

DATING CONTRACT

In an effort to get to know each other better, we will agree to abide by this dating contract. Since handbooks or instructions for life were never provided when we were born, here to, there are no absolute rules. These suggestions and guidelines are designed for us to determine if we really want to continue our relationship or move on. Different events, time of year and even the weather can influence our timing, therefore the following suggestions are in random order. We will complete as many suggestions as we can and make up more if we feel they would be appropriate. If you chose a short time frame, you may not have enough time to consider all these options. That's OKAY. Pick and choose the suggestions you want, consider all of them, or of course, make up your own.

1.)

Discover what the other person's "outside the relationship" interests are. We all need to be interested in something "away" from the relationship. It could be a hobby or a career goal or anything that will make you spend time apart. One must be comfortable enough with the others interest to encourage them to succeed. You are looking for a balanced life here, not an obsession to be with someone, no matter how "hot" you think they are, or how afraid you may be that they might find someone else because you are not with them constantly. Being "glued at the hip" is a recipe for failure. Too much of anything, even a good thing can be very bad. Spend some time alone with your other friends and family too. Absence really does make the heart grow fonder.

2.)

Meet some relatives. It doesn't really matter who or how many, but you both should. Your goal is to simply make that happen. This obviously will disclose any negative feelings one might have about the other. If someone would feel embarrassed about having you meet any part of the family, your relationship is already doomed and will never survive. Call it quits. Walk away before you get sucked into a bad situation.

3.)

There are many differences of opinion when it comes to alcohol and drugs. Some people view these substances as kind of a "Truth Serum". Discuss this and be open to experimenting with the substance of your choice. If you decide to try this, you should experiment alone as a couple as well as with a group. A lot of people believe "The truth comes out after a few cocktails".

4.)

Discuss what you want to be when you grow up. We all have our hopes and dreams no matter what age we are. What you want to do for the rest of your life and your goals for the future are an important issue.

5.)

Talking on the phone can be a delicate subject, especially in the beginning of a relationship. It's great to have long conversations if you want to, but if you don't, don't do it. One-person spending hours on the phone if they prefer a shorter conversation will be a clue you should pay attention to. If you don't cut it short and talk for hours to avoid hurting the other person's feelings, one of you is in trouble and the other is deceived.

6.)

Whatever you do, DON'T go shopping together. A successful relationship does not have to include shopping. This should be a sacred alone time activity. You will have enough of this if you decide to extend your relationship. LOL

7.)

Find something to argue about. It doesn't matter what the subject is, but the bigger the better. Pay attention to how the other person presents themselves. Determine if their method is passive or aggressive. (The silent treatment or screaming) The two most important things you are looking for, is if they avoid conflict or meet it head on, and if they can honestly communicate their true feelings. Be careful, you want to avoid the "built up and blow up later" relationship destroying situation.

8.)

As far as sex is concerned, you both need to do what's right. If you both want to wait, go ahead and wait. If you both want to gradually discover intimacy with this person, you should do that. In the event you want to attack each other until the sun comes up, lucky you! As far as sex is concerned, you should be thinking about compatibility here. Frequency, passion, and variety with sex can wear out with time. As long as you are on the same wavelength here, your sexual compatibility will be fine.

9.)

One of the most important things in relationships is a sense of humor. If you are attracted to the other person's sense of humor, and you don't have one, it can be a problem. The degree to which you make each other laugh is an important ingredient for success.

10.)

Your final thoughts should include "Who's the Boss." Has this been a democratic relationship or is one person clearly dominant. Is that something you are willing to live with? Sometimes one person is clearly the boss and the other partner is fine with that. If you both want to be in charge in the same situations, that's when, problems arise. Be aware of this.

11.)

Take some time to discuss your religious beliefs. Relationships can be successful regardless of faith, or the degree of faith as long as both people clearly understand and accept on another's opinion and position on this subject.

12.)

When looking for a long term partner, some people look for someone who does things for them, watches out for them, takes care of them and treats them special. Those things are all great and important, but for a successful relationship to last, it should be more important for you to want to do things for the other person than it is for them to do things for you.

We the undersigned will attempt to complete as many of these suggestions as we can. When the life of the contract is over, we will use this experience to determine our trust in each other, lifestyle compatibility and chemistry. We understand that what happens after this is unknown, but look forward to getting to know each other better in hopes of our relationship continuing.

Time Frame _____ Weeks

Signed _____ Date _____

Signed _____ Date _____

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