

The Single Girl's Guide to Meeting Mr. Right in 2008...seriously

If your dating program has gone nowhere—now is the time to shake things up and, yes, get serious, Ms. In-Demand!

By Tracey Porpora

A new year brings new beginnings. For single gals, this translates into a fresh start in the search for Mr. Right. Will this be your year to meet him? If last year brought you more dating disasters than romantic encounters, you'll need to take some tips from Imogen Lloyd Webber, author of *The Single Girl's Survival Guide* (Skyhorse Publishing, \$17.95) and daughter of world-famous composer Andrew Lloyd Webber, on how to make 2008 your year!.

1. Be Content With Who You Are

You can't meet Mr. Right until you think of yourself as Ms. Right. Be confident about the person you truly are. "You'll only meet Mr. Right if you're happy with yourself," says Lloyd Webber. "The way to meet Mr. Right is to actually focus more on you, so you're confident enough to deal with Mr. Right. If you're feeling down on yourself, you'll never attract a man. The best time to meet a man is when you're at a good level of happiness with yourself."

2. Approach Him With Confidence

"Men need encouragement. Go up to him; you can talk about anything from the weather, to the latest movie" says the author. In fact, there are ways to "hook a man" in a subtle

manner. “Tell him there’s a very funny e-mail you got sent to you the other day, and you’d love to forward it onto him. Now, you’ll have his e-mail.”

3. Remember That No Man Is Perfect.

“In dating different men, you’ll learn that no one is perfect,” says Lloyd Webber. “You’ll need to get that out of your head instantly. No one will be there to do everything right. That doesn’t exist. At the same time, you can be with someone who respects and loves you.”

4. Have A Life of Your Own.

A man doesn’t want to be with a woman who simply lives for being his mate. “If you’re sitting there desperately stalking a man, he will run away,” she says. “Go out to the movies, go to yoga class, or go do whatever it is you enjoy. Be interesting, and have a life of your own.”

5. Love Where You Live

Single women have the time to fix up their apartment or home in a way that reflects their personality, and makes them feel comfortable. “Make sure your bedroom is fabulous because this is where you want to seduce a man,” she says.

6. Be Passionate About Your Career

Men are attracted to successful women who love their jobs. “Make sure you’re in a job you’re happy with,” she says. “As a single woman you can concentrate, and focus on

your career. You can spend time figuring out exactly what you want to do. A man isn't going to be attracted to you if you're unhappy with your job, and complain about it."

7. Date More Than One Man At A Time

The more men you date, the better your chance is of finding Mr. Right. "When there is no exchange of bodily fluids going on, you're allowed to have several balls in play," she says. "You can see several boys at a time, and it also means you're less likely to stalk. We girls can get really obsessive. That's just not attractive." Remember: Men like the chase. "There's no need to stalk him, and send him 52 e-mails a day," says Lloyd Webber. However, it's important to not play "hard to get. "Just let [the relationship] go a little slower, and don't put too much expectation on it," she says.

8. Have The Right "Wing Woman."

When you go out with a friend make sure she is supportive of you, and isn't in competition to meet the same men as you. "We all have a girlfriend who will do this: She'll talk to a man you're interested in, and you won't get a word in edgewise," says Lloyd Webber. "Instead, make sure you have a friend who supports you, and you can decide who you want to talk to. Have the right wingman for the right occasion."

9. Have Good Friends

Friends are your "partners in crime" when seeking to meet Mr. Right. "Friends are there to look after you, and be there for you. They also are there to get you out of the house," explains Lloyd Webber. "You're never going to meet a man, and get happy unless you

put yourself in ‘harm’s way’ of happiness. Whether it be taking you to events, hanging-out, or going with you places, friends are there to get you out and about. Don’t go out once a week; go out a lot.”

10. Be Happy In Your Own Skin

You need to be happy with the image you see in the mirror every morning. “You’re never going to meet Mr. Right if you’re unhappy with how you look. That isn’t attractive,” said Lloyd Webber. “If you feel good about yourself, that’s attractive. We’re not all going to be 110-pounds and six-feet- tall so forgive yourself right now, and make the best of what you’ve got.”

Sidebar:

Stake-Out Spots

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Wondering where to meet Mr. Right? You just might find him when you least expect it, especially if you frequent places you enjoy, says Imogen Lloyd Webber, author of *The Single Girl's Survival Guide* (Skyhorse Publishing, \$17.95) The following are her picks for hot man-meeting spots:

A Work Function: While dating colleagues may not make for the best romance due to having to see each other everyday, all day, you may meet someone worthwhile at a business function or networking event. “If you work at a magazine there are probably other magazines in the building so you might meet someone interesting at a work

function,” says Lloyd Webber. “If you're in banking, you'll be dealing with accounting firms, and you may meet someone through these dealings.”

A Bar: The bar scene creates the ideal situation to meet people, especially men. By asking a simple question or commenting on something like the weather, you can spark a conversation. “Go out with your friends. In a bar you can start conversation easily,” she says.

At The Gym: There's no better mate than one who shares an interest in staying healthy and fit. “Plus, if you meet someone at the gym, they've already seen you at your worse,” says Lloyd Webber. “It's genius meeting someone while exercising.”

At A Wedding: There's no better time to meet a potential partner than at a happy celebration of nuptials for a friend or family member. “This is a notorious way to meet a man,” she explains.

At A Café Or Coffee Shop: Often, it's when you least expect it, Mr. Right walks into your life—and perhaps you both had the same craving for a latte. “You may meet a man getting a cup of coffee,” she says. “It's when you go to a lot of places and events that you'll meet someone.”