

What is a Date?

A date is a shared experience between two individuals. The goal is to create or continue a dating relationship based on those shared experiences and emotional connections. A date comprises three elements: a meal, an associated activity, and a time limit. Pretty simple. Hopefully, there is a romantic aspect to the date.

THE PURPOSE OF DATING

The goal of dating is to build a dating relationship with her, which might eventually lead to a committed romantic relationship through meaningful connections. You want a shared experience, which leads to genuine connections that focus on emotional and romantic aspects. The goal of dates is not to spend money trying to buy a woman's affection. You are not paying for dinner to get her to like you or convince her to give you sex. That is the opposite of what it is you want.

Any voyage of discovery is very lonely without someone else to share the emotions and memories you will collect on the journey. Attending the movies, the theater, or a concert alone is relatively dull. A date is a way to share an experience with another person, even when it is a simple date, such as coffee or tea with a stroll. You don't want to eat alone; you want to have dinner with someone who values you. Shared experiences are about recognizing the value of companionship and emotional connection in various activities.

Dating is about finding someone to share your life with as you grow. Dating is not a destination; it is much more the events, places, and emotions you visit along the way to a long-term relationship. Dating should continue even after establishing a long-term committed relationship, such as friendship, marriage, or a long-term partnership.

HAVE A PURPOSE FOR THE DATE

Each date needs to have a purpose other than just going out. That purpose needs to be something that moves the relationship forward.

- It can be a social gathering with friends and family where you get to know them better.
- Getting to know each other better as a couple without external noise.
- Building a stronger connection to keep the relationship growing.
- Enjoying shared activities such as adventures, travel, concerts, and shows.
- Celebrating milestones and stage changes of the dating relationship.

Dating in the Art & Style of a Gentleman

- Making memories to be cherished and used to strengthen the relationship.
- Creating traditions just for the two of you.
- Breaking the routine to keep the dating relationship fresh.
- Exploring new places together as a couple.
- Improving communication so that the relationship does not sour over a misunderstanding.
- Learning and growing together by studying the arts and sciences.
- A date is for expressing your affection for her.
- Rekindling a romance that might have taken a downturn.
- Relaxation and enjoyment of each other as people as sometimes you just want to be with her. Be careful here not to just be with her; have an activity planned.

While there are many more reasons to have a date, you must choose one, or the date will dissolve into a nondate of the two of you hanging out. Don't contact her for a date without a reason and plan for the date.

THREE ELEMENTS

A date consists of three elements: a meal, an associated activity, and a time limit. The meal and activity order is unimportant; together, these three elements combine to constitute a date. Only taking her for a meal alone does not constitute a date. Activity without a meal is an incomplete date. An activity that has no association with the meal is awkward. Not having a time limit, the date will dissolve into a hangout or boredom for her when it doesn't end. You want to set a duration for a date to ensure it remains enjoyable and purposeful.

THREE ACTS

There are three acts on a date. The first act is the introduction or intro when the plan is agreed on. The second act is the body, where the meal and activity occur. The third act is the conclusion or the wrap-up.

The introduction is the most important of the three acts as it sets the expectations for both of you regarding the date. As the gentleman, you have most likely set up the date so that you will explain and control the itinerary for the date. You can set expectations for the date by clearly communicating and agreeing on the plan.

The second act, the body, consists of an activity and a meal. Both can be relatively simple, such as a short walk and coffee. Or as complex as an overnight hike and breakfast before heading home. Perhaps a week-long travel adventure to

different countries would be ideal. While the activities and the meals can vary in complexity, they should align with the interests and preferences of both of you. There is always a time limit for the date, which helps maintain a sense of purpose for the date. Having a time limit agreed to at the beginning is very vital to the success of a date. It keeps it from turning into hangout sessions, a literal relationship killer.

The conclusion is the third act, where you mutually decide how to continue the relationship. Does she want another date with you? Do you want another date with her? Do you want to continue the dating relationship with her? Perhaps she has had enough of you not wanting to continue dating you.

This third act is essential to get right as this is the first failure point in a dating relationship. Not setting the expectation to continue the dating relationship or not can ruin the relationship.

SUMMARY

Dating is about finding someone special to be in a relationship with for activities and occasions, hopefully leading to a long-term romantic connection. Your dates will consist of three elements that work together to ensure a pleasant experience. A date consists of three acts, starting with the introduction of the plan for the date, the actual date itself, which is the meal, and the activity, followed by a conclusion or wrap-up that includes asking for another date or discontinuing the relationship. In a later chapter, there will be more discussion on how the use of threes comes into play.

Establishing clear expectations and communication during each act is essential for building a successful dating relationship.