



Dating Resources

Considering Dating Again? Our experience shows that this can be an adventure but can also come with its own inherent risks. So proceed with caution but don't lose site of your goal to have fun and "get out there". Wherever it leads, look at it as an idea to get to know yourself better and practice living in relationship with others. And always remember, regardless of whether you hope to find a new lifetime mate or not, you are whole and complete as a wonderful human exactly as you are!!

Here are a few suggestions and resources to have a positive experience and avoid scammers.

Define your Goals & Boundaries

- Set your expectations for what you want from dating before you start by writing them down. For example: You may want a companion only, be open to intimacy, or hope for a new long-term relationship.
- Make a note of some of the "must haves" that you require. You may only want non-smokers, someone without children at home, or a partner with adequate financial resources.
- Regardless of your goals, writing them down will help you to be clear on them, be able to articulate them, and allow you to stick to your boundaries.
- Since shared hobbies and interests are important to a relationship, get out there and do the things you love and meet men who have similar interests.



- ✓ If you're set up by a friend or meet someone online, Video chat to get to know someone before meeting them in person.
- ✓ When you do meet for the first time, do so in a public setting and consider an informal coffee before an entire dinner.
- ✓ Be open to a different kind of love, depending on where you are in life. "Savor and relish" the differences b/w your new partner and your old, and avoid making comparisons to your late husband.
- ✓ Consider keeping a place of your own...celebrate the freedom that comes with age.
- ✓ Be protective of your personal information. You do not have to share everything right away.

Harness Your Resources

- ✓ Discuss your desire to start dating again with your families so you can make them part of the conversation and the search. Share your list of desired traits.
- ✓ Dating may look different for you than it did before. Be open to online Dating sites. You'll find a list of popular ones in the Helpful Tips section
- ✓ Go back to your written list for dating. Would you consider changing your age range to go younger or older?
- ✓ Many Dating Sites auto renew, so be careful and watch your subscriptions.
- ✓ Be prepared for rejection and do not take it personally and be aware that loneliness can make us more vulnerable to scams



- ✓ Watch out for scammers. There are several “rings” that exist from foreign countries, so be aware if messages have bad grammar or syntax.
- ✓ Reverse image search their photo to see who he really is. You’ll find instructions below in "Other Helpful Tips".
- ✓ Trust your gut but also do your homework. Always do background checks before getting too involved and consider subscribing to resources that provide more extensive data. You’ll find more information on Background checks and Public Record searches in "Other Helpful Tips".



Other Helpful Tips

Popular Online Dating Sites

Bumble

Hinge

Match

OK Cupid

Plenty of Fish

Tinder

Zoosk



Instructions for Reverse Image Searches

1. Take screen shots of the photos you want to search .
2. Crop those photos to take out everything except the photo itself (no writing, no borders, etc.)
3. Save the cropped photo to your device.
4. Go to Google and click "Images" in the upper right hand corner.
5. Click the tiny camera icon in the search field
6. Click "Upload an image"
7. Click "choose file"
8. Click "Photo Library"
9. Select one of the photos you cropped
10. Select "Choose". The first collection of photos you see will be photos that are "similar" to yours. Underneath those photos will be photos identical to yours (if there are any). One caveat : Google will not pull up photos from Facebook, so there is no guarantee that the scammer didn't pull from there.

Background Data to Gather

- Aliases and/or other names they may use.
- Roommates, and/or housemates.
- Place of employment.
- Social media accounts, including online dating profiles.
- Criminal history
- Marital Status
- Where they live, and eventually the value of their home.
- Other Financial Information including bankruptcies and or debts owed.



Tips for finding public records on marriage, divorce, birth and death certificates

To see if someone is who they say they are, you can start by checking public records. You can obtain marriage, divorce, birth and death records through public records maintained at the county level.

In Dallas county, those records can be found [here](#).

If it's a different county, your first stop should be the National Association of Counties website. The County Explorer page has an interactive map you can use to locate the county where your new love lives, or at least narrow it down to the likeliest choices. You'll find a link to each county's site as well as a telephone number and mailing address in case the county's records are not online. Make a note of all three, then:

1. Look for "records search" or a similar option on the site and click through.
2. Type in the person's full name, or as much of it as you have, and specify that you're looking for marriage records.
3. Try alternative spellings if you get no results.
4. Some counties may support a separate search for marriage licenses, so try that next.
5. If you get multiple results on a search, click through to see if any of them match the age of your "potential significant other," or correspond to somewhere you know this person has lived in the past.



Can't find your new love? Scammers have been known to take on the identity of someone else, even purchasing the identity of a deceased person. on the dark web. To see if the person you are chatting is deceased, you would need to know the county in which that person died . If you become suspicious of someone you're dating, or just want extra security, consider hiring one of the resources listed below to do Background checks.

[Digital Forensics](#)

[Public Data](#)

[Romance Scammers](#)

[Social Catfish](#)

[Spokeo](#)

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