

Online Dating

What is Online Dating: Using a dedicated website to meet and communicate with potential romantic/sexual partners. Usually with the goal of creating a real-world relationship.

Choosing Your Dating Site: There are 3 main categories of dating sites.

All-Purpose: Anyone can join, mimics dating in the real world, most will make you subscribe (\$) to communicate, some are free.



Phone App: Modern take on all-purpose, most are free w/ premium upgrades, skews younger, *swiping*, usually don't have a search or browse feature



Niche: Similar to all-purpose, but limited to a specific demographic (50+, Christian, African-American, etc.),



Creating Your Profile: Be positive, be unique, share stories more than adjectives, ask a friend, check your grammar, not too short, not too long.

Choosing Your Pictures: Quality camera, have multiple, show a hobby, include at least a medium length body shot. Avoid having all close-ups or all group pictures.

Sending Messages: Personalized messages that show you've read their profile get more responses than generic openings. If you're interested, be responsive (2-3 days max between messages), if you're not interested, it's okay to not respond at all.

Safety Precautions: Never give out SSN, credit card or banking information.

Red Flags: They ask immediately ask to chat over email, make tons of grammar mistakes, ask for address to send flowers/gifts.

Before Meeting in Person: Google or Facebook the person, tell a friend where you'll be, meet in a public venue.