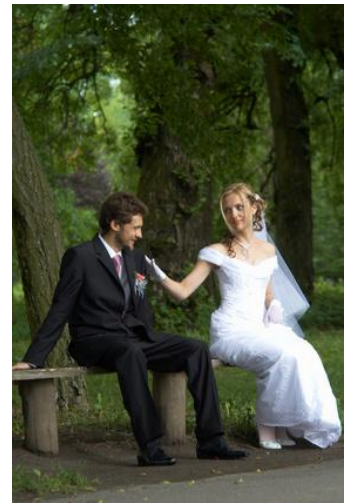


How to Choose a Good Husband

<http://www.livestrong.com/article/193201-how-to-choose-a-good-husband/>

Overview

Most girls dream of spending happily ever after with their knight in shining armor. Unfortunately, a good husband doesn't come with a sign saying, "I'm the one!" With a divorce rate of 41 percent in the United States, the right match can be pretty hard to make. But there are a few core qualities that every woman should look for in a man in establishing a solid foundation for marriage.



Financials

Step 1

Keep money on your mind. We'd like to think money does not matter in love, but in reality it does. Financial problems are one of the leading cited causes of divorce, and debt places an enormous strain on couples. Plan for yourself financially.

Step 2

Gauge his potential. You should have an idea of what to expect from him. Does he have what it takes to succeed in his industry? What is he capable of? Consider where he could be in 10 years and decide if you are happy with that.

Step 3

Compare him to yourself. You must either be able to see him growing with you career-wise or be okay with surpassing him. Some women have no problem being with a stay-at-home husband while others begin resenting their husbands for holding them back. His goals and ambitions should match yours.

Step 4

Think about the life you'll live with him and whether you can be happy with the standard of living you can achieve together. If his job might require relocation to another country, will you be comfortable with that? Your projections do not have to be perfect, but you must be prepared for the life that could come with a certain husband.

Step 5

Make sure he's OK with your future prospects. If all you want to do is be a homemaker, he has to be fully accepting of that.

Commitment

Step 1

Find out his values, including what he thinks of marriage and whether he believes in divorce.

Step 2

Determine if he is mature enough to understand the partnership of marriage. He must realize the sacrifices that being a husband entails. He cannot be selfish and expect you to tailor to his needs all the time.

Step 3

Gauge respect, whether he respects you and pays attention to your wants and needs. He should listen to what you say and not dismiss it as just girl troubles. He should be able to carry on meaningful discussion with you and give substantial weight to your arguments.

Step 4

Judge his commitment level to you: how well he knows you, how hard he has tried to make your relationship work and how he has showed his commitment.

Step 5

Consider his history, whether he's loyal to friends and whether he ever cheated on his ex-girlfriends. If he has cheated before, he has what it takes to do it again.

Family

Step 1

Meet his family. This is very important and often underrated. Determine whether you like his family, whether they like you and whether they're respectable by your standards. In-laws can sabotage your relationship, or they can be a lifesaver.

Step 2

Understand his relationship with his family. You should be aware of any issues he has before joining it. Chances are that if he's a great son/brother/uncle, he'll also be a great husband and father.

Step 3

Compare his family background to yours. Socioeconomic discrepancy is the root cause for differences in values, habits and mannerisms. In order to predict future success and compatibility, you must know where he's coming from. Opposites attract, but compatibility is based on similarity.

Step 4

Talk about children. Assuming something or neglecting to broach the subject can lead to disaster. Be sure to discuss your plans and preferences with each other before considering marriage.

Step 5

Have your family meet his family. Each family is different, but it is always a good sign if your family gets along well with his.

Stability

Step 1

See yourself with him every day for the rest of your life, whether you can talk to him about anything, your levels of mutual trust and any potential communication problems in the future. A man who can freely communicate with you will do well as a husband.

Step 2

Compare flexibility, how willing he is to compromise compared to you--for example, whether he's willing to clean or learn to cook. Life is full of compromises, and he must be able to make them without throwing a fit or holding a grudge.

Step 3

Watch how he solves and handles problems. Does he overcome difficulties with emotional strength or break down easily? Life is tough and full of curve balls. He should have the ability to strike out, take it like a man and try again. A good husband will prop you up when you need help, not collapse and drag you down with him.

Step 4

Check the chemistry. Relationships start with initial chemistry, and while most of the newlyweds' charm fades as the years go on, there is a basic element that keeps two people together.

Step 5

Follow your intuition. If something about him does not feel right, listen to yourself. You will never regret it.

Read more: <http://www.livestrong.com/article/193201-how-to-choose-a-good-husband/#ixzz1L4YNBvrf>

About this Author



Jingna Zhao started writing professionally in 2010. Her work has appeared in the "Dartmouth Journal of Science" and she serves on the journal's editorial board. She is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in biology from Dartmouth College.