

Do you know a person who is so naturally friendly that if you put the person inside a room of strangers, he or she will be friends with everyone in no time? Maybe you are like that. We call this a people-person, someone unbelievably charismatic that people gravitate toward. People like this often are very successful in life and love. The simple reason is that people in both business and personal settings like to be around other people that make them feel good. What makes people feel good? Many times it's knowing that they're special to other people. You can have a big family with multiple brothers and sisters and multiple children and each one can can hold a unique and special position your life. The same goes for other people you come in contact with regularly. Though you will have a stronger bond with some than others each person occupies a unique and special position in your life.

You are the finest, loveliest, tenderest, and most beautiful and even that is an understatement. F. Scott Fitzgerald

There are over 6 billion people on earth now, so there's no shortage of people everywhere we go. With so many people it can be easy to become impersonal. So you start person I have ever known-to think of a people only according to their function in your life. So the guy that works at the convenience store you see everyday is just that, "the guy at the convenience store." The same goes for people you work with. You think of a coworker as "Bob in Accounting" rather than "Bob, married father of 3 who likes to snowboard and

play the guitar and who happens to be working at the same company in the accounting department." Or to take it further you see your husband as "the old man" or your wife as "the old ball-and-chain" rather than "The love of my life who I've been through ups and downs with in the process of building a life together." Showing people that they are important and special to you first as a human beings outside of who they are to you is important in building relationships.

This however, does not mean telling everyone they're your best friend or in any way exaggerating a person's importance in your life i.e. telling the guy at the convenience store you want him to be the godfather of your child because you shoot the breeze about sports every now and then. What it means is showing that you recognize a person's humanity. It means showing people that you

"Real friends don't get offended when you insult them. They smile and call you something even more offensive.,,

understand they are fellow travelers on this road of life and that you know that they are more than where they currently are on that road. For those people who are most special in your life it is also about showing them that "We are on this road together and I'm glad that you're with me for the journey."

With that in mind I have placed a list of 10 things you can do to build special relationships:

### 1. Be genuine.

Be genuinely nice and interested in people. Once a person realizes that you are genuine and a person of your word this is a good foundation for any relationship. You don't have to be friends with everyone but you should show respect to everyone as a fellow human being.

# 2. Be the best listener that you can be.

To earn the love and trust of people, listen to their problems, sympathize and empathize with them. Do not just hear them out, make eye contact and listen with your eyes when a person talks to you. The eyes often express what words cannot. Listen as if every word matters, and it does.

### 3. Laugh out loud.

I don't mean laugh at every joke that's made. This means finding humor in life and not being too serious. A person with a great sense of humor attracts people and success.

## 4. Don't forget yourself.

In the process of building relationships don't forget yourself. People are natural influencers and it's very difficult to spend a lot of time with anyone without being influenced by them in one way or another. That being said you don't want to be everyone's friend. They say everyone has some good in them but if you have to dig too deep for the good it may be better to look elsewhere.

#### 5. Do random acts of kindness.

Little acts of kindness can matter a lot, and this can be as simple as helping someone carry a heavy load or remembering a certain food someone likes and surprising them with it.

#### 6. Contact old friends.

Good friends are hard to find and it's sad how many friendships come to an end because of distance or busy schedules, but thanks to technology, you can do something about it. Find ways to reconnect with old friends to keep those relationships intact.

### 7. Develop your personality.

Do you have a hard time seeing things from different perspectives? Do you say cruel or inconsiderate things sometimes without thinking? Do you not know what to say at times or feel awkward for no reason. Recognize your bad habits and traits that hamper your growth and work on them.

#### 8. Be confident.

Be able to walk to the other corner of the room and introduce yourself to people with a nice smile. Feel comfortable in your own skin and don't allow anyone regardless of present position to make you feel inferior. Also don't attempt to make others feel inferior in an effort to boost your own self-confidence. Be confident and not arrogant.

#### 9. Practice self-control.

Remember that all actions should have purpose and a desired outcome. Punching a wall or a person doesn't usually fix a problem. You just have the same problem in addition to busted knuckles. When you find that you're angry try to understand why and what actions can be taken to change the situation. As humans we often have far more control over our environment than we realize. However self-control is also understanding that you don't have complete control of everything, learning you cannot change everything and learning to accept those things you cannot change.

#### 10. Keep nurturing your relationships.

Your relationships with your family, friends and significant other are too precious to neglect. Talk to them, spend time with them and do things together. Your happiness depends a lot on the happiness of the people who are most important to you.

If you're interested in programs to build and improve relationships check these out:

Women Attracting Men

Men Attracting Women

Saving Your Marriage