and at ease. Always making others feel comfortable, at ease, and “at home” is the mark of a true lady, or gentleman.

- **If you are hosting a gathering**, have comfortable places to sit in several little “clusters” so that multiple micro-groups can form.

Try to rotate among them, and see if you can't rotate others as well, introducing them to new people.

Keep the temperature slightly warm but comfortable, and use fans if necessary to help keep the air moving.

- **Use floor and table lamps and local lighting rather than overhead lighting, to keep the atmosphere warm and intimate.**

Dim the lights a little, and use lit candles around the room for a romantic effect. (To reduce fire hazards, or for a more active crowd, you might use electric candles or colored lights to create a “mood”.)

A fire in a fireplace always creates a natural gathering point, and promotes a warm and relaxed atmosphere.

Quiet music in the background of a type appropriate to the group helps to create an intimate atmosphere. Keep the volume down so that people don't have to shout to be heard.

That's it for now! Have fun!

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