



tinder®

# Dating Dictionary

2025 edition



Every year, dating gets a little more interesting... And by interesting, we mean packed with new terms, trends, and ideas that shake up how we all connect! Staying in the loop? It can feel like a full-time job.

Enter the Tinder Dating Dictionary for 2025! It's your ultimate cheat sheet to understanding the modern dating world, sparking better conversations, and connecting in ways that actually matter.

Dive in, learn the lingo and get ready to date with more clarity, confidence and fun! This is your year to date like a pro: no games, just green flags and good vibes.

**Sera Bozza, Tinder's local dating expert**



## Alpha Femme

This single isn't waiting around for a knight in shining armour to make the first move; she's confidently taking the lead.



## Bed Chemistry

A relationship fueled mostly by physical chemistry in bed, where the sparks fly under the sheets. **And the science is clear: 58% of singles surveyed said sex is important in a relationship.**

## Bed Marinating

A cozy, positive twist on "bed rotting." It's all about couples spending quality time together, relaxing and recharging side-by-side. **Pull back the covers: In 2024, the most common "love style" listed in Tinder bios was "Time Together."**



## Black Cat Girlfriend

Mysterious, reserved, and a little anti-social, but fiercely loyal to those she loves. She's got that unbothered, almost selfish black-cat energy — definitely not one to chase after anyone. **Claws out: 23% of our surveyed singles are on the lookout for a "black cat" in 2025.**

## Blowfishing

A catfish fakes their identity — a blowfish inflates their lifestyle or exaggerates it to seem more impressive than it actually is.

## Cherry Bombing

Dropping small, playful flirtations instead of going all out with grand romantic gestures. It's all about those subtle sparks that keep things light and fun. **Cherry on top:** "Thoughtful Gestures" ranks as the second most attractive "love style" in Tinder bios, according to users.



## Cinnamon Roll

A genuinely sweet, kind, and supportive person who's too pure for this world. They leave their ego behind and bring nothing but warmth and ooey-gooey-goodness. **Keep it sweet:** 35% of surveyed Tinder singles say they are looking for a "cinnamon roll" in 2025.

## Code Names

When you're juggling a dating roster and have to assign each person a nickname to keep things straight.

## Contra-dating

Ditching your usual "type" and stepping outside the box to explore new dating possibilities. This pushes daters to give someone they wouldn't normally go for a chance.



## D-AI-ting

Using AI as your dating wingman to craft the perfect text, build out your bio, or to practise online conversations to boost your confidence. **Love at first byte: 68% of surveyed singles say an AI feature for photo selection assistance would be a game-changer in 2024.**



## Dating Diaries

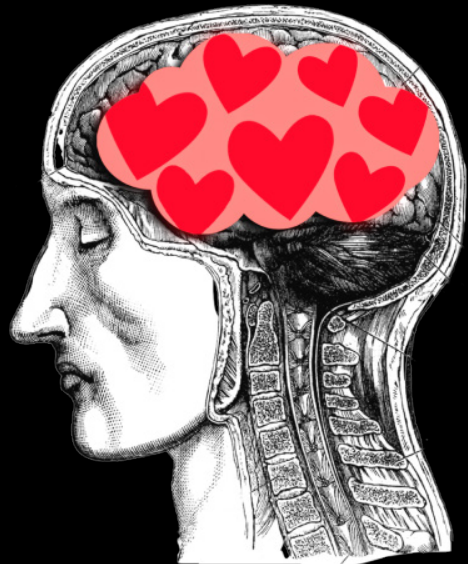
Sharing (and oversharing) the highs and lows of modern dating on social media.

## Delusionship

A relationship that exists more in your head than in real life — where fantasy overshadows reality.

## Dry Dating

Dry dating is all about connecting with someone without the liquid courage. It's a clear-headed way to get to know each other and avoid being influenced under the influence. **In 2025, 39% of surveyed Tinder singles plan to prioritise sober dates.**





## Eyecontactship

A connection built entirely on intense eye contact — an unspoken bond without words.

## Fade to Fall

When that dreamy summer fling starts to fade as the seasons change.

## Flickering

When the flame slowly dims, but they haven't fully disappeared. The difference from ghosting? They're still around, but the spark isn't.

## Flowmance

The kind of connection where someone fits so seamlessly into your life that you don't have to change who you are. It's about being together while still feeling like individuals.

## Friends-to-Lovers Pipeline

When a friendship gradually turns romantic — the kind where one day you realise your long-time laugh partner might just be your perfect match. **25% of singles we surveyed are on the hunt for "friendship" when it comes to dating in 2025.**





## Golden Retriever Boyfriend

The human equivalent of a big, lovable, golden boy pup. He's loyal, laid-back, and gives you all his attention and affection without hesitation. **Puppy love: 44% of our surveyed singles said they're looking for a "Golden Retriever" in 2025.**



## Good Dude, Bad Date



Someone who's an awesome friend but drops the ball when it comes to romance. Good to hang with, not so great to date.

## Groundhog Dating

Taking your dates to the same spot every time, sticking to familiar territory to keep those first-date jitters in check. It's dating, but where everyone knows your name.



## Hopecore

A trend all about embracing positivity and joy in dating and life. **Surveyed singles say that to stay energised and excited about dating, they try to stay positive (41%), have an open-mind (39%), and remember to have fun (33%).**

## Hot Rodent Boyfriend

The unconventionally hot guy with a pointed, almost rodent-like face and a whole lot of swag. With messy hair, he rocks vintage clothes and looks like he's one cigarette away from a brooding Indie film. 21% of our surveyed singles said they're looking for a "Hot Rodent" in 2025.

## Ins/Outs

When daters create a list of qualities they want in a relationship, helping them date with intention and stay focused on what truly matters in a relationship.



## Investi-dating

When you and your friends go full detective mode, digging up your crush's entire online footprint (or their aunt's 2015 trip to Iceland). In fact, 63% of Tinder's surveyed singles pre-screened their dates!



## Kissmet

A twist on "kismet," this year's dating scene embraced the magic of unscripted moments. From meet-cutes to spontaneous first dates, singles are leaning into the joy of organic, genuine connections over following the typical dating formula.



## Lavender Marriages

A marriage built on deep trust — not romance, where one or both of the partners are queer. This platonic dynamic is the original "friends with (legal) benefits."



## Limerence

That all-consuming crush where you're completely obsessed, longing for them to feel the same — often fueled by Tarot readings and daydreams, even if the fantasy differs from the reality. **Manifesting magic: 16% of surveyed singles say that to help their dating life, they plan to get a Tarot card reading.**

## Loud Breakups

Step aside relationship "soft launches" — hard launching breakups are in. Newly single folks are announcing their splits loud and proud.



## Loud Looking

Let's get loud. Whether it's a "Man in Finance" or "Gamer Girlfriend," singles are ditching the vague and getting vocal about their needs and desires, confidently and unapologetically.

## Love Potion-ing

The (sort of) serious attempt to win someone's heart by using spells, potions, or elixirs — and maybe even a witch. **Witching hour:** 17% of surveyed singles say that to help their dating life, they plan to use crystals for love and attraction.



## Nano-Ships

In 2024, no romantic connection was too small to define. From "eyecontactships" to "textuationships," singles are embracing even the tiniest interactions as meaningful. It's about reclaiming romance, whether serious or not, and recognising that even micro-moments can count as a "thing."

## Paperclipping

When someone randomly pops back into your life with a casual, digital drop-in — it's the kind of pointless message you're tempted to ignore.

## Passport Passion

When you get swept up in a romantic fling in a new city, and it feels straight out of a TV rom-com. **Pack your bags:** Tinder users Passport to an average of 4 cities, chasing love and adventure!



## Phonezoned

You're vibing on a date, but there's a third-wheel stealing the spotlight: their phone.



## Pitch-Me Dating

Hello, Sharks! Singles are using decks, business cards, and pitches to sell themselves as the ideal partner. Dating meets personal branding: 11% of our surveyed singles said that "pitch-me dating" appealed to them right now.

## Remix Relationships

In today's polarised world, differences like age, work ethic, or critical thinking don't have to be dealbreakers but strengths. These mixed partnerships are all about reclaiming the divides and finding compatibility beyond perfect symmetry.



## Run Club

Singles are intentionally joining running groups and intramural sports, not just for fitness but to meet new people with shared interests. Run together, stay together: 28% of surveyed singles say "shared interests" will top their list of must-haves in 2025.

## S-low Effort

A cultural shift that encourages "not doing too much" when dating.

## Season One Stars

When a blast from the past makes a surprise reappearance — but you're already on Season 6, baby.



## Secretship

A situationship you hide from your friends because, deep down, you know they're not the best for you. It's your little secret.



## Self-care Soulmates

When you and your connection both prioritise self-care and embrace your mental health journeys to show up as better partners. 31% of our surveyed singles say that to stay energised and excited about dating, they prioritise self-care.

## Slow A-Peel

Dating with a mindful approach, like peeling back the layers of an onion. It's all about embracing the mystery, revealing each part of yourself gradually. When asked what best describes their dating life, 27% of surveyed Tinder singles said slow dating.

# Smashing the Date-triarchy

Breaking free from traditional gender-based dating pressures and milestones, singles are redefining love and relationships to prioritise their own happiness and personal desires.



## Soft Swinging

The diet version of swinging where couples enjoy light, playful interactions—like kissing or touching—without fully swapping partners.

## Soft-Girl

Move over girlboss, singles are all about "soft values" — even if that means skipping work. They're living life gently and on their own terms.

## Stack Dating

Lining up multiple dates in a day to streamline your love life — and get extra mileage out of that date fit.

## Summer Shading

As the weather heats up, commitment cools down. Singles are preferring to keep things easy, breezy, and casual.

**HAGS:** 31% of surveyed singles anticipate being most romantically active or dating most in the summer.



## Tennis Triangle

It's when three people are serving up a charged, dynamic connection that feels like a game of love and tension.



## The Slow Burn

A relationship that builds slowly and steadily, fueled by mutual respect and clear boundaries from the beginning. It's the kind of connection that takes time to heat up but often leads to something lasting and meaningful.

## The Snap Gap

When you show off photos of your crush but insist: "They're way better in person."

## Three Month Rule

Three months deep with no DTR? According to the rule, if a relationship is not exclusive within three months of dating, it will likely stay casual.



## Tradwife

A dating style that embraces traditional gender roles, cooking up the perfect provider husband — from scratch, of course.

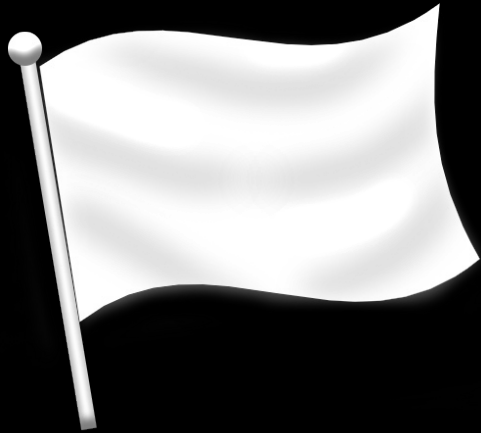


## Unscripted Dating

Letting go of the pressure to find "the one" and instead following what feels right. It's about enjoying the journey of dating as a path to self-discovery, without worrying about the perfect partner or endgame.

## White Flag

An experience or person that inspires you to surrender to the universe, put down your defenses, and open yourself up to love.



## Winter Arc

A season of personal growth and reflection, when the winter months are used to build new habits and set a fresh focus for the year ahead. **Staying warm: 20% of our surveyed singles predict winter will be their most romantically active season in 2025!**



