

How to Make the Best Impression When Meeting a Shadchan

Because you can only make a first impression once

- 1. Presentation matters:** dress in a way that makes you feel confident. Be intentional with what you wear, hair, nails and of course- come with a smile ;)
- 2. Come prepared:** Make sure the information on your resume is up-to-date, as well as your picture
- 3. Respond to the shadchan's questions as descriptively as possible-**include an example
- 4. Be YOU and Be HONEST:** Share who you are and what you are really looking for.
- 5. Communicate your dealbreakers:** What is a non-negotiable for you?
- 6. Communicate deal MAKERS** -consider what type of person has worked for you in the past and communicate that. That includes, personality, Hashkafa, background, etc.
- 7. Ask Questions:**
 - About the dating process
 - The best way to communicate with them, i.e what time of day? Text? WhatsApp?
 - How often should I check in?
 - When should I reach out after a date?
- 8. Remember that shadchanim are passionate about what they do and want to help**
- 9. Thank the shadchan for their time-**remember that they are volunteers

How to Make the Best Impression On a First Date

Be on time

Have a clean car- if you're a guy picking up a girl before the date, make sure your car is clean and have water

Ask the shadchan what type of date it is- this way you'll know the vibe and how to dress

Be more interested than interesting- actively listen to the other person and ask follow up questions, while remembering that...

A first date is **not the time for a deep dive-** don't ask or share anything too personal, keep the conversation light and let it flow

Maintain eye contact- put your phone away and focus on the person in front of you

Have a plan- if you're planning the date, make reservations and have a back-up option just in case. It's better to be overly prepared than stressed.

Be flexible- as much as we try, things don't always go to plan. How you respond will be noticed. Sometimes humor can be the best way to break the tension.

End the date graciously- regardless of your feelings, saying something as simple as "it was nice meeting you" shows maturity and respect

Don't over analyze- You're not meant to have all the answers after a first date, reflect back on how you felt during the date and whether you'd like more information in order to make an informed decision.