

to Make  
a Hit  
With the  
Women

# Dorothy Dix

Lists  
Don'ts  
in Dealing  
With Girls

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A YOUNG woman has compiled the following list of don'ts for boys who wish to be popular with girls.

Don't be sloppy. Don't think you look collegiate, or intellectual, or independent and original when you go about with your socks falling over your shoes, and a frayed, faded-out old sweater, and trousers that bag at the knees, and crying out for a shave and a haircut, and as if you generally needed to be sent to the laundry and the pressing shop. You just look lazy and dirty and are a pain to any girl's eyes, and she is ashamed to be seen out with you.



Girls are clothes-conscious for men as well as for themselves, and the Fairy Prince they are looking for is not a human ragbag. He is a snappy dresser with some class to him that she is proud to flaunt before the other girls.

Don't think that being a man entitles you to the privilege of being a boor. A lot of boys do. They think that good manners are excess baggage with which they do not need to burden themselves. They scorn the niceties of life. They eat like pigs. They let a girl shift for herself when they take her out. They sit while she stands. When they take her out riding, they honk their horns in front of her house until she comes running and climbs in by herself.

Don't adopt these roughneck tactics. No girl likes them, nor does she put up with them unless she is desperate for attentions from men. If your mother neglected your table manners, repair them by observation. Many a man has lost out by a fork. If you do not know how to order a dinner, get some headwaiter to teach you. Study the etiquette authority as if she were the Bible. The boy who makes a hit with girls is not the bumpkin, but the suave, polished man of the world who knows what to do and how to do it.

Don't be a Dumb Dan. When you are with a girl don't sit on the back of your neck and expect her to work like a coal heaver to entertain you. Pull your weight in the boat. Introduce a few interesting topics of conversation. It takes more of a repertoire than the average girl possesses to keep the talk going with a boy who never chips in with anything but an occasional "yeah" or a grunt.

Learn how to dance so that you will not cripple your partner for life. Learn how to play a decent game of cards. Learn how to do all the things that the other young people are doing so that you will fit into any party and carry your welcome with you wherever you go.

Don't act as if you considered yourself the answer to a maiden's prayer, and that every time you noticed a girl she should get down on her knees and thank heaven for the blessing that has been bestowed upon her. Don't act like a Sultan throwing the handkerchief to a slave every time you condescend to take a girl out. Don't expect a girl to be grateful every time you cut in on her at a dance.

There is nothing that girls resent so bitterly as they do having men condescend to them. It raises every bit of sporting blood in 'em, and they would say "no" every time if there was another man in sight.

Don't be a cheap sport. Don't make a girl pay with \$5 worth of self-respect for a 50-cent movie ticket. Don't think that because you have taken a girl to some place of amusement it gives you the privilege of pawing her and kissing her.

Be a gentleman. That goes big with girls, because it is such a novelty.

Don't talk about yourself all the time. That may be the one and only topic of interest to you, but there is at least a chance that a girl may not sit entranced for hours at a stretch while you tell her how great and wonderful you are, and what a devil among the ladies, and all about your college adventures, or your job, or your automobile, or what you said to so-and-so and so-and-so said to you.

It is only our mothers who want to hear all the details of our lives. Besides, what the girl wants to hear is a song about herself.

Don't try out the same line on every girl. Vary your technique. Don't tell every girl that the instant you set eyes on her you knew you had met the one for whom you had been searching. Don't ask every girl where she has been all your life that you have never met her before, or ask her where she got her eyes, or tell her how unlike she is to every other woman in the world.

She has heard that a hundred times before.

Don't be a doormat for girls. And especially don't let any one girl trample over you, if you want her. That is not the way to make a hit, for no girl ever respects the man she can walk over. The harder a boy is to catch, the more a girl wants him. The boy who lets girls make dates with him and break them when some other boy comes along, or who takes girls to parties for other boys to dance with, never gets anywhere.

Don't be a tightwad. Neither be an easy prospect that even an amateur gold-digger can work. When you take a girl out, don't count the pennies. Give her as good a time as you can afford, but don't let the cheerful workers run in two or three birthdays a year on you, or make you buy them wrist watches, or open champagne for them when you have only the price of beer. The popularity that you have to buy is not worth having.

Don't be a professional love-maker. Some girl will call your bluff and marry you.

DOROTHY DIX.

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