

No Drama Online Dating



Proudly Presented By
Ebook-Maniacs
[Visit Our Website Now!](#)

Edited by [Steve Cowan](#)

Introduction

Welcome to 'No-Drama Online Dating', and please accept my personal thanks for buying this book.

I know that money is never easy to come by for anyone, so you will find that there is a tremendous value for every cent you have invested on **every single page** of this book.

Okay, let's start at the very beginning by diving right into 'No-Drama Online Dating'.

As you read this, you're considering whether online dating might work for you, right?

If so, let's get one thing straight right from the very beginning.

That is, Online Dating can **ONLY** ever be a successful venture if you make it so!

Picking the very first online dating website that you see, registering and then sitting back, waiting for 'things' to happen guarantees only one thing.

It guarantees that nothing at all will ever happen!

Sorry, but whilst the right person may very well be a member of the same website, by sitting around waiting for *them* to take action you are only ensuring that you will never find them!

There is absolutely no point or sense in just sitting there waiting for them to appear!

Rule number one of online dating is that it is entirely up to you to make things happen.

Let's be fair. That shouldn't be so difficult, should it?

There is no reason why someone seeking a long term partner or maybe just wanting to meet a great guy or gal should not be able to make at least some effort, right?

The problem is that way too many people seem to think that simply *joining* an online dating website is the end of the story, when, in fact, it's just the beginning of the adventure.

You and only you can make things happen, and turn your dreams into reality.

So, at the core of this e-book is one very simple assumption.

That is, I am going to assume that you realize that if you don't act, then no-one else will do it for you.

On that basis, I am more than happy to show you how to be a success in the online dating 'game' by spoon-feeding you all of the insider hints and tips that you could ever need to be able to make yourself as attractive as possible.

By applying the information in this book, you will massively improve your chances of overall success, and quickly too.

So, your first step on the road to online dating success was simply making the decision to get your hands on this book!

For that, allow me to congratulate you!

The next step, however, is to take the time to read it thoroughly, word by word, before you start applying the knowledge that you are about to uncover.

Only with all of the information from this book firmly fixed inside your head will you be able to make all of the correct decisions about your online dating experience.

If you skip or skim through it, you are in serious danger of missing some of the most critical pointers and ideas, and that could mean that your online dating efforts are doomed to failure even before you begin!

What you will learn is that successful online dating is a step-by-step process, and that each of these steps needs to be taken in order, and to be accompanied by you taking action.

It's a little like a jigsaw puzzle, which you need to finish before you can see the complete picture.

But, follow the rules and guidelines set out in this book, and I can tell you with 100% confidence that you truly can **win** in the online dating game.

You *genuinely* can discover the happiness that you seek, yet remain safe at the same time.

So, read this book carefully, and then take action.

Follow the rules as closely as you can, because they are the path to long term online dating success.

Are you ready to start?

Great, let's do it.....

1. How Can You Get Where You Are Going Without A Map?

Online dating is not difficult. So, it follows that everyone should be able to do it, but a surprising number of people will not manage to do so in a successful manner.

It's a little bit like creating a new business or maybe building a new house.

If you want to be successful, you have to construct it correctly from the beginning, and know exactly what you want from it right from the outset.

Your new house will not last very long without strong and solid foundations will it? A new business would likewise have very little chance of success if it was not built the right way from the start.

Think of online dating in the same way!

To be a success, you need to have built the foundations on solid ground from the very beginning.

For example, you need to create your online 'profile' in the right manner if you want to stand-out, to be the potential online date that others notice.

The good news is that there are quite a few great ideas, tips and tricks out there that can help you along the sometimes rocky road to online dating success.

This book will give you all of these tips, as it is my objective in creating it that it should enable you to become a super successful online dater in double-quick time.

But, as suggested by the title of this chapter, to get where you want to go (and where we want to send you!) you need a map.

Otherwise, having no map can only ever guarantee that you are going to get lost!

+++++

Define Your Objectives

The first thing that you need to do is to know where you want to go.

What are your objectives and goals? What is it that you are really trying to achieve by being an online dater?

Start off by asking yourself these questions:

- What *am* I trying to achieve by being involved in an online dating experience?
- Is there any specific way that I would like to achieve my objectives?
- Do I have a specific partner 'type' in mind?
- What can or will I do to make sure that I achieve my goals?
- Do I have enough time to make it happen?
- Am I determined enough to overcome any obstacles that might appear in the way of making it happen?

+++++

When you first begin to be involved in the online dating scene, no doubt you will be massively excited (as well as a little nervous, perhaps).

Thus, a bit further down the line it would be very easy to have forgotten the answers that you gave to these basic, fundamental questions.

So, whatever your answers to these questions are – and, remember, these are answers only to yourself, so you must be brutally honest – write them down.

Then at some point in the future, when things are maybe not going exactly the way you had planned, it will be a massive help to you to come back and refer to them.

Being able to do this helps you stay firmly on the track of meeting your online dating objectives, whatever problems and difficulties real life might throw in your way from time to time.

The importance of having set clearly established goals and objectives for your online dating adventure cannot be over-emphasized.

So, my first idea or tip is just this.

Create your own detailed road-map leading to your objective or goals, and stay on that map whenever and wherever possible.

Not doing so will almost certainly mean that you will not establish the all-important foundations for what you are attempting to achieve.

Thus, you are almost guaranteeing that your online dating experience will not be a successful one.

For example, without a map, it will be all too easy to create an unfocused profile.

This is because without a clearly established idea of the kind of person that you are seeking, then the chances are pretty high that you will, in fact, seek out no-one!

And perhaps most critically, without objectives set out in an online dating road-map that you can follow, or a plan that serves as your call-to-action, then you probably won't even take the first step of calling on someone who attracts you.

Okay, so now you can see that it is essential that you must have a clear set of objectives, before you do anything else.

Done it yet?

Created your map, or set out your plan?

If not, do not waste any more time.

Go do it now, and make sure that you write it all down!

+++++

Okay, with your objectives clearly in place, you now need to consider how you go about achieving them, how you can hit your specific targets.

Here's a step-by-step guide to putting your plan into action:

1. Take whatever time is necessary to create a great personal profile.
2. Set aside time each day, or (at the very least) a few hours a week to search for people that you *might* want to meet.

3. Make an effort to contact them by e-mail, telephone or whatever other method of communication is available.

Notice that this is a progressive, step-by-step program pushing you in the direction of where you want to be.

Only by adopting such a structured, logical approach to online dating can you hope to find that one special person to fill all the most important spaces in your life.

So, that's the first and perhaps most obvious step towards online dating success out of the way.

Over the next few chapters, I will expand on this basic outline still further, so that you will fully understand how you can enhance your own online dating experience simply and effectively.

Whilst I obviously do not have the power to change you, or make you into a different person, I can show you how to emphasize your best points and how to showcase yourself, so that you give yourself every chance of dating success.

You Are Who You Are!

As suggested above, I cannot change who you are, nor should I or anyone else ever try to.

It is therefore extremely important that you too realize that you should not try to change yourself, and that you can only succeed in online dating by being who you *really* are!

If you do try to change yourself to 'fit in' with what you believe or see are the rules of dating, then you will always fail!

Sure, you may be successful for a very short period of time, but is that what you are really looking for?

You must be you if you want to succeed longer term. If you pretend to be someone you are not, you will be found out, and you will fail, often horribly and embarrassingly.

Of course, it would be foolish not to emphasize the *real* positives about the person that you are, and, indeed, this book will show you many ways that you can do that.

Of course you must do whatever it takes to portray yourself to others in a way that guarantees that they will be interested in you.

You would be a fool not to do everything possible to ensure that they will find a person that has your qualities and characteristics attractive.

But, your online dating profile is 'you' as far as the rest of the world is concerned, so it must be the real you!

Only use a profile this is totally about the person that you really are, and not about some mythical individual that you would like to be in your dreams!

If you're not Superman or Wonder-Woman, don't try to suggest that you are.

To do so is an almost 100% categorical guarantee of failure!

2. Online Dating – The Good, The Bad and.....

Maybe you've never thought of it in these terms, but online dating, like everything else in this life, has some huge plus points, but there are some negatives as well!

Nevertheless, it is vital that you appreciate this from the outset, so that you can take a balanced view of everything that happens to you during your online dating odyssey!

+++++

The Good:

You get an unbelievable opportunity to meet people from all over the planet, if you want to.

After all, who says that the guy or gal for you just happens, coincidentally, to live in your neighborhood or home town?

You get to meet people at a time that is convenient to you.

You get to meet that person without having to go through the sometimes gruesome realities of 'ordinary' dating, like blind dates, singles bars and so on.

If you choose to make initial contact through email (which should almost always be the case) then there tends to be less pressure on you to 'perform' than there would be in a face-to-face meeting, or even on the telephone.

Because everyone that is seriously involved in the online dating 'scene' will post their profile, you can actively seek out people online with the qualities that you know that you are seeking.

Thus, you avoid meeting and being forced to spend valuable time with a person who is totally incompatible.

You can do everything the way you want, in the time frames that you want to, and there is never any external pressure to act in a certain way or manner.

Generally speaking, it's also likely to be safer, although sensible precautions still need to be adopted.

There are hundreds or maybe even thousands of members of the opposite sex registered on most of the leading online dating websites.

Thus, the opportunities for meeting a person who truly is 'the one' are that much higher.

Okay, so that's the good, the upsides of online dating. Now, for the downsides:

+++++

The Bad:

Somewhat obviously, you do not get to meet the person face-to-face the first time you communicate.

No matter how accurate their profile is, first 'face-to-face' impressions are often critical in deciding whether a relationship will succeed.

Furthermore, you have little choice but to believe what their profile tells you about them.

If they do live a distance from you, then it might be some time before you can actually get to meet them.

The longer it is before you can meet, the greater the anticipation is likely to be. Thus, the potential for a major disappointment is that much higher.

Taking the very first step of actually getting in contact can be pretty intimidating.

Also, most online dating websites are not free and there is no guarantee of success.

+++++

So, those in a nutshell are the up's and down's, or the pro's and con's, of online dating.

Just understand that, whilst there are a lot of plus points to online dating, you should not be blind to the fact that there are minus points too.

With that out of the way, however, now I'll attempt to show you how to balance one against the other in such a way that you can fully appreciate why online dating really can work.

Balancing The Pro's Against The Con's....

From the beginning of your online dating adventure, you should accept the downsides of online dating before balancing them in your own mind against the positives.

For example, the idea of paying for the membership of a good online dating website is something that a lot of folks don't like (incidentally, if you find a free online dating site, be very, very careful about using it).

Think about it logically, and you'll see that griping about paying for membership doesn't make any sense at all.

Consider the alternatives.

Going to a singles bar to try to meet someone will cost you money, right? Probably a whole lot more for one single evening than it cost for a whole year's membership of an online dating site in fact!

And, you could spend all evening at the singles bar, spending money on someone who you know is not right for you from the outset, correct?

That is literally like throwing money into the trash can!

Another 'moan' that some folks have about online dating, the thing that they *really* don't like is having to take the first step, by making the initial contact.

Well, once again, isn't that just like real life?

Back in our singles bar scenario, wouldn't you have to do the same thing?

Is it easier having all your friends watch you as you try to make the first approach in the bar, or doing it in the privacy of your own home on the internet?

Get it firmly fixed in your head that for every minus to online dating there is also a counter-balancing positive and that, usually, the positive outweighs the negative!

There are simply just so many benefits of online dating, and masses of opportunities for you to find the right person out there.

Accept that there are negatives, then forget about them and just get on with it!

Doing so is the first sign that you have taken the all-important first step of making the necessary and vital commitment to success.

'No Drama Online Dating' will show you how to do that, but, remember this is only the first step, and that this book is all about giving you a step-by-step plan for success.

No one individual part of the plan will be of any use to you whatsoever if you do not take on board and adopt the whole thing in its entirety.

So, the first and most critical step for you is to make a total personal commitment to online dating success.

Now, maybe you want to start off giving online dating a try, almost like a personal 'trial run'?

That is fine, but before becoming involved in the online dating scene on a 'give it a try' basis, you *must* decide how long you will allow this phase to last.

That is, decide in advance at what point, or after how long, you will stop 'giving it a try', and actually commit to making it work (or quit!).

By doing this, you make your commitment a matter of record, even though you are not yet fully decided whether online dating is really for you.

The reason that having your 'trial' period defined before you start is that your commitment needs to be total, as it is only by doing this that you can realistically hope to find the best possible benefits.

3. Make Sure You Choose The Best Online Dating Community

There are many online dating sites and communities and each and every one of them is likely to offer something a little bit different to the others.

Thus, if you choose a site that is wrong *for you*, then you could potentially be wasting a lot of time, effort and money.

So, you need to decide for yourself what you are seeking in a partner, *before* you select the website to register with.

Only you can realistically make such a choice.

First, consider yourself, and think hard and long about the person that you really are.

Then, and only then, turn your thoughts to the type of person whom you would like to meet.

It is only after making your deliberations on both of these points that you can decide on what site or online dating community is going to be right for you.

+++++

Be Clear Of Who YOU Are!

Be honest with yourself again here and try to find and then define whatever it is in you that determines what exactly it is that you are looking for in a partner.

You are answerable to no-one but yourself, so be frank.

Only by knowing you, and what you are seeking, can you decide whether a particular site or community is a good match for your requirements, or not.

For example, many of the more popular online dating sites tend to take a 'scatter-gun' approach, trying to attract as many people as possible from every corner of the globe, and from each and every walk of life.

They do not, in other words, specialize.

However, if you are honest with yourself and admit that the person you are looking for is of a particular 'type', by race, religion, creed, color, particular interests or geography, then this approach may be unsuited to you!

You may find that trying to use such a broadly based 'general' online dating site presents more difficulties than it solves as far as you are concerned.

So, it follows that, if you do have any special characteristics that you would like your potential life partner to have, then you need to make sure that you access websites that cater to those requirements.

For example, some extremely popular online dating community sites target their services at those in search of a partner of a specific race or religion.

If you realistically know in your heart that you only want to find a Jewish person to date or perhaps an Asian or Hispanic, then it makes much more sense to look at websites that specialize, rather than more generalized ones.

However, as we have already established, for every positive in the online dating game, there is a potential negative, and this ability to be super-selective is no exception to the rule.

A big site, by definition, has a lot of members and visitors, meaning there is a great choice of potential partners.

A smaller, specialized site on the other hand, might have a limited number of members, and that, in turn, will limit your chances of finding your special partner.

So, you need to search out a site which gives you a balance of numbers and specific types of members, if possible.

Find a site that is both popular enough to offer a choice whilst at the same time being specific enough for your heart-felt requirements to be met.

+++++

The Sites Objective Is....?

So, once you have laid down a few personal ground rules dictating the size and make-up of the site that you are seeking, the next obvious step is to search for the individual site that best matches those criteria.

As stated before, there are an awful lot of online dating sites out there and so, at least at first, the choice might appear to be a little bit daunting.

No matter!

Start off by narrowing down your search by looking for some key features in the online dating community that you are considering becoming a member of.

Of course, the choice of any one particular online dating website over another is entirely yours, but be aware that there are some fundamental key ingredients for an online dating website to be a success.

Ignore these fundamentals and you simply make the whole task of finding your perfect partner that bit more difficult!

Here are some of the key factors that you should look for:

1. The site should offer a good range of different types of people (unless you are looking for a person with very specific attributes, as already highlighted.)
2. The site itself should be easy and uncomplicated to use, and you must try to be as objective as you can about this. Even if you are a website wizard, and so can understand everything the site does perfectly, would you expect your prospective partner to be and do the same? If not, then this probably suggests that you should avoid an over-complicated site. Simply look at what the website offers in their introduction, and, if that initial 'entry point' is too difficult, then the site is probably not going to be a popular one.
3. It should allow you to set up a pretty complex profile, and should strive to make it simple for you to do so.
4. You should enjoy reasonable access to all areas of the website before you decide to join it or not. You need to be able to have a good look around, so that you know whether it is right for you or not. If you

do not know and cannot discover exactly what a particular site is offering, then you cannot make good decisions about whether it is right for you, or not.

5. The website pricing structure should be fair and reasonable. Too cheap, and it may attract people who are not really that serious about online dating. Too expensive, and you may find that you actually run out of money before getting around to making that all-important first date!

Choosing the correct online dating site to join is going to be critical to your chances of success, and thus, it will pay you to be very careful and selective in what you do.

Join a site that is wrong for you, and it is no exaggeration to say that you have almost zero chance of meeting the right person, no matter how much effort you put in.

I have set out the basics of making your choice here, but there are many more factors that you should also consider on the following pages.

Finish this book before you act, to make sure that you see the full picture before jumping straight into the deep end!

However, once you *have* selected the website or community that best suits your needs, you can then begin to pull all of the different 'thread's' of the overall picture together.

Understand that everything you find on a good online dating website is there for a specific purpose.

The features and information that the site owners include are all there to ensure that you enjoy the best and most positive online dating experience possible.

It should also be set up so that your profile is never a fixed thing and always a work in progress. It must be something that can grow as you become more experienced using the site.

There are literally millions of online dating related websites out there, and thousands of dating sites themselves. Thus, you should not jump into the first one that you see!

Compare features, costs and benefits of a few sites that you pull together into a suitable short list. Apply any specific requirements that you have, and see how the sites on your list match up.

And, as suggested above, do not base your final decision on cost alone.

Both a site that is too cheap and one that appears over-priced can have marked disadvantages.

Focus your search primarily on the features and benefits that you want from the site, rather than cost.

Then, having done that, look for something in the middle ground cost wise, and that will probably provide the answer that you are looking for.

4. Getting The Ball Rolling....

Just as any good Real Estate agent will tell you that buying a desirable property is all about location, location and location again, being successful in online dating is all about your profile, your profile and your profile!

Without a good profile, one that will attract the right guy or girl to get in touch with you (or listen to and communicate with you if you contact them) your online dating efforts will be dead in the water even before you start!

In short, your profile is everything!

There is literally no chance at all that you will ever be a successful online dater without a great profile. Period!

+++++

The Profile.....

Most online dating sites will require you to complete your profile pretty much as soon as you join their site.

This profile is the 'you' that the rest of the online dating community on that particular site will see.

Pretty obviously, therefore, having a good profile is crucial.

Indeed, it is that crucial that you should literally consider *every single word* that you include in the profile that you create.

Remember, this is the 'you' that any potential date will see in the first instance, and, if it doesn't grab them the way you want it to, well, that's pretty much your chances shot!

The only way for others to get to know you is through your profile, so you must tell them everything that they could ever hope or need to know.

I hope that it goes pretty much without saying that your profile should not set out to deceive anyone. That will serve no purpose whatsoever in the longer term.

Of course, you would be a fool if you did not put the greatest possible emphasis on your good points!

Emphasize everything that is most attractive about you, whilst trying not to draw too much attention to things about you that are not so great!

There is, however, a very fine line to be drawn, and it is extremely important that you ensure that you remain on the right side of this line.

As you create your profile, no doubt there will be points at which you are sorely tempted to 'embellish' the truth.

Little white lies never hurt anyone, correct?

The simple answer is, no, it is categorically NOT correct!

DO NOT DO IT!!

Lies, big or small, white or black, are still lies, and that is not the basis on which you can realistically hope to build any kind of trusting long term relationship.

Also, bear in mind that lies are a subjective matter too.

What I treat as a mere 'bending' of the truth may be a major act of dishonesty and betrayal to you.

Lies told now WILL come to the surface at some point down the line, and will probably become a major stumbling block to your relationship and possibly your long term happiness.

You are setting yourself up to be disbelieved.

Do not even think about going there

Attempt to answer every question, and deal with every issue in the profile with complete honesty, and if you cannot answer a question honestly, do not answer it at all.

Those that tell lies will always be found out eventually, and just imagine if you are starting to fall for someone and then they find out that you lied!

All over in seconds, and no-one to blame it on but you.

Oops!

+++++

Creating A Great Profile

The first thing to bear in mind, as we've suggested, is that your profile is the first version of 'you' that any potential online date will 'meet'.

So, try to think what such a potential date might be looking for *before* you sit down to create your profile.

Make sure that you are in the correct frame of mind to write a profile that you believe that your potential 'target' partner would be happy and eager to read.

Bear in mind several key factors:

1. Be positive, cheerful and optimistic in your profile. Quite obviously, being cheerful is attractive, whereas being negative tends to repel. Avoid using negative language and words if at all possible (and it is possible 99% of the time!). So, for example, even if you really loathe the game, it would not help you to announce that you think that basketball is 'stupid'! Far better to say that you 'love football' instead.

2. If possible, make sure your sense of humor comes through, but be *very* careful. Humor does not always translate, even amongst peoples who are native English speakers. For example, British and Australian humor can often be very sarcastic, which, on the written page, can just look vindictive or rude. However, it's pretty obvious that most people are looking for someone interesting and funny, so, if you do have a sense of humor that will work on paper then by all means, use it!
3. Write your profile in a way that is designed to have the widest appeal possible, and is not too restrictive. Fine, if you have particular requirements based on religion, race or whatever, you can suggest that, but don't be too picky or specific. Doing so will only limit the people who might respond favorably to your profile.
4. Try not to appear arrogant or self-centered in your profile either. Fine, tell people about your achievements, because they are a part of who you are, but try to do so with some humility. For example, you may want to tell people that you were a reasonable football player – telling them that you were the best player your team ever had

suggests that you are not a person to whom perspective comes easily!

5. Follow the site rules! Every online dating website will have its own set of rules that dictate what you can and cannot say. Read those rules, and follow them or your carefully crafted profile might just disappear one day!

Always try to be positive, optimistic and cheerful whenever and wherever possible.

People want to associate with those that will make them feel good, so understand that that is what you want your potential dates to know about you.

+++++

No Second Chance At A First Impression!

In real life, pretty much everyone is probably familiar with the concept of doing everything that you can to create a good first impression.

Applying the same concept to meeting someone online might at first seem a little strange, but nevertheless, the same rules still apply.

In fact, it probably applies even more online than it does in real life.

You meet someone in real life, you see the person as they really are, warts and all!

Online, your prospective partner will see you the way that you see yourself, that is, the way that you want them to see you. They cannot see you in person.

You can't explain something to them that is unclear or slightly worrying that they have read in your profile unless they ask you, and most folks will simply not do that.

You can't charm them off their feet by flashing your most electric smile, not physically anyway.

What's more, they might have half a dozen profiles in front of them that they are potentially interested in, and, unless you hit the target straight away, a minute later, they can have moved on to the next profile in the pile!

Basically, and as silly as it might sound, you do have to try to flash your most electric smile, but in a digital fashion if you are to make that all-important first impression a winner.

Here's a few ways of going about doing just that:

+++++

Enough, But Not Too Much

Including details in your profile is vitally important, and yet, it is also just about the easiest part of the job to mess up.

Provide too much information and you will swamp your profile reader. Chances are that they will get half way through, and then get bored reading it!

On the other hand, provide too little information and it can appear that you don't want to tell the whole story about you, or that you are simply not willing to make the effort.

Either way, too little detail will consign your profile to the trash can just as effectively as too much information will!

Aim for the happy medium, the sensible middle ground.

Give just enough information to draw the person in but try to retain a little mystery, an unanswered question that they can only uncover by communication with you.

Provide them with a teaser, but don't tell them everything right from the word go.

Imagine how you would like this person to be feeling once they have finished reading your profile.

Would happy or sad be better? Wearing a smile or a frown?

The answer is obvious, so that is your specific aim when creating the profile.

Make *sure* that this is the way that you will leave them, so that they walk away from the PC and remember your name or something in your online dating profile that sticks out.

This element of mystery, something that piques their curiosity will draw them back to your profile, and probably encourage them to communicate with you too.

Of course, you need to apply some common sense, and not forget the need for safety. You should keep personal information that could help identify you out of your profile.

Never tell anyone where you live, your place of work, or any personal and physically identifying things about you.

Yet, you do need to give enough to become as real a person as it is possible to be, when communicating online.

Remember that your purpose here is to create a great first impression and that to do so, you need to be positive, optimistic and cheerful.

Okay, so here's what you can do.

Make a very quick list, as naturally and spontaneously as you can, of all the good things about you. Don't think too much, just make it a pure 'stream of consciousness' thing.

Include what you like doing, what you are good at, what you have achieved in the past and so on.

Then, look at your list, and select the things that you can put up online, without sounding boastful, rude or arrogant.

How does it read?

Are you happy that this is the 'you' that you want people to meet? Does it make you smile, and would it make you appear cheerful and happy to others who might read it?

Does it still retain that vital element of mystery?

Good!

Once you have satisfied all of those criteria, stop work.

Don't overdo it, editing and re-editing so many times that it becomes bland and probably boring as well.

Don't lose the essential 'spark'!

Now, do the same thing in reverse.

Write down what you are looking for in the person you are seeking through your involvement with online dating.

Again, do the job as quickly and naturally as you can, as this will tend to generate the most honest answers.

Now, when you compare the two lists, you should see some common characteristics listed there.

Imagine that the person that you want to meet does exactly the same as you just did. They should then be looking for *exactly* the characteristics in you that you are putting own in your profile.

It's a match, in other words!

Heres a few words and phrases that it will definitely pay you to incorporate into your profile, assuming that they do, in fact, apply, of course!

- Honest
- Reliable
- Hard working
- Outgoing
- Generous
- Fun

- Humorous
- Sincere
- Caring
- Dependable
- Good Listener
- Committed
- Understanding
- Good looking/handsome/pretty/beautiful
- Attractive

+++++

When you consider the 'spontaneous' lists you created, the most important things to note are the areas where your list and the one that you created for the ideal person that you believe you are seeking are 'matched'.

This allows you to have a very clear picture of the person that you are looking for, the person who is going to be your ideal online dating partner.

That is not, of course, to say that you will meet or find them online immediately.

However, you must hope that they, like you, have created their profile and have given it as much thought as you have.

If so, then you know that those people who have profiles that match your requirements are obviously the very people who you should be looking to meet and date, first.

5. Profile, Profile & Profile

In the world of online dating, you are your profile and your profile is you!

As already suggested, it cannot be over-emphasized just how important your profile is.

It **MUST** be one that potential dates are going to be utterly compelled to read.

So, here's step two in making sure that this happens.

You are now going to add pictures to your profile.

Now, however scary or off-putting this may sound, it is an absolute essential.

Adding pictures to your profile is a sure-fire way to get more people to read and see that profile, and, conversely, without pictures, the effectiveness of your profile is significantly weakened.

The bottom line is that, if you *really* want people to take and view you're your online dating efforts seriously, if you genuinely want them to view your profile and then email you, you are going to have to lure them in.

Pictures allow you to do this relatively easily.

But, not just any old picture will do the job.

It must be the right kind of picture, well taken (perhaps [even professionally](#)?) because if it is not, then, quite honestly, the picture might as well not be there at all!

+++++

A Thousand Words....

[Pictures](#) simply enable people to form a far clearer image of who you really are, and genuinely do say more about you than words can ever do.

Now, the best news is that most people involved in the online dating scene are not really going to expect someone with movie star beauty.

In fact, being too beautiful or handsome might even be a negative, if people do not really believe that the picture is really you.

Mind you, you should do everything that you can to look your best too.

Look [well groomed, neat, tidy and clean](#), and you enhance your chances of success immeasurably!

Now, it might sound crazy that anyone would ever use someone else's picture, but it does happen! In fact, on some sites (e.g. MySpace) it is quite a common practice for people to use pictures that are not them at all, so it really does happen!

Basically, never attempt to appear to be something that you are not with the picture that you use any more than you would do so in words.

Remember that untruths will always be found out, whether it be false words or images.

Don't dress in the latest skiing fashions if you don't ski!

Don't wear a racing driver's fireproof overalls in a somewhat sad attempt to appear 'interesting', if you have never driven a race car in your life, and so on.

So, with this proviso in mind, collect together ([or have taken](#)) some attractive pictures of you and sift through them, to come up with those that:

- Show you happy or smiling.
- Perhaps show you doing things that you enjoy.
- Maybe show you with friends and family, having fun.
- Show you being natural, rather than posing for the camera.

Don't let the picture thing become a big problem for you.

Remember that people are not looking for perfection, and, in fact, may even be turned off or intimidated by it!

Just use the pictures that show you at your natural best, and that should give the viewer the clearest 'picture' of who you really are.

Pictures that show you involved in an interesting activity will certainly help.

It makes you a more rounded character, one with interests that are perhaps outside the norm.

If you genuinely are a champion skier or a race car driver, then go ahead and include those kinds of pictures, although you need to be careful that they don't make you seem somehow pretentious or arrogant.

Make sure that all of the pictures you use are [clear and easy on the eyes](#), with the ones that you most want people to see prominently to the fore.

Your profile pictures are another small element of the whole 'you' that goes to generate the first impression that anyone who views your profile will form.

So, you do need to be very clear on what the pictures should show to the viewer as well as what they should not!

- Be careful that the pictures could not be construed in a negative fashion, and remember that humor does not always translate. Giving your friends a rude gesture whilst on holiday may have been

funny at the time, and maybe there is that 'side' to your character, but don't use it! Pictures like these are not generally attractive.

- Keep sad circumstances and situations out of any pictures that you choose to use.
- Try to include some pictures of you alone, rather than just those of you with your friends and family. If you always include someone else, it could suggest that you might be too busy for any serious relationship, and perhaps also that you always need other people around you as support (perhaps implying weakness?).
- Forget the sexy or suggestive poses. They will not attract many people, and those that they do attract will probably not be the sort of people that you really want to meet and date with.
- Embarrassing or supposedly funny pictures are a no-no, as suggested above.

6. What Are They Looking For?

Now that you have a terrific profile in place, you are already half way to where you want to be.

Next, you have to give some thought to what *other people* were trying to achieve when they became involved in the online dating scene.

Whether you are dating online, or trying your best to meet someone in your home town, one truth always applies.

No matter who you are, or where you are, you are looking for someone that is just like you.

People generally want to meet ordinary people just like themselves.

They are not interested in someone who is complicated or difficult, too much of one thing or another.

So, am I saying that looks are irrelevant?

Well, not entirely, but the truth is that looks are not really the be-all and end-all that some people might actually think they are.

Whilst, in theory, every guy dreams of having a model girlfriend and maybe every girl wants to meet and date a movie star, the truth is actually considerably more humdrum and everyday normal than that.

Most folks are looking for nothing more than an average, ordinary partner, a person who is similar to them, simply because they do not want to feel or end up being rejected.

We all fear rejection above all else, when we are playing the dating or mating game, and that rule still 100% applies in the world of online dating.

As suggested earlier, extreme beauty or good looks in a partner are actually quite intimidating for many people, and using pictures that show such traits could well turn out to be a big negative if used in an online dating profile.

One again we come back to the fact that you must absolutely ensure that everything, but everything about your profile is the real you!

Don't try to look like a movie star or a supermodel if you are not, because you will only end up looking like a silly fake.

Don't try to appear more important than you are by exaggerating your job or your qualifications, because you will be found out, and made to look ridiculous.

Don't try to make out that you have special talents or skills when you do not.

Bottom line is, do not fake or lie about anything.

Most people want nothing more than normal average people as partners and life mates, so there really is no need to create a persona that is nothing like the real you.

With a profile and accompanying pictures that show you are a real ordinary person, with real, ordinary person interests and characteristics, you give yourself a far better chance of a similar minded 'real' person emailing or contacting you.

A normal happy, cheerful person is all you need to be.

Always bear that in mind, and you should always be a success at the online dating game.

For example, once you have past the first online dating base, you will find that there are going to be opportunities to chat with others.

When doing so, all you need to do is show that you are normal, a friendly cheerful sort that is comfortable chatting in the right manner with anyone.

It doesn't really matter how this 'chat' is conducted.

It can be by email or through an instant online chat software program, the overall objective is still the same.

Do everything that you can to score that 'killer' first impression, and the battle is already half won!

+++++

A-Z Of Online Dating Chat!

Although I suggested just above that emailing and chat are the same, in fact, they do have fundamental differences that you should be aware of.

But, whether using chat or email, just remember that they are both about making a great first impression, one that makes the other party want to get to know you more.

Now, chatting on an instant messenger service is different to email in that you don't necessarily get so much time to consider or think about your response.

But, just because you are 'chatting' doesn't mean that you have to respond absolutely immediately when in chat mode.

If the person that you are chatting to asks something that is a little difficult, or poses a query that you need a few seconds to think about, here's a tip.

Head for the bathroom (either in reality or in a manner of speaking)!

That will always buy you a few moments, although, of course, you cannot use the same excuse every five minutes!

And, the second thing to remember when using a chat facility is that less is always more, so keep your responses short, and leave the person at the other end guessing a little, if anything.

Remember the point earlier about retaining some degree of mystery.

Apply that to your chat conversations as well.

In a few minutes, we will get into how to send off that first email, but for now just realize that you do have what it takes to be a person that will get to meet others.

7. Stop Thinking, Get Doing!

They say that there is one person somewhere on the face of planet earth for everyone.

Your 'one' might just be sitting there, right now, staring at their computer screen and wondering when the heck they are they ever going to find you.

If you do exactly the same, then the answer to the question is 'never'

You will never get anywhere at all with any online dating service if you do not take action.

Without action, joining the online dating service was in actual fact a huge waste of time and money!

Likewise, if you don't do everything that you can to stand out from the crowd, then, once again, the chances are pretty high that the whole thing is going to be a waste of time.

If the website that you are a member of has several thousand different users, you **must** do everything that you can to stand apart from the crowd, but only in a positive manner, of course!

If you don't, what are the chances that you will actually have people emailing or contacting you?

The two critical questions that you need to address are:

1. What can you do to make sure that you are 'found'?
2. How can you find others and actually get started?

+++++

Step 1: Getting Found

Well, the good news is that you have already taken a giant step towards achieving this objective by creating a killer profile.

This will go a very long way to giving every possible assistance to those looking for you (or, more correctly, looking for someone with a profile like yours – they don't know that you actually exist just yet..)

Remember that the words that you use within the profile are extremely important in pulling viewers in?

Here's a few of the reasons why this should be the case.

First, most online dating sites allow you to use 'key' words or phrases to search for the type of person who will be your ideal online date.

So, make sure that you use the right 'key' words in your own profile, so that others can do the same thing when they are searching. In this way, they will arrive at your profile.

Your own key search words might include such things as age, religion, and geographical locations.

So, don't forget that whatever words you would use to find someone else are those that you want to use in your profile too.

The idea then, of course, is that when an individual is looking for someone like you, they will search using these same words or phrases.

If they are in your profile, bingo, **YOU** will show up!

By using the specific keywords that *you* would use to search for a suitable partner in your own profile, you maximize the chances of like-minded people finding you using exactly the same search criteria.

If, on the other hand, you only use bland generalities in your own profile, then the people that will arrive on your profile will be looking for bland generalities!

Such generalities mean that you are far less likely to be found in all of those millions of people.

Like it or not, that's just the way that the system works.

So, it is for smarter players like you to take advantage of the fact that the vast majority of online dating site users are not even aware of this!

You have just vastly improved your chance of success in the online dating world with this one simple tip!

The more unique words, phrases and facts that you can include in your profile, the more people that you really would like to connect with will find you.

+++++

Step 2: Finding Others

Hoping that someone else will find you, and doing everything that you can to make sure that it happens is great, but the truth is that, in reality, it's down to you to do the work!

That is, you are probably going to be the one who has to do the actual searching, finding and then contacting.

But, don't panic.

It really does not have to be too hard or difficult, and there is no doubt that using email makes the whole thing easier.

The important point that you need to bear in mind here is that you are trying to meet someone that is stimulating and interesting to you, not the other way around.

So, it make sense that you should put yourself in the driving seat and in control of the whole situation, by being the one that does the searching and finding.

Think about it this way. Do you think that the person on the other side feels as uncomfortable about making first contact as you do, or are they completely at ease with the whole situation?

Of course they feel exactly the same, so, if you both carry on the same way, you'll never communicate, will you?

Simply be friendly, pleasant and non-confrontational.

Treat this person as if they are your best friend, without being too familiar, of course. Just be friendly, open and decent with them, and the chances are that they will do likewise.

Don't be afraid of taking the first step – someone has to do it, and it might as well be you.

So, the first thing is to go out there onto the website and find people that are potentially going to make good dates, and maybe partners for you.

How do you do this?

Simple.

You took the time to create a great profile. right?

All you need to do is reverse the situation, and look for people who have taken the trouble to do the same.

In the same way that you used key search words and phrases to point people that you might want to meet in your direction when they search, use the same search criteria and methodology to look for others.

Be reasonably specific with your search phrases, but don't be too narrow or tight with the words that you use, otherwise, your searches will return no matches at all.

Look for people who have taken the same time and trouble to create their profile that you yourself took.

Such people are demonstrating that they too committed at least a few minutes to developing a profile that is lively and interesting.

In other words, they are at least serious about their online dating efforts as you are.

This can go a long way to preventing you from wasting your time with those who are not serious.

So, the first step is to find someone with a profile that sounds interesting from a keyword search.

The second step is to take a moment to consider their profile in its entirety. Just because a word in their profile matches the word that you searched on, does not necessarily mean that you will be a perfect match.

If there is something in their profile that you really do not feel happy or comfortable with, then it's probably best to forget it right at this moment.

If, on the other hand, you are not sure, then go ahead and contact them.

If you are waiting to find someone that you are absolutely 100% of before making any contact, then the chances are that you will be waiting an awful long time!

It might also suggest that you are actually just making excuses for not acting....so, just do it!

8. Making Your Emails Work...

Okay, so we have already established that it is up to you to make the first move when you find a profile for someone that you think might be a good match.

And, incidentally, that rule applies whether you are girl or boy, young or old.

If you want it to happen, then you must make it happen!

After you have found a few folks that you think sound interesting, then you will want to email them.

You could send them a chat message, but email is definitely recommended for at least the first few communications, for reasons mentioned earlier in 'No-Drama Online Dating'.

Okay, so you are going to use email to make that crucial first move.

So, here are a few simple email rules that you should follow.

Number one is, **please**, take time to read what you have written – remember that you are looking for a great first impression here, and a mail full of mistakes and spelling errors tends to indicate that you did not take enough care.

That suggests that perhaps the mail is not so important.

Is that the impression that you want to create?

Also, try to follow these guidelines wherever and whenever possible too:

- make sure that you confirm your name and where you found their profile.
- try to be upbeat and interesting, not dull and boring.
- a short note is fine, but something like “I saw your profile, email me” is definitely not! This will not work.

Try to introduce yourself and provide some informative and interesting background details about you, without it being too much.

Provide them with enough information about you to enable them to start building a bit more of an idea of who you are.

You are planning to make something of this, so try to create a mail that will give them a reason not to forget you!

Make sure that there is something to think about, and don't forget the old 'mystery' angle!

Then, move on to making some interesting and observant comments about their profile.

Try to look for the points that drew you to the profile in the first place, the common interests, and comment or make some observations about why this made you get in touch.

This actually shows that you really were interested enough to actually read what they wrote!

Endeavor to discover the common connection between their profile and your interests.

When you do that, you are taking the first steps towards forming a bond between you that might grow into something much more positive and long lasting.

It helps to build a foundation for future communications and conversation, which you need if you are ever to get any kind of positive response from them.

Finally, include a few questions to try to get the dialogue and two-way communication going.

Use whatever you can find in their profile that shows what they are interested in, and ask questions about that subject matter.

People are pretty much always willing to answer questions about the things that truly interest them.

Failing that, you can ask them general questions about daily life or their pets, for example, but try not to allow the questions to come over as bland and boring!

By asking questions that actually 'touch a nerve', you will begin to create and develop a relationship with them, albeit at a very basic level at this early stage.

Asking questions should elicit responses, and hopefully, things can begin to roll along nicely from there.

Think of it this way.

That first email is always going to be the hardest one to write, and after that, it is always going to get easier.

So, no matter how hard or difficult it might seem, just grit your teeth, and get it done!

9. Turn On The Charm

Once that first email has gone off, and you've had a response, then the natural progression is that the next phase of the developing relationship will probably come through some kind of online chat.

After that, it will probably come down to talking on the telephone at some point.

It doesn't really matter what the medium of communication is, nor whether you are a guy or the girl, you *must* make a big effort to create the right impression with them through the words that you use.

Be aware that words on paper or on a computer screen do not carry the same levels of emotion or feelings as the words spoken in a face to face environment.

So, it is imperative that you choose the words that you actually use carefully and wisely.

At all times, you must make sure that the words you are using and the phrases and terms that you are writing or saying are keeping the conversation going in a positive direction.

Do not try to be funny or sarcastic unless you are absolutely sure that they will get the fact that what you said was meant to be funny.

Best to leave sarcasm and ironic wit to a point a lot further down the line, unless you are totally certain that you are on solid ground!

Do not, whatever you do, let communications die.

If you do not ask questions or actively seek responses, then the chances are that at some point, the whole conversation will stop and, like as not, that will be that!

Remember that you are our nominated driver here.

Make an effort to keep things moving along at all times!

+++++

And, After That.....?

Sending emails and using online chat are all very well, but this is online dating we are discussing here, right?

It's not an online correspondence or letter writing course!

At some point, you are going to have to take the whole thing on another step.

Again, boy or girl, young or not-so-young, don't wait for someone else to make the first move.

You are capable of doing it for yourself, so do it!

Do not wait one minute longer than you have to.

Remember, there are thousands of other members of the online dating site that you are a member of, and others might be getting ready to move in at this very moment!

If you feel that it the time is right to pick up the telephone, then do it.

In fact, try not to miss the boat entirely by waiting too long.

So, when you have spent some time talking back and forth via email, and you are still are very interested, do not be afraid of asking the other person for their phone number.

As a rule of thumb, it's probably not a great idea to ask for their number in the very first mail.

If, however, they reply to your mail, and they sound friendly enough, possibly the kind of person that you still believe you might get along with, then ask by reply.

Try to get to the call as quickly as you can without appearing pushy or too forward.

But, equally, don't be scared.

The chances are that they don't bite, and all they can say is no! In which case, then that's a pretty good sign that its time to move on anyway!

+++++

What To Say?

The biggest secret about knowing what to say, and when to say it is not worrying too much about it beforehand!

If you prepare what you are going to say beyond the first couple of lines, then what you have done is prepared a speech or a lecture, and that is exactly the way that it will come across.

Don't worry about it, try to be as natural as you can, and use these guidelines to help you along!

1. This person is not some monster! They are simply someone that may or may not turn out to be a friend. You are just meeting new people. Think about this the very first time you write anything to them.
2. When you ask questions, try to make them questions that you really are interested in. If you have a genuine interest, that will come across to them, and in this way, it becomes much easier to keep everything rolling forward.
3. Be positive and allow your character to shine through, and make a real effort to add your own

comments and thoughts in to the conversation. Again, look for any common ground on which you can usefully comment or ask questions that you know they will find interesting.

4. Compliments, as long as they are sincere, can work magic on people. Make people feel good about themselves when talking to you.
5. Remember the old chestnut that there are plenty of fish in the sea. Don't get too down or hard on yourself if it does not work out this time - there are plenty of others out there. Forget it and move on.

10. How Will It Go For You?

The honest answer to that question is that no-one knows the answer, except possibly you!

Only you have the solution for that.

But, the fact is that, whilst online dating can present you with a great number of chances to find success, it is entirely up to you to show the commitment to actually make it happen.

+++++

Your Best Shot.....

There is absolutely no guarantee in the online dating game, except for perhaps one and that is, the chances that you will get it right first time are almost certainly zero!

So, in order to avoid masses of senseless disappointments, you should really adopt a constructive but slightly defensive attitude right from the off!

Do it this way....

Yes, we know and you know that is online dating, but try not to think of boyfriends and girlfriends, husbands, wives, lovers and so on.

Just think of the whole thing as an unusual way of meeting interesting new friends, some of whom you may grow close to and others of whom you will almost certainly not.

Do this, apply this attitude and you will remove a whole heap of unnecessary pressure and potential stress from your life, stuff that you just do not need to deal with.

You are using the web to find new friends first and foremost and, after that, well, who knows?

+++++

The 'R' Word

Sorry, but part and parcel of what we said a few lines ago is that it will happen at some point – you will be rejected.

Learn to deal with it right now, because it will, it must, happen.

It happens in the real world of singles bars and dance halls, so why should the online dating scene be any different?

Indeed, it may happen more than once, and maybe there will be times when you just feel like throwing in the towel, and quitting.

Before you do so, think of everything that you stand to gain when you do make it work (and, keep going and it will happen) and everything that you will lose if you quit now.

In general, be as philosophical as you can about rejection, and realize that it probably means little more than the fact that you did not have enough in common with that other person in the first place.

Thus, if you hadn't been rejected today, then it was definitely going to happen at some day, so it is a good thing to get it over and done with, out of the way, now.

Also, remember that 'No Drama Online Dating' is designed to maximize your chances of success in online dating.

If you choose to ignore the recommendations in this book, doing things your own way, then that will certainly not help you either!

So, when the big 'R' hit's you like a bullet between the eyes, go back and make sure that you have done what I have told you to do.

Maybe there's something that you missed?

Is your profile as interesting and appealing as it should be?

Does your profile contain enough information that would interest others? Does it show you as a happy and optimistic person, or did you create it on a day when things were not going so great?

Are you holding up the conversation on your end?

Are you being pro-active and incisive enough?

Did you try to push it on to the next step, and did you time your 'push' correctly?

If things are not working out quite right, and you're not sure whether you are doing something wrong, here's a little 'experiment' that you might want to try, to dig a little deeper into the problems.

Grab a bottle of wine, and invite an old and close friend over to your place. Ask them to take a read through your profile, and tell them to be honest with you about their thoughts.

Ask them how accurate is it? Is it honest?

- Does it show you at your best?
- Do you come over as interesting and cheerful?
- Are they drawn in to it?
- What, if anything would they add to it, or remove

In other words, get someone who wants to be helpful, but who nevertheless knows you for who you really are, to give you an honest assessment of what you believe is an honest personal assessment of you!

11. The Meeting....

When all is said and everything done, dating is all about meeting real people in real life.

Once you have got through the email stage, past the chat and talked on the phone, then the next step, the biggest step, is meeting the other person.

But, whilst this is undoubtedly the most nerve wracking part of this whole adventure, it still does not have to be a nightmare, or something that prevents you from sleeping!

In truth, all of the same rules that have applied to every other step of the online dating process so far still apply here.

That, however, is unlikely to make things any easier for you (or for the person that you are meeting, come to that!) and there are a few additional things that you must take into account

First is your safety.

Whether we like to acknowledge the fact or not, the privacy and secrecy that is afforded to people by online dating can lead to potential safety issues.

Unfortunately, the world has more than its fair share of bad guys (and sometimes girls too) and there is no doubt that some of them have managed to find their way onto online dating sites in the past.

Now, it would be fair to say that the security measures adopted by the larger, more reputable online dating sites are more aggressive than they were previously, and therefore, they are also more effective.

Effective, yes, but not perfect – the never will be –and so you should at least have some familiarity with basic safety measures that you can adopt, or at least consider adopting.

Here are a few very basic but nevertheless important rules that you might consider following when it comes to online dating meetings.

- Meet in a visibly public area, a well lit place where there are other people. This way, you can easily stay safe with the public's watchful eye, and try not

to allow yourself to be dragged away from such an area on the first date, in particular.

- Meet them someplace that is away from your home. If possible, use your own transport to get there.
- Make sure that you are comfortable with them. If they try to touch you and you are not happy with that, make a point of telling them and, if they continue to do so, simply leave.
- Make sure that someone knows where you are going, and who with.

So, stick to these guidelines, and you should stay safe.

This will not, however help you escape from someone who, whilst they are not at all dangerous, is just someone that you really do not like.

But, there is a way of making your exit with a minimum of drama.

Here it is:

Hook up with a good friend and tell them what you are doing.

Set things up so that, when an online date is not going well, and you need a way out, they will be the person to help you.

Ask them to give you a call maybe two hours after your date starts, and tell them to be ready for you perhaps not answering their questions in the way that you might usually do.

Warn them that you might seem a little 'weird' on the phone!

Then, when they call you, if you are looking for a reasonably subtle escape, all you need to do is tell your date that there is some kind of emergency, and that you need to go.

But, don't answer any of their questions at this point – you're in a hurry, right – and do not make the problem so major that they might want to help you to get over the trauma of it!

If, on the other hand, everything with your date is going okay, then just make light of the conversation on the phone and let your friend know that you are happy with the way things are going.

It's a relatively easy and painless 'get out' from a possible bad situation, if you should ever need one.

Clearly, meeting someone that you have found through the world of online dating is not necessarily something that is going to be that easy or straightforward to do.

But it is an absolute necessity at some point, if you ever plan for your 'cyber dating' to become the real thing!

And, don't forget or ignore that fact that meeting in person is an awful lot different to chatting online, so you have to go out of your way to make a great 'first time' impression (once again!)

Apply any and every seduction and attraction technique, trick and method that you know, [boy](#) or [girl](#), to make the first date as successful as possible.

Make an effort to make [the first date](#) something special and 'push the boat out' a bit, if you can. It is, after all, all in the interests of your own future, so do whatever it takes to sweep them off their feet!

Do not make the mistake of thinking that the job is already done – chatting online and meeting in the real world are two very different things!

12: Online Dating Tips To Help You Succeed

So far in 'No Drama Online Dating', I have attempted to cover both the very basics of online dating, as well as some more advanced tips and suggestions that you should bear in mind and put into action, to give yourself the greatest chance of success.

So, here would be a very good point to summarize most of the key points already covered in this book.

First, focus on getting your profile right.

It's already been explained in detail just how important it is to get your profile spot on the nail, and why you simply cannot afford to try to work with any online dating website that does not allow you to have one.

Without a profile, you have no way of telling the world about you, and what you are looking for, and thus, there is equally little chance of you ever meeting someone with similar interests to you.

When creating your profile, remember that you should:

- Always use positive, happy and inviting language about both you and the person that you seek.
- Use photos to show that you are a normal cheerful person. Include as many appealing images as you can, ideally shot in differing situations, to show that you are *always* a cheerful and happy person.
- Think of and use the all-important key words in your profile descriptions, so that the people who search out and find your profile will know that you have many things in common. Remember to ask yourself what it is that you are looking for, in order to make sure that the key words you use do what you want them to do.

The second thing that you must do is to get off your backside to take the vital first step, and do not wait for others to do so.

Stop hoping that others will find you - get active in the online dating community right now.

Remember that taking the first step will appear decisive (which is likely to help create a positive first impression) and it also puts you in control of the situation to an extent, too.

Your profile is designed to attract them.

But it cannot do the whole job for you. You are still required to make the required effort if you want to stand any chance of finding your perfect match.

Once you do actually get up the courage to make contact with a person, and meet with them, be sure that you have lots of interesting questions, so that it becomes relatively easy to keep the conversation going.

If you do not, then you are really never giving yourself any chance at all of success, and are basically wasting your time.

Remember that you only have a limited amount of back-and-forth emails or chats in which to get their telephone number, and that if either you or they get bored, then the opportunity has probably gone forever.

On the other hand, don't try to rush things along too much, and accept that, however frustrating it might be, online dating is something that will inevitably take time to produce results.

Just like 'real world' dating, all relationships have their own unique dynamics, and you cannot try to rush things into happening too quickly.

13: Are You READY For An Online Dating 'Test'?

Many of the leading online dating websites carry 'Tests' that they recommend you take, in order to help you find the right person for you through their site.

In theory at least, these are supposed to be compatibility tests to help the site pair you up with potential dating partners who are just like you, and therefore (it is assumed) looking for someone like you.

They are designed to be tools that can help you find a good online dating match from the people that the site already has on their register.

Now, basically, the quality and usefulness of these tests is almost totally dictated by the quality and size of the website that you are working with.

If it is a big, well structured and professional site, with lots of members, then these test can undoubtedly be quite helpful, and will certainly do little harm.

However, for them to have any value at all, you must make sure that you approach the tests in the correct manner, otherwise the results will be anything but helpful!

First, make sure that you actually understand the correct way of taking the test.

Doing it wrong, or trying to do it quickly by using 'short-cuts' will inevitably lead to frustration and test results that are no use to anyone, least of all you!

Second, answer the questions honestly.

Sure, you can answer the questions so that you bend the results in which ever direction you choose, and there is no doubt that this does happen with monotonous regularity.

In many cases, indeed, there may not even be a deliberate attempt to answer dishonestly when people generate inaccurate test results.

It is just that we subconsciously become the people that we would like to be, rather than the person we actually are, when faced with searching personal questions.

But, answer the questions in this way and you can guarantee that you render the results worthless. In fact, they will be worse than that, they will be misleading!

This means that the supposed 'matches' that the test results will generate for you will be nothing of the sort.

They will be matches with the person you would like to be, not with the person that you are.

Suffice to say that this is obviously a recipe for total and utter disaster and possible humiliation.

In other words, it could kill your online dating career stone dead before it ever really got off the ground!

So, sure, answer any test questions that your website asks you, but do what you can to try to keep the answers real!

At the same time, do not take the test results as the gospel truth, and do not limit your partner search to only those that the test sends your way.

As stated many times already, it is up to you to take the bull by the horns, so you should still actively search for people whose profiles look interesting to you.

When you find someone that seems like they might be someone for you, make the effort and get in touch.

You may well find that you are, in fact, a far better judge of the people who 'click' best with you than any test results could ever be (although, of course, you may not!)

However good the test results appear to be, they will always to be results that cannot and should not be 100% relied on.

Doing your own hard work, searching out those that you think will be a great online dating match for you, will, in all probability, be a far more effective method than any test will ever be!

Conclusion

The first thing that you should never, ever forget about online dating is that you should make sure to have fun!

What you have read throughout this book is a detailed plan of just how you can make online dating work for you, and, yes, it does require some focused effort and application on your part.

Maybe you don't think that it is all going to be worth it?

If not, can I simply remind you of the potential benefits that might come from the efforts that I am asking you to make?

Also, bear in mind a large part of the effort that needs to be made to get you set up with the online dating site of your choice is work that will only ever need doing once.

For example, create your profile and, once you are happy with it, store it on your PC for future reference and usage.

Then it will only ever need slight modifications should you ever need to use it again.

And, as long as you have taken the time and made the effort to make sure that the profile you display to the world is a great one, then other online daters should be able to find you easily.

Thus, whilst we have continually emphasized that you should make the first move whenever possible, nevertheless, a good profile should ensure that you will receive emails from others that are interested in you as well.

Don't forget that online dating is not only about how handsome or pretty you are, what work you do or how much money you have (you hope!).

Just like in every day reality, people who are using an online dating service are probably searching for people that are just like them: normal, average, decent folks.

Try to be as honest as you can when creating your profile.

It should depict the 'warts and all' you, and allow others to see the real you behind the online persona.

Remember that, if you can make them smile, then the battle is already half won, as you are already beginning to get through to them with this one simple action.

When you send them an email, especially the crucial first mail, word it in such a way that is attractive, interesting and as lively is at all possible.

Accept that, just like in the real world, rejection is every bit as likely to happen to you working with the online dating process as it might do in any other similar real world scenario.

That is just the way that the world, and life, are.

But, at least you will know that, when it does happen, more often than not you will find the rejection in an email that only needs one touch of a button to get rid of, for ever!

And, like in the real word, where people will tell you that there are plenty more fish in the sea, in an active online dating community, you always know that there is a large database with the names of tons more attractive, even exceptional, people looking for someone exactly like you.

No matter who you are or where you live, everyone is online dating for exactly the same reason.

Everyone on planet earth wants someone to love, and the online dating community is simply a modern expression of this need.

Okay, so to finish off, I really do hope that you have found this 'No-Drama' guide to online dating to be both helpful and interesting, and that you can use what you have learned to boldly stride out on the road to successful dating on the web.

Now that you have reached the end, go back and read it all at least one more time, and this time, take notes, if you have not already done so.

Use these notes to create your own online dating 'cheat sheet' and keep it next to your PC when you take your first tentative online dating steps.

Then, when you get to the telephone stage, move the 'cheat sheet' so that it sits next to the phone the first time you make *that call*. And, please, whatever you do, in all of your online dating adventures, do not forget to have fun!