Online Dating: Preparing a Good Profile

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Once you've decided to try online dating, the first step is to create a good profile. This will be your identity for as long as you are present on this website, so you must give it some amount of thought before you post a profile.

You may get a standard form to fill which asks you to provide details like gender, age, ethnicity, marital status, income group, etc. and also ask you to give a brief description of yourself in your own words. Or you may be asked for a resume-like format.

Online dating sites maintain a difference between a â€œPublicâ€• and â€œPrivateâ€• profile. Some inform to be regarded as confidential and retained solely for the use of the website, such as name, credit card information, postal address, phone numbers etc and this is regarded as â€œPrivate.â€• You are aske to provide a user-name and this along with other information like hobbies, interests, preferences, etc is regarded as â€œPublic.â€•

If you want to get noticed, receive plenty of responses and ultimately have a wider choice of people to choose from, your profile must be attractive enough to get instant attention. However it is up to you to decide what kind of attention you want! You don't want to attract the wrong type of person. This could be dangerous, risky or at the very least, a sheer waste of time.

Keeping this in mind, here are some tips for creating a good online profile:

* The Hamburger Principle: Sandwich the meat between slices of toasted bun, with tasty additions of cheese, mayo, ketchup and salad. Give some solid information, with snippets of interesting facts, ideas, humor and glimpses of the real you.

* Be honest: Never lie when creating profiles. Sooner or later, it will catch up with you. Finally, when you do find the right person, it will be embarrassing and awkward to confess that what you posted on your profile was deceitful and dishonest.

* Make it interesting: No one wants to read through reams of boring facts. Give examples, write creatively, allow your personality to come through. Add information about your interests, hobbies, life-style, achievements, expectations.

* Be careful: Do not give away too much information. Be discreet. Avoid unsuitable words, ideas which may attract the wrong sort of person.

* Be clear: Mention clearly what you are looking for. Long-term, short-term, friendship, marriage, etc.

* Watch the grammar: You don't have to come across as a literary genius, but no one appreciates badly written, mis-spelt, ungrammatical stuff. Do final checks before you submit.

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