



## **Catch a Winner with a Great Profile**

**How to create a winning dating profile**

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## CHAPTER I

*"It's worth the effort and the time to create a good dating profile, because otherwise you may be wasting your time and your money ..."*

### WRITING YOUR DATING PROFILE

#### The Starting Point

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It is a very important step that you chose to seek a date online but you have to remember that the crucial point is how you do it. The bottom line is that you are on the Internet with the specific purpose to get a date.

Considering that, there are millions of people that are looking for the same thing as you do, this should not be really tough to get. Then, why is it that some people are finding so hard to connect with someone they would care to go out with?

Do you know what is the main purpose of posting your personal profile with the dating agencies?

It's to **get the attracted people to contact you**. That is the only goal to having a personal ad posted with dating services. Nothing else.

Making people to initiate a contact with you is **the most critical point** to getting a date. Failing to get that initial contact from other singles is the end of everything. Nothing else matters. That is why you have to do it right from the first step.

This report will guide you through all the critical points of the profile writing process to get you ready to be a greater dater.

**It is important that you refer to this report often so you do not miss important things.**

Let us start at the beginning. What we have here is the first thing first.

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## The Header, Your Introduction

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There are many dating companies out there (check [www.bestcupid.com](http://www.bestcupid.com) for dating companies list and ratings), which will give you the right platform to seek and choose a worthy partner with whom at some future point of time you might like to share your life.

The point is to get that special “right” person’s attention and interest in you.

How can you do that? How it is possible to get the right person attracted to you – or rather your introduction?

Okay, let us look up the basics. Suppose you were looking around, how would you choose a date? By the looks, right?

You would look around and settle for the person you would find the closest to what your likings are. Hence, the attraction point is the appearance of the person.

Translate this onto the Internet dating parameters. In order to get attracted to someone, you would look for **two first-visible things** while browsing the dating profiles:

1. **Header** [*The header is also known as the ‘**profile subject**’ or ‘**profile title**’*] – this is usually a 3-5 words sentence and it’s what will attract someone’s attention and create the very first impression.

Hence, depending on whom and what type of person you want to date, you will need to project your introduction.

You want a humorous person - you may try a tongue-in-cheek header; you want a serious person – you may try some heavy stuff philosophical header, which will open an intellectual exchange before you go for feelings and other stuff; you want a romantic partner – try a header that goes right to the heart.

The person who is seeking a date will first see that header. He/she will see it for a maximum 3 seconds (which is a lot of time) and then decides in his/her mind whether this would be the person, they want to strike a conversation (chat) with.

The header will portray you as clearly as is you were in front of them. Hence, your first impression is the most critical aspect for making contact.

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2. **User name** [*The user name is also your 'screen name' or 'pen name' or 'handle'*] - after the person chooses the header that gives him/her the most pleasure (read match) they will look up the contact id.

This is the next important feature with the help of which the prospective date would make his or her mind whether the first impression was the right one.

Hence, make the most of it. Sit down in a comfortable place and list some ten words that describe you (or you want to be known as). As soon as you have a list, look up the word that fits you best.

You might then add an adjective as suffix or prefix to enhance the effect further. Bad chosen user name may turn people away.

Do not use sex related or rude slang words in your user name if you are looking for serious relationships.

## How To Say What They Want To Hear

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This is the most crucial aspect of your dating profile. This is your introduction to the people out there. Your grand entrance!

When you make your entry, you want them to be focused on you. Thus, the point here is to keep them looking at you. How do you that? By giving them, what they want to hear.

Be careful – not always, what you want to say comes out as what you want them to hear.

Therefore, “I am passionate and sexy” might be sent out to catch the romantic people; instead, it will catch all the wrong attention. Why?

Because the men and women who would read “passionate and sexy”, would think that this was an invitation for sex first and relationship later. If it is not, then you will need to re-phrase it – how about “warm and romantic”?

Your introduction should never be too long. Do not rant about yourself. Use words to paint a crisp and very interesting picture of yourself; something that would make someone wants to ask you a little more.

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Think of this like the way you would dress up for a party – you want to wear something that bring out the finest points in you, without really lying about anything.

Your “packaging” yourself would be your way to get people attracted to you.

Similarly, when you introduce yourself, make it engaging. Write it in such a way that the person who reads it would say, ‘Wow! I would like to know this person more.’

In order to get the response you want, you will need to decide first what type of people you would want to answer your dating signal.

Then, accordingly, you write your dating profile aiming to attract those types of people.

Many people use sarcasm as humor. Sometimes male/female bashing might indeed be funny – more so if you have suffered a burn out in the recent past.

However, keep in mind that people would not want to meet someone who has barbed wire in their style of laughing. Somebody aptly said, ‘if you hate them, why date them?’

Be careful that you do not sound too sexy. If you want to find an “adult” friend – then go ahead and write your introduction with sexual innuendos. You will get an overflowing inbox in a matter of hours.

However, if you want a date – you would do good to keep the explicit sex descriptions out of the “hello, hi” byline. Even, if you really were very physical in your relationships, it would be good if you let this be known at a later stage.

Your introduction should not be longer than 100 words (that is 3-5 sentences). Those hundred words should give the date-seeker enough to make him/her intrigued to ask you for a “cyber-date”, i.e. he/she should want to make contact with you to know you further.

These 100 words should contain no lies. Avoid describing yourself as beautiful or handsome. You would rather they make their own impression about you – and it is good to remember that beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder.

Hence, you should try concentrate giving facts – but putting these in an appetizing manner so people would be tempted to know to know you better.

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Definitely use humor, if you are good at it. If not, just be truthful and interesting.

Remember, to keep sarcasm out both ways, i.e. should not be addressed to the people you are seeking to date, or to yourself.

Nobody would like to start a relationship with a person who is sarcastic about others or themselves; it kind of drives people away.

The advice given above stands true for your description of what you want from the person you are looking for. In the same way, you should keep it positive, humorous and short.

It is very important that your list does not sound like you are describing an imaginary person, or a favorite actor/actress.

People either shy away when compared to perfection or you get lies.

### **Who is the one**

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When you complete your profile, you will be asked who you are looking for. Here you will have to fill in another profile, very similar to yours saying what you want to have in your partner, i.e. age, status (single/divorced/separated/married), smoker/non-smoker, height, etc.

You will also be needed to fill in a few lines defining what you are looking for in a relationship. It is best here to as straight forward as possible, saying what you want and leaving out what you do not.

Do not start or write a 'wanted' list with 'I don't want this', 'I don't like that' 'I will not accept this', 'I won't have that'. Just say what you want – within maximum five lines.

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## The importance of your photograph

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Your photograph is often your passport to one's attention. You will need to use this to your advantage so you could make the best from it. The following are a few tips that **would NOT** help you catch the best attention:

1. **No photograph** – when you choose to use a profile without a photograph, it is like having food without salt. You can eat it, but not relish it.

Thus, it is not surprising that those profiles, which have photographs, experience 20-25 % more hits than the profiles, which do not have one. So, the first step to success is posting a photo.

2. **Posting an old photo** – this is the easiest way you can sabotage the chances of a relationship. Imagine yourself falling for the looks of a person who, when you meet in person, is about 10 years older.

Besides the fact that it puts you off instantly, it would anger you for being taken for a ride. This is one of the fastest ways to get out of a date.

Why blow a good chance – it is better that you post an accurate photograph (at least no older than 2 years old).

Therefore, choose a recent photo of yours – if you do not have a recent one, take one preferably at a professional studio and add it to the dating profile.

3. **Post a landscape photo** – you were planning to take the whole Taj Mahal and you figure in the centre, tiny and inconspicuous; well such a photograph is as good as not having any. Some people feel that there is something to hide when you do post an incognito photo.
4. **Funny look photograph** – these snaps are great for sharing with friends who already know you and can have a good laugh at your funny expression in the photo. It is not the right photograph to use in a profile, though.

The person who will see your profile is looking to get an idea about how you look – and if you look like a cartoon, it is very doubtful that they would make a contact.

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5. **Group photographs** – even if you look your greatest in a group photograph, this would not be the right choice for you. This may create two problems.

First, this is because it will dilute your presence and reduce the impact on the person that is looking to see you. Second, he/she might not identify you correctly on the picture and it is not hard to guess what happens after if your relationships take a higher level.

He/she will see the others, what is happening in the photograph, etc and loose track of you. This is not what you want – you want to attract his/her sole attention to yourself.

Your pet is not a good candidate to be in the spot either unless you target a pet lover. This an important point- always use a single photograph of yourself.

6. **Family photograph** – Since this photograph is taken for getting a date – keep the non-relevant details out of the photographs, such as parents, siblings or children, etc. Keep such details for a later date.
7. **Use of accessories** – you love that scarf, hat, sunglasses that is great. However, do not use photographs, which have you wearing any of these. Any of these things would look like you are going into disguise.

Remember, the person who is looking at your profile wants to see you and hence, he/she needs a clear shot.

8. **Off guard photographs** – if you were photographed drunk, or goofing or enjoying a party you would have some wonderful memories of that time. Do not use these snaps in your profile, because people tend to generalize what they see within the limited parameters of the profile given.
9. **Choosing photographs that your friends choose** for you – sometimes this works and sometimes it does not. Sometimes friends choose the most flattering photo, which again is not a good idea, as it would raise the expectations of those who see you.

The best is that you should choose your photograph – one, which represents you as you are; nothing more, nothing less.

10. **Sexy snaps** – it is very attractive to see an inviting décolletage or tight abs. However, a too-much-skin photograph always will send the wrong signals. It would say that you are in this line for sex rather than a

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relationship – if this is correct, then it is fine. If not, have a simple photograph instead.

11. **Low quality** – photos taken with your PC digital camera which are very often too dark, too light or just blurry.

**Professional photographs** – the best bet would be to have your photograph taken by a professional so it could be the best possible shot. If dating online is an important step in your life, you will need to give it the best shot – both literally and figuratively. (See Recommended Resources section at the end of this report for the services we recommend).

### The DOs Of The Dating Profiles

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Now, let us presume that you have crossed the above-mentioned milestones you will get to the next step. Here, you would be presented with a form and requested to fill in truthfully about yourself.

There will be a good number of questions to answer, some okay and some very personal – which you might choose to answer or to ignore. Whatever you do, remember to abstain from stating any untruths or exaggerations.

Remember, nobody is perfect – and you are not any worse because you are not. You should rather highlight your finer points and downplay the others. You might not even mention certain things, unless strictly necessary.

Like, if you are 150 kg (about 300 lb)–this is a matter that should be told. However, if you are say, 10 kg (about 20 lb) overweight, it is okay to avoid commenting on your weight.

Do indicate what you want in one line at the end of your profile – or the 100 words paragraph of your introduction. This would be roughly about 20 words or 3-5 sentences. When you say it, try saying it with humor.

Very few people can resist a person with humor. People love to laugh, and love to be around people who make them laugh.

Tell them your main characteristics. Let have an idea of what type of person you are – introvert, extrovert, loves music/ hates music, needs to read every day, hates cold-water baths, etc.

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Make the person “see” you through your words. Emphasize on the good side definitely. However, if there are any major flaws, this is the time to do it.

You would not want somebody reject your acquaintance because they “found” out something they feel misled them into “meeting” with you.

Say something special about you. Do you love to cry at movies? Do you love dogs to distraction? Do you love Nescafe in the mornings? Do you hate exercising or are you a gym fanatic?

Write them all – show your specialization. Think of what a great line would be, “love ghost movies but hate ghosts” or “I find fishing irresistible” (this is a woman) or “I love cooking” (this is a male).

As it’s been said do not forget to put in your photo right away – it is always good to post a photo when you fill in your profile. A person who reads your profile would kind of bond when they look at the picture you posted.

It is great to want to hit off mentally and emotionally first – but physicality is still a very important factor.

## The DON'Ts Of The Dating Profile

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Now that we have, most likely, what we should write in a profile, let us cast a glance at what we should not do. Very often, what we omit could be the difference between and ‘Yes’ and a ‘No’.

1. **Do not post a “help” ad** – very often people are too self-centered to realize that they are actually putting other off. If you whine about the hard times fate is handing out to you, you will come across as a embittered person who will need lots of effort to get to “normal”.

People do not like such burdens. They will shun such ads.

2. **Do not be shy to ask what you want** – do not be apologetic that you are on the Internet searching for a date by downplaying yourself. Be bold and forward about your wish to find someone to date who matches your idea of a great person.

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3. **Do not highlight what you do not like/want** – refrain yourself from negating statements that say what you do not want (e.g. ‘if you think only of sex, I do not want to hear from you’, “if you are scared to make a commitment, this is not the right person for you”, “I am not here for jerks”, etc).
4. **Do not lie about anything** – if you do not want to talk about it, do not mention it. However, if there is a direct question or field to fill that requires a particular type of information - always state the truth. Do no lie about your age; this is one of the most common mistakes ever.

Do not lie about your overall appearance – of you are too fat or too thin, do not say you are of great built.

Think! You are here to get a date; now if that person likes what he/she reads he/she might like to see you. Would you be able to face him or her if you have told lies about your looks or age?

This is why you will need to tell the truth. You should never have to contradict anything you wrote in your profile.

5. **Do not give details about your family**, if any, too soon. If you live with your mother and grandmother – they need not know this right away. They also need not know whether you have children, an ex or financial troubles. Concentrate the lens only on you. Paint them a picture, which is accurate, yet flattering and you will score big
6. **Do not forget the last line or the punch line** – think from your target people’s point of view. Before they end your profile – you will need to make them want to click on your profile, to know you better.

### Selling yourself

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It is critical to understand that you need to sell yourself. Hence, with all ethics, you need to advertise your best attributes and promote an image of “must-have” so the others would want to get to know you.

You are, through the profile selling yourself into a relationship, preferably a long and mutually enriching one. Therefore, as with a sales campaign, there is the product (that is you), there is the promotion/ advertising phase (that is the dating profile you are creating) and there is the closing of the sales (getting the date).

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Before you close the sale, you will need to offer the ultimate argument that there is a high value addition in the product you are selling and hence, your customer you profit from “buying” it.

In other words, you would need to be explicit in what you would offer a relationship to make it worthwhile for the person, who would read your profile, to want to ask you out on a date.

In order to do that, you would need to maintain a good balance between your positive and negative aspects. The person who reads your profile should be intrigued enough to want to contact you.

Your dating profile is specifically made for getting that contact. Thus, your efforts should be focused in ‘attracting’ first and foremost an answer. Lies have a great way of popping up at the most inopportune moments and are embarrassing to say the least.

### Critical tips everyone should know

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You would know by now what should go into the profile and what should not. You also know by this time, that in order to get a date online you have to make the right statements to attract the audience you would prefer.

In order to do this the right way, you would need to list your best attributes on a paper and see what you would like to use. Are you a good listener, warm, outgoing, romantic, humorous, easy-going? What makes you a “good” catch?

Think from the other side of the road – what would stop your attention and tempt to answer to a dating profile? What would make your heart flutter or want to know a person?

There is an old saying, “Eat for yourself but dress for others!” As such, this will tell you that you need to show yourself in the light that others would appreciate.

Thus, there are some critical points you should take care of when writing your profile, so you could make the right impact and get a date.

1. **Avoid self-criticism** – candidness is great, but not at this time. The person who reads your profile knows about you only what is written in the dating profile. You might like to be truthful about your negative aspects, and that is fine.

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However, you need to keep in mind that the person would make an impression about you only based on exclusively the information you are giving. There is nothing else for them to use. Hence, any self-criticism would be taken as negative aspects, and reasons to reject you.

2. **Make your profile unique** – paint a picture of yourself through your profile. Use metaphors and comparisons in plenty – but avoid the run-of-the-mill clichés, which usually sound too filmy to be attractive.

Whenever you say something about yourself, make sure you do so in such a way that the person, who reads it, can “see” you in his/her minds eye pretty vividly.

The comparison should be to something that everyone knows – not some obscure thing that only you and a handful of your friends would be aware of.

Choose movie or cartoon characters, political heroes, rock stars, famous travelers, inventors, etc. Spice up each sentence, leaving scope for someone to ask, ‘Hey, what is that?’

3. **Be clear about what you want** – If you are looking for a blonde woman who is fun – say so. If you would not care to date a man who is above 45 years of age, say so.

Be clear on what you want. Say, ‘I am looking for an attractive, blonde woman between 25 and 35 years of age’ or ‘I am seeking a date from a man who is tall and mature, not exceeding 50 years of age’.

Ensure that you eliminate what you do not want through positive and clear statements. You do need to be flooded with the wrong type of answers; you would rather get a few but close to what you are seeking out in a date.

4. **Do not ask for too much** – nobody is perfect and that includes you. Even if you are (as close as possible to perfection), it is not fair that you would expect it from anyone else.

Hence, if you put out a virtue list that should make your ideal partner – do not be surprised if you have no takers. You should concentrate on one or maximum two main characteristics – say, you want them to be humorous and intellectual; beautiful and adventurous, warm and caring, etc.

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Once you have the answers from this, you could carry on finding out whether the rest of the attributes of the person would match your choice.

5. **Be innovative, stay different** – in order to keep attracting attention, have your header, your introduction and photograph (if possible) changed every 10-14 days or fortnight. In this way you will get a chance to express yourself from different angles, and be “new” on the dating profile list. Check out what attracts you to other profiles and try to adopt your methods to your profile. **Do not imitate or copy** – that would be gross – but you could indeed innovate your own profile based upon the things that you find attractive in other’s profiles.

Collecting good profile ideas takes time but be patient. Be prepared to spend a week or so on this.

Posting your profile essays off top of your head right after opening an account with a dating agency and not re-writing them thereafter is a proven **recipe for failure**. Ask any dating expert and everyone of them will tell you that.

You can do it all yourself or use services which will help you to prepare a good profile which is a better option in many cases.

(See the Recommended Resources section at the end of this report for the services we recommend)

## CHAPTER II

### PUTTING YOUR BEST FOOT FORWARD

#### Making Contact – The Critical Points For A Getting A Date

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How to make the right contact? This is all that the online dating services are all about. How to get a date that you could and might develop a long-term relationship with, maybe even marry. For that you need to leave the right gaps so that opposite sex signals match yours.

So, let us start at the beginning.

1. **Your header** – we have talked at great lengths about this. Nothing much to add but the fact that it has to jump out and touch you – positively. It is easy to do thing with a negative header like male/female bashing and you might even get some solid answers trying to correct your view.

However, if you are looking for the right contact, your header should be saying a loud and friendly “Hello!”

2. **Your photo** – people love to see the photograph of the person about who they read on the dating profile. Be sure your face is seen clearly.

Women and men are advised not to have too much skin shown, lest they attract the wrong partners. The best would be something formal with the face clear.

Have a special photo taken for this purpose – and have a friendly and inviting face.

3. **Description** – it is okay to describe yourself a little in the first two lines. Then, you make an effort to draw a picture about your physical and mental make up so that the person who reads can connect to you.

You could say, “...my friends describe me as...” or “...I saw this movie (name) a few days ago and I thought the scene with ..... was incredibly romantic...”.

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Give a scope for the person to want to comment on what you describe. That is that actual contact maker – and your chance to get it is by making the right type of conversation.

4. **Write, as you would talk** to an attractive person of the opposite sex – whenever you write anything write it as if you would be addressing that special person. Make your words expressive and make the other person want to get back to you.

You could write a few words about what you would think an ideal relationship would be; or what should the role of a man or woman in an ideal relationship, etc.

5. **Attach a tag line** – a tag line is that, which if used right, can land you exactly in the right place. This is why tag lines are very tricky and difficult to coin. Advertising agencies make a fortune just doing that for famous products.

A tag line would simplify the search to a great extent – hence, a person who would be looking at the profile of ‘warm and sexy’ female – would immediately be shown the other profiles which match that criteria.

A good tag line would position you in the most advantageous place whenever a person seeks anything that would match your signals.

6. **The right tag line** – you can shamelessly steal any tagline you find on the dating website, without any qualms. However, the tag line should not only be a great one, but also match you to the T. Only then, it is worth the trouble.

7. **Always check** – ensure that you take sufficient time out and check out how things look from the other side of the fence. You open the login and open your profile the same way another person would, and read it aloud.

Check it and see whether it comes across the way you wanted it. This is specifically true about taglines and sometimes, headers.

Taglines are often shortened by the computer without any regard to its meaning and the result is sometimes hilarious and sometimes totally gross.

For example, when somebody uses “I am easy going and friendly” the computer may reduce it to “I am easy”; “I am big hearted and warm”

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comes across as “I am big”; “Come enjoy some finger chips at McDonald” into “Come enjoy some finger” – and so on.

8. **Remember TMI** – this is the acronym for “too much information”. Use your profile as an advertisement not as a narration. Pep up the talk and make your profile a fun-read.

Make the person want to know you badly enough to make that contact. The best formula has always been humor – but if you are not good at it, never force it.

You can always make your point through anecdoting your answer to make it like a ‘don’t put it down until you finish’ profile.

9. **Write correct English** – you may like to use what your favorite email shortcuts – like u for ‘you’ and r for ‘are’ and so on. However, people still love to read impeccable English.

If you can, you should use as pure English as you can and avoid jargons and cheap lingo. You should also run a spell check every time you write something, and then read it back.

Sometimes, in your hurry to write down an idea, you might skip some vital words that could change the meaning of your text. Always proof read.

10. **The role of the truth** – you would like to believe that whatever is written in the profile that interests you be true. The same applies to the people who read yours.

Avoid a topic you may not comfortable with – but do not tell lies at any cost. You are setting the foundation of a new relationship – let it start and be based on mutual trust and truth.

11. **Description of your future partner-** The last but never the least is your description about the person whom you want to meet. Describe the person from a real perspective and not an imaginary hero/heroine.

Do not say, I would love to go out with someone who looks like a Hollywood superstar. People would hesitate to make contact with you thinking they would not measure up to what you expect. You might say, “I like to meet a tall and warm man between 40-45 years of age...” or ‘I am looking for an attractive woman in her thirties who can laugh at herself and others with equal ease...’. Your description should not exceed five lines for best effect.

## CHAPTER III

### SAFETY MATTERS – WHEN, WHAT AND HOW

#### What you should and what you should not divulge

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It is true that there are many great people out there. It is also true that there are many sick people as well. When you are with the online dating, it is as if you are going on a blind date.

You never know what the other person is like and what he or she would do in certain circumstances. You hope that the person you are going to meet might answer and match to your needs. It is not always so. Hence, you should always be on the look out for your safety.

There are a few things that are very important while you are dealing with any online communication:

1. **Be careful when you divulge information** – there are many people who go too fast into intimate details about their personalities.

While this is okay with an ongoing relationship, it is not such a good idea with an online dating profile because it gives the idea of being sex-oriented and hence, attracts people who look for physical relationship rather than emotional and long-term relationship.

2. **Be careful about what information you divulge** – do not be over-keen to give too much information about yourself in your profile. Choose only what would be needed for anyone to make an honest opinion about you.

Outlines a few of your likes and dislikes, be straightforward in what you want from your date and wait to be contacted.

3. **How you divulge information is also very critical** – is your photograph showing too much skin? Then, you might get a lot of 'come and let's hit it' type of invitations. If that is what you want, fine. But if not, it is better that you use a photograph that does not show you in a frivolous light.

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Try using one that shows you in casuals and with a friendly smile and demeanor. The photograph is often the deciding factor, so it would be good if you could invest in being photographed by a professional for this purpose.

Have one that shows you best and real. Do not go for photographs that show you out of the way great due to extra lighting or angle. In that case your date might be disappointed when he/she sees the real you.

4. **Clarity** – you will need clarity while sharing information, whether you are talking about your background, your preferences or showing your photographs.

Be clear in your statements and try not to sound ambiguous about any matter. Avoid standard statements, 'I like reading bestsellers', 'I like strolling on the beach'. Go for what would make you unique and special.

Similarly, be outright in what you want – 'I want a man with whom I can be comfortable with' is great but does it tell you what man would that be?

Thus, you should write, "I like a man who shares my passion for music, and loves Chinese food and old movies on TV" or "I want a woman with whom I can discuss the game scores and not bore her" or "I am looking for a woman who enjoys beer".

Though these are not complete portraits of the people who would want to meet, it starts the ball rolling.

## When to reach for the fire escape

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It is indeed great to go through online dating and there are many wonderful stories that come out from these services.

However, you should also be careful that you do not attract the wrong person and jeopardize your safety. Some of the safety measures that you would need to adopt would be:

1. **Stay anonymous** – Until you get to know something about the other person, you would better keep your last name, your website and your critical information (phone number, address, work place) out of reach.

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It is a good idea if you have an extra email (free email service) for this particular purpose, so you do not inadvertently disclose anything about yourself unless you are ready for it.

2. **Gut feelings** – use your gut feeling to the full. Learn to listen to your inner warning bells. If they ring, do not silence them saying ‘You are being silly’ -check it out or drop it.

It is very rare that your gut feeling would lie or make a judgment mistake. Learn to recognize it and follow it.

3. **Check out the photo** – what do you feel when you look at the photograph. Does it make the person more likable after you chat with them?

Ask the person to send you a few more photographs and check whether the person still appeals to you. If he/she does not comply, then there is something wrong.

4. **Red alerts** – do you find major discrepancy about the age told and the way the photo shows him/her? Is the person slippery with direct questions?

Does the person refuse to talk over phone? Is the person inconsistent with the information he/she shares at different times during your chatting? Is the person bitter about a previous relationship and is in a man/woman-bashing mood?

Is the person too sarcastic in his/her dialogue? Is the person too inviting during chatting? Is the person asking too many intimate questions too early – such as your cup size, or size of your penis? If the answer is ‘YES’ then be extra cautious about the person.

5. **Telephone talks** – be careful when you make the first contact. Women are always advised to use a cell phone, which has the ability to withhold the caller id.

Talk general matters and avoid disclosing any personal information (such as home address, office phone number, etc). Only when you feel perfectly comfortable, you give a phone number.

6. **First meeting** – this is the day you have been looking for so long and so celebrate the occasion. However, it is good if you do not forget a few

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safety measures that would come you in good stead in case anything goes wrong:

- a. Always let someone know where you are and at what time you would be expected back; give that person your cell phone number and ask them to check on you if they do not hear from you past a pre-agreed time.
  - b. Always choose an open and public place for the first meeting and a few subsequent ones, until you feel better about the stranger in your life.
  - c. Speak the truth – both about yourself and about what you expect out of this relationship. Avoiding the truth would not only waste both of your time, but also leave a bitter after-taste.
  - d. Retreat when you feel uncomfortable – if you find that the person whom you were chatting with and the person whom you are meeting does not match or your image of him/her does not match, feel free to retreat.
7. **Do your own background check** – do not be taken in by the agency's policy of performing background checks on their profiles. While most agencies that say so do it, the law provides a myriad of loopholes for criminals and psychos.

Try running your own background check when you are really interested on a person. You could also use major search engines to run a search on the name of the person and see what you come up with.

### Information exchange – fatal mistakes you need to avoid

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Dating in real life is quite difficult; but so is the online dating. There is always some ground protocol that needs to be observed and a few things that you should be careful about; and there are always some major mistakes that can throw you off from your goal.

Some of these mistakes have been already covered but it is still good to repeat them here so let us see what are some of these mistakes and how you could avoid them:

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1. **Profile without picture** – it is very often that people feel shy of posting their photographs along with the profile description. However, you need to know that most people do not bother to read a profile (unless it has a real great header and introduction) if there is no photo attached to it.

If you are shy post a full size photograph, which though shows your face, does not draw the focus to it and send a clear one when asked. Reports show that profiles with photographs get about 15 times more responses than those without.

2. **Hiking expectations and getting disappointed** – it happens in movies that you date just the right person and you will find yourself in whirlwind of romance and love that ends in marriage. This happens in movies.

In reality, people both sides are cautious, take time to unwind, to open up. It would happen sometimes, that after you know a person a little you would not like what you see and need to back off.

What is important that you are meeting people; without going out how would you ever find that Ms. or Mr. Right?

Do not get disappointed that it does not click from the beginning. Look at it this way - every meeting is a closer step to your Mr. or Ms. Right.

3. **Regular and ordinary profiles** – use a lot of adjective, metaphors and comparisons in your profile as well as a good dash of humor (best addressed to yourself). Read out your profile to your friends – do they fall asleep or they all praises for it?

Have it witty, spiced up (not with sexual language, but with humor) and have the person want badly to get to know you. Remember to mention what you want in your relationship and be as straightforward as possible.

4. **Not telling the truth** – it so happens that you would be tempted to be the person you would have always wanted to be and the anonymity of the Net tempt you in portraying yourself as that dream-person.

That is great – and you are assured to get some great responses as well. However, be honest – are these replies for you? No, these are for the description you have concocted; what happens when the person who contacted you find out that you are a pack of lies?

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What happens if you however, like that person very much but loose him/her because of the lies you said? Is it worth the trouble? No. Tell the truth about yourself. It will help more than you think.

5. **Speed does not mean success** – it you like the person who contacted you, that is great. However, do not expect that the next click of mouse would bring you marriage bells.

The fun with dating online is the very prolonged possibility of interaction and slow flirting, which will spice your life up a good deal. Enjoy the development of the relationship and allow it to mature before jumping to any conclusions.

6. **Giving up** – many people loose hope after they get into contact with a few 'wrong types'. However, this is not the solution. You may find the right person tomorrow. Do not leave the dating service; do not close your options.

What you need to do is tweak your profile a little, change a header and your intro; start afresh and put in your information in a different way – you never know when you will get the attention of your intended partner.

If you need some help with your profile please [see the Recommended Resources](#) section at the end of this report.

## CHAPTER IV

### YOUR DESTINATION

#### A few tricks to make online dating fun

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Think of online dating as a new way to make friends. It is true in a way – you need to make friends first and then see whether love can follow in the relationship. Hence, the following tips would help you in getting across better and faster:

1. **Short is sweet** – keep your email short and light-hearted. Test waters with a few pointed questions – but overall have a fun-filled conversation with emails no longer than 10-15 lines.

Do not into describing your life history and your dreams in the first emails, as reading lengthy notes in the beginning is pretty boring.

2. **Humor is the best key** – there are very few people in this world that would not love to read something that makes them laugh.

So, if you are good with word, weave them in such a way that it makes the other person smile when he/she reads it. This is the greatest attraction power that you could put in the profile.

3. **Be generous with compliments** – everybody loves appreciation – and if it is done well, it can fast-forward a relationship a few notches. Learn to pay genuine compliments and you will always score.

For example, if the person knows yoga you could always say, “I think it is awesome that you do yoga”.

4. **Flirt, flirt, flirt** – the online dating can be real fun because you can flirt without any fear of things going out of hand.

On the other hand, it might bring you in touch with a person you really like and matches your ‘naughtiness’. However, be careful what you say during flirting lest you attract the wrong specimens.

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5. **Put a lot of questions** – make a list of interesting questions and get the person on chat for “interrogation” – use fun questions such as “What makes you want to kiss a person?” or “What attracts you most in a woman/man?” “Do you thing the size matters?”, “What would attract you more the bulge in the dress/pants or a blinding smile?” .

You could be as “naughty” as you want and see how the other person answers. See, these questions can have two answers – (I) humorous and light hearted, and (II) literally and straightforward.

The way the person answers, would tell you a lot about the personality of the person.

These are all some of the tricks that can help you understand the person who is on the other side of the mouse. You will get to know the person pretty well by the third or fourth email – and these types of questions would force him/her to come out and show their real personalities. It is up to you to choose, once you get a clearer picture.

### Don't put your eggs into one basket

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There are other things that would make your life easier with the dating online, i.e. you could and should register with more than one agency.

This would increase your chances to contact many people, and also give you a chance to modify your profile and present yourself in various ways.

There are many great online dating services, which will help you get you closer to your goal of finding a lasting relationship. Hence, you should try to make use of as many as you could (see [www.bestcupid.com](http://www.bestcupid.com) for dating sites lists and rating).

Often, while using other agencies you realize the shortcoming of another. For example, some have great promotional offers, while some others have ultra-fast chatting service.

The following are some of the most common negative aspects you would find with online dating agencies:

1. **Communication is possible only when both members have paid to register** – often some agencies “forget” to mention that for another person
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to contact you he/she have to be registered with the online dating agency. That is they both paid the membership fee. This can be pretty annoying to say the least.

2. **Jet lag with acceptance** – sometimes the agencies take 3-4 days to accept and activate your login, which is highly ridiculous since these websites are the biggest moneymaking things on the Net.

Dating agencies should be able to activate the login maximum within 24 hours if not instantly.

3. **Incorrect questionnaire** – the bunching of the options sometimes is incorrect forcing people to tell lies about themselves. For example, divorced and separated are two very different things, which some agencies group together.

There are many people who would not like to go out with separated people, though have no problems with divorcees. Hence, clarity should be paramount.

4. **Inability to suspend your account** – some agencies will give the option of either have an active account or totally leave, instead of giving you the option of simply suspending your account.

This means that when you get a prospective date, your profile would still be active. This is quite annoying.

5. **Email size limit** – it is very irritating to have emails cut to a certain size. This thing would make people write several messages to complete what they had to say, making the communication cumbersome.

6. **Inability to cut off IMs** – some of these agencies would not allow you to cut off the IMs (Instant Messenger) making it impossible for you to chat with someone peacefully.

There are many instances where people stopped chatting especially because of this problem

7. **Photo approval** – some dating agencies take it upon them to accept or reject photographs, which though well intended kind of irritate you.

Many would reject photographs because “it does not show enough face”, or “hides the eyes” etc, making you feel like an object.

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8. **Funny punctuation rules** – some agencies will have funny punctuation rules, where commas, apostrophes, and full stops disappear after being uploaded. This makes the profile look and sound ridiculous.
9. **Outdated chatting system** – some agencies still use the oldest technology in chatting, i.e. HTML chatting where the window needs to be refreshed every time a new message comes.

This is unacceptable because it time taking and takes out all the fun out of chatting.

10. **Difficulty in login** – some agencies would have you navigating two or three clicks away to be logged in, which is a total waste of time.

Members should be able to login with one click so it makes it easy and saves time and effort.

These are some of the downsides you will find with the numerous agencies out there. Therefore, it should be good if you have your eggs kept in a few baskets instead of in one so you could enjoy the benefits and ignore their disadvantages without too much annoyance.

Moreover, when you are spread over two or three such agencies, you will have better chance to get your prospective date, since your covering much more ground than if your would have been with only one agency.

Yes, you would end up paying a little extra to play a multiple member, but in the end, it is well worth the money and effort. (See the Recommended Resources section at the end of this report for the dating sites we recommend)

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### Conclusion - Wrapping it up

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You have learnt a few of the most critical aspects of online dating – right starting from how to make your profile attractive and fail-proof to how to handle the first date that results from these wonderful services. Let us summarize some of the most critical aspects and check out some important tips:

1. **Spontaneity** – is definitely not for your profile. Do and re-do it several times until you are satisfied that you do not sound like a moron reciting a monologue. Make it humorous, witty and personalized; avoid all types of general remarks.
2. **Header** – use an excellent header, i.e. the opening sentence(s) of your profile. People should be dying to click on that header – it should be so catchy. It could be heavy philosophy, it could humor, it could be tongue-in-cheek sarcasm, etc.

It should be something that sets you on fire to know that person. Something that would not let you go further to any other profile.

3. **Be direct about who you are.**- describe yourself a little in the first 3-5 sentences
4. **Be direct in what you expect and what you don't want** – if you do not want divorced people, or people who have children from previous marriages, or people who smoke – whatever, be clear about it so those people would not approach you.

Be equally direct about what you want – do you want a purely physical relationship, say so; do you want a long-term relationship, say so; do you just want to make friends and take it slowly from there, again say so.

5. **Have a photo posted** – It is harder for people who post profiles without photographs to catch the attention of the surfer. Hence, get out, get a professional take a good snap of yours, special for this purpose, and then have it attached to your profile.

NOTE: For better result it is advised that you should consider using services providing help with your profile preparation ([see the Recommended Resources section](#) below).

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### Recommended services and resources:

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#### 1. Automatic WebForm filler and Password manager.

This is a “MUST HAVE” tool for any Internet user and it’s especially important if you are in online dating. You will create quite a few profiles for several dating services and you need a tool which can hold all your information so you do not have to type it in every time.

This tool will help you to save all your profiles info to it’s database and restore them whenever you need it with a click of a button. This tool will also remembers and automatically fills your login info into a login web form whenever you need it so you do not have to memorize countless usernames and passwords. For more details [click here](#)

#### 2. Dating profile templates-ideas.

If you do not feel you can write essential elements for your profile such as headers, your description, etc. or have difficulties with getting an idea of what to write you can use the instant profile templates-ideas.

All you do is just to pick few pre-written sentences and change a couple of words to fit them to your own situation.

The profile templates is a very affordable way to have unlimited instant dating profiles in a matter of minutes. Easy, fast, and very inexpensive way to having good looking profiles.

For more details visit [www.profileidea.com](http://www.profileidea.com)

#### 3. Professional profile preparation

If the money is not an issue it is recommended that you use professional writers to make your profile. They will go over all important aspects of your profile and write all your essays and other elements. They may also take care of your professionally done photo. For more details [click here](#)

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### **4. Dating sites review**

The dating game starts from finding a good dating agency. There are 100s of dating agencies out there and quite often it is a serious dilemma- which one to choose. If you have not found any dating agencies yet do not worry. We've done the homework for you. Here are some good agencies we reviewed and recommend you to start with. [Click here](#) for more details

### **6. Dating Directory Guide**

If you wish to hand pick a dating agency you can choose from 1000s of dating agencies operating in all dating niches. Visit [www.bestcupid.com](http://www.bestcupid.com)

### **7. Library of the books on dating subject**

We recommend that you take a look at the books on dating subject listed there. You may find some of them useful. [Click here](#)