

50 TIPS TO MAKE PEOPLE LIKE YOU



*Your Love Potion to
Becoming the
Center of Attraction*

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Introduction

Everybody hopes to be a likable person. Have you ever been told by your friends that a particular event would not be merry without your participation? If you do have such experience, then I have to congratulate you! There are many advantages being a likable person. For example, people like to invite you whenever they have any social events so that you will never be bored to death. Besides, people may also like to refer you to their extended network of friends which may benefit you in your career or personal life.

What inspires me to write about this topic? I think being an appealing person is something that a lot of people are striving to achieve, including me. I have tried to figure out the unique charisma that some of my friends have that make them so attractive. Besides, I did analyze the negative personalities of some of the people around me that indeed chase away their friends. Of course, I never forget to perform a self-evaluation to unearth the good characteristics that I have and some bad habits which may ruin my image. Here is the compilation of 80% of my observation and analysis and 20% of research on this topic. I profoundly believe you can benefit from the 50 tips below. Enjoy reading!

a) Show Your Interest in Others

1) Show your interest and passion when listening to people.

When you are having a conversation with a group, portray more interest on the speaker's topic, such as asking some questions for clarification, saying words like 'what's next?' or nodding your head to exhibit approval on the message conveyed. If you do that, you will observe the speaker probably gives more eye contacts to you compared to the others. I have experienced that; you may test this out! Besides, be an attentive listener when somebody is talking. Do not try to interrupt. The fundamental concept here is 'become genuinely interested in other people', advocated by Dale Carnegie.

2) Talk about the other's interest.

For example, if you know somebody likes to share topic about her children. In order to make her like you, you may try to show your concern for her children, like asking "How are your children recently? How do they perform in school?" Your concern should be spontaneous and do not sound stilted in any sense.

3) Display your gracious smile.

Smile is absolutely free, why not 'contributing' your smile whenever you meet somebody to make you a likable character? There is a quote by Charles Gordy, "A smile is an inexpensive way to improve your look." Try to imprint this quote on your memory.

4) Remember people's names.

Dale Carnegie, a reputable American writer had ever quoted, "A person's name is to him or her the sweetest and most important sound in any language." Ask yourself, do you have a better impression on a person who is able to remember your name immediately after the first meet?

5) Remember people's birthdates.

During their birthdays, convey your warmest regards by just saying 'Happy Birthday'. If this person is your close friend, it will be better to buy him/her birthday gift during this memorable day. It will be ideal if you can prepare a memorable gift for him/her, something which he/she may be craving for. For example, you know your friend is hooked on Mickey Mouse. Buy something related to Mickey Mouse would be a wiser choice.

6) Give credit to others.

Addressing the contribution of others can make them feel important. For example, if somebody has helped you to improve your speaking skills, you may address his contribution during the conversation with him and some other people, like "I attribute the improvement of my speaking skill to Mr. XXX as he helped me a lot by providing me precious tips."

7) Be receptive to your friends' opinions.

I am not asking you to accept all the ideas from your friends. You do need to filter what are the appropriate opinions to be embraced. But keep an open mind to listen to others' opinions, as most people like to be recognized and they will feel unpleasant when their friends are skeptical about their ideas or suggestions.

8) People like surprises.

Once a while, you may create some surprises to your friends. For example, organize an unexpected birthday celebration for your friend. I have friends who ever celebrated birthday for me during a social meeting. I was rather surprised and touched.

9) Be observant.

Pay some attention to some special habits of your friends will stand you in good stead. For instance, from your observation, your friend does not like to eat bean sprouts. One day, when you are having lunch with him/her, if you help him/her to order the food with special request of not putting bean sprouts in the food, he/she will be surprised that you manage to pick up his/her needs. Your friend will appreciate your kind intention as people like to know they are valued.

b) Cultivate Good Qualities

10) Understanding the nuance of praises.

People like to hear compliments. It can be as simple as “Today you look fresh with this dress!” Giving praises is like feeding sweets to people. It can definitely do wonders for your endeavor in fostering friendship.

11) Mastering the art of appreciation.

Do show your appreciation whenever your friend gives you a helping hand. It can be as simple as saying ‘thank you’ if the help is diminutive. But sometimes the assistance we need may cause some inconvenience to our friends. In this case, our act of appreciation should be more than saying ‘thank you’. If not, your friend may think you are taking advantage of him/her. For example, you may have difficulty of getting the public transport to work, so you may need your colleague’s help to fetch you to work. In this case, you should not be feeling complacent of getting free transport every day. Instead, you may consider giving him/her a token of appreciation, such as treating him/her to a dinner or lunch once a while if he/she refuses to accept the so-called ‘transport fee’ from you.

12) Respect people.

Everyone deserves to be respected despite their background. Never belittle or prejudge the capability of others. For instance, somebody may talk to his/her subordinate in such a way, "I don't think you have sufficient level of knowledge to handle this issue." Even though you can hardly control to have such thought, but never say it out as it will lower the self-esteem of others. Besides, never try to embarrass your friends. Even though your friend may have spoken something incorrectly, do not try to disgrace him/her by pointing out the mistakes in front of a group of people. Instead, tell him/her the fault personally later.

13) Be friendly to everyone.

Greet people automatically with your gracious smile. Talk to people with a courteous tone of voice instead of a harsh voice. A moderate tone of voice will be most ideal to make people feel your friendliness.

14) Be generous.

Generous people are normally likable characters. But portray your generosity according to your means and ability. Even though we may not be financially sound to treat others meal or give presents to others so often, but at least we can avoid being too calculative.

15) Be a magnanimous person.

By revealing such quality, you show yourself worthy of further consideration to be a true friend for others. I have ever seen someone I know rejected to talk to a friend of mine for few months due to a small quarrel. From this situation, this person is notoriously known as a narrow-minded and immature person. Don't do this to your friends.

16) Be a sincere and honest person.

Avoid hypocritical acts or words which may form an aversion to others. For example, do not give untrue praises to others. If someone is known to be horizontally-advantaged, never say he/she is slim. But do try to avoid giving too straightforward comment when you want to raise something negative as you may hurt your friend directly or indirectly.

17) Be a dynamic and active person instead of a passive person.

Be the first one to greet others and start a conversation instead of waiting for others to approach you first. A simple 'hello' can brighten up the day of others. Most people like individuals who appear to be outgoing and vigorous.

18) Be a helpful person.

Help doesn't have to relate to money. It can be as simple as helping your friend to carry something which is heavy. Your friend may be searching for a suitable tuition centre for her children. In this case, you may provide your help by collecting some related information and details for her. Besides, you may put some effort to spot opportunities and things which will benefit your friends. For instance, if your friend is an interior designer and someone you know needs the relevant consultation for his new home, why not making a connection? Both of them will appreciate your effort. But sometimes while you help people, do expect ingratitude. Not everyone will appreciate what we have done for them, so never expect for return.

19) Be a polite person.

Knowing to say 'thank you' in a friendly manner is significant to be a likable person. By being courteous, you can effortlessly disarm people whom you may view as hostile to you.

20) Be a supportive person.

For example, your friend may be taking part in a singing competition and quest for your support. Do feel free to give your support by being his/her audience. If possible, prepare a fans' banner to show your enthusiasm of supporting him/her.

21) Be a knowledgeable person.

Keep abreast of latest happenings around us by reading more books, newspapers, etc. People like to mix with individuals who can offer values, enlightening information or even constructive advices. So don't be selfish in sharing good stuff. But do not brag about something you may not know well as it will highly tarnish your credibility among your friends.

22) Be a trustworthy person.

Do learn to hold yourself accountable to promises. If you have promised your friend for not disclosing certain issues, do keep your promise. Do not simply preach your friend's personal affairs to others without his/her consent. Your friend confides in you because he/she treats you as a reliable individual. So do not spoil your image and get rid of gossips.

23) Be a caring person.

Showing concern for people around you shows that you are a human being who radiates warmth, comfort, and love. Once a while, you may ask your friends some simple things in their personal or working life to show your concern. When your colleague is absent from work, do take the initiative to call up to express your concern on him/her, especially when he/she is sick.

24) Be a happy and positive person.

People like to mingle with optimistic person. Do not keep spreading negatives to your friends. For example, do not purely grumble about the unpleasant things happened around you. Of course, a true friend should be willing to share and listen to your happy and unhappy moments, but your conversation cannot fully hover around negative issues. Your friends may run away from you because they know they are going to be your 'complaint-venting machine' once they meet you.

25) Be independent.

No one likes to 'baby-sit' friend unless you are an intimate partner of him/her. A person who is too dependent will make people around think that you are trying to take advantage of them.

26) Defend your friend's honor.

When somebody is talking about something negative about your friend, if you think they have misunderstood your friend's character, do help to defend your friend's honor. If you think what is being said is true, then you just have to be a silent listener and do not get involved into the conversation to exacerbate the situation. Sometimes, when two groups of friends are talking bad on each other, it is ideal you remain your neutrality to avoid offending any group.

27) Be a humble person.

Even though you are well-versed in certain areas, do not try to show off unnecessarily. Humility is endearing. "Talent is God given. Be humble. Fame is man-given. Be grateful. Conceit is self-given. Be careful." - A quote of John Wooden.

28) Empathize with friend who is going through trauma and despair.

Try to understand your friend's feelings and help him/her to pass through the tough time. If you can resonate your friend's feeling with love and compassion, you will surely become a person whom almost everyone likes.

29) Be a responsible person.

People like those who can get things done and are accountable to deadlines, especially at working place. Colleagues are also our friends. If you are not able to perform well at your work due to your poor working attitude, you are going to spoil your own image and chase away your friends.

c) Learn to Communicate Effectively

30) Be an entertaining person.

Nobody likes to talk to stodgy people. If you think you are not an amusing person, at least try to maintain a certain level of body language when you speak to avoid a drab conversation. If possible, learn to intersperse your conversation with jokes and humors. People naturally like to laugh. But do ensure the jokes you share are not hurting anyone. In order to play safe, you may try some self-effacement jokes. What if you really have no jokes to stimulate others? Then you have to be someone who knows to accept jokes. Be appreciative of jokes or amusing stories shared by your friends, instead of showing your poker face when somebody is delivering a joke. To improve the art of communication, have a look at [Toastmasters program](#).

31) Be careful of your speaking volume.

Some people were born to have audible voice where they may tend to speak in slightly louder volume unconsciously. The one whom he/she speaks to may not be happy with that kind of volume as this person is indirectly making known of the conversation contents to others. Inversely, try to avoid the habit of mumbling too. People dislike communicating with a 'low-volume' individual who is unable to convey their message clearly.

32) Do not criticize people.

People are normally hurt by criticism. If you want to get people like you, you have to stop criticizing people. I am not trying to say that you cannot pose negative comments on somebody, but instead providing your comments in a nice and constructive way. For instance, instead of saying “You are a really bad organizer, do you know our company’s reputation is going to tarnish with such a bad event planning?” you may try saying in this way, “The event has turned up to be less ideal this time. I do hope you can take heed of your event schedule planning. Otherwise, it can highly influence our company’s reputation. But I truly believe you can do it better next time. ” Will the second comment sounds less harmful? We can always turn our negative comments into a constructive evaluation with motivational elements. We evaluate to motivate, but not criticize to disgrace.

33) Know how to say ‘sorry’.

Do apologize to your friends earnestly when you know you have done something wrong on them. Dare to admit your own fault. True friends will forgive you if you have taken your first step to apologize.

34) Asking for help instead of giving orders.

“Can you help me to do this?” or “Do this for me.”, which sentence sounds better? Most people don’t like to listen to instructions although they are forced to do so, but they do like to help people. If you want to turn your subordinates into friends instead of purely ‘subordinates’, ‘soliciting for helps’ or ‘giving instructions’ can make a vast difference.

35) Do not let language to be your obstacle.

If you are unable to speak the language of your group of friends, most likely you will not be welcome. So do find ways to hone your language proficiency if you want to make people like you.

36) Try to keep away all the unnecessary interjections when we talk.

Fillers like 'you know', 'whatever', 'well' can be strident sometimes. It may not be the biggest factor to repel your friends, but people definitely don't like to talk to a 'word rewinder' where the fillers repeated everywhere despite its relevance. Besides, parroting the same talk for few times may also make yourself superfluous and may even be a nuisance to your friends. If you do have such habit, try eliminating it.

d) Take Care of Your Image

37) Do remember to dress properly all the time.

You do not need to dress up extravagantly, but neatly. I am sure you also do not like to go out with friends with disheveled and frumpy look right?

38) Horrible smell will repel friends.

For those who have problems of body/foot odor or bad breath, the basic thing to do is being hygienic. For those who have such annoyance due to health problems, you have no choice but to find suitable remedies to cure those problems. Before your problem is healed, you should avoid wearing clothes or shoes which are too exposed like sleeveless shirt as it will make your special odor more obvious to your friends around. Don't worry; anyway this is not a terminal illness.

39) Use a light scent.

Psychological research from Northwestern University shows that a light lemon smell increases likability without people even being aware of it. Avoid using very strong perfume. Light and perceptible scent is effective.

e) Develop a Closer Bond between You and Your Friends

40) Allocate some social time to increase your affinity with friends.

For example, if your friends invite you to a social event such as watching movie or gathering, do say “yes” once a while, if you do not wish to attend every time. You may be viewed as an isolated person if you reject every social event invited by your friends. (*By the way, I am not referring to a date which only involves a man and woman here)

41) Take customs and culture of your friends into account.

For example, your Malay friends may want to take time off at a certain period for their prayer. So do not encroach on their prayer’s time.

42) Don’t afraid of making mistakes.

Psychological research shows that people who make mistakes are more likable than those who seem perfect. Most people feel more comfortable to approach normal people than those who always hone everything to near perfection. So don’t be afraid to let your imperfect personality sparkles!

f) Get Rid of Bad Habits and Displeasing Attitude

43) Try to avoid arguments.

People like peace maker instead of war trigger. Don't jeopardize a meaningful relationship over some trivial matters. Try to be tolerable when you confront with someone whom may not be easy to deal with.

44) Egoism can alienate friends around you.

An egoist is self-centered with little regards for others. Those people may be immersing themselves in their superiority in certain fields which indirectly create their over-confidence character. It is good to have confidence, but do not let your pride overwhelm which will subsequently chase away your friends.

45) Do not think of taking advantage of others.

I do agree that everyone makes friends with certain reasons. For example, we need friends to accompany us when we feel bored. But do not be too advantage-orientated when making friends. For example, you want to make friend with that particular restaurant owner in order to get more lunch or dinner treats. This is a selfish reason. Let me provide you another example. When you go out with a group of friends for lunch or dinner, if the bill payer never claims to treat the meal, do remember to pay him/her back the money. I have ever met a friend who likes to take advantage of others in such situation. Hence, a lot of his friends do not like to invite him to go for lunch or dinner together because he will never pay the bill. Do pay attention to teensy-weensy details like this. So don't be forgetful in returning things or money to others, to avoid being rated as somebody who likes to take advantage of others.

46) Say the right words at the right time.

Prevent from saying something that others may not like to hear. For example, you have a friend who has divorced with her husband recently. Then you should get rid of sensitive conversation topic like how blissful your marriage is. Do focus on safe topics during a conversation. Sensitive and contentious topics like politics and religions can easily trigger aversion if both of you have divergent opinions.

47) Avoid jealousy.

In order to win friends among the same sex, you should avoid jealousy which may occur when you become popular among the opposite sex. Some individuals may have charming personalities that can easily draw attention from the opposite sex. If you are gifted with such attraction, then you may try to reduce the meetings with the friends of the opposite sex, or to ensure your time of mingling with friends of both male and female is well-balanced. So you won't be viewed as 'seducing' the opposite sex and neglecting friends of the same sex. Jealousy can easily make you being ostracized by friends of the same sex.

48) Never try to recruit your friends to your organization if they are not interested.

Some people may tend to inadvertently force their friends to be with them when they are fanatical about a particular religion, political party or other profit or non-profit organizations. Just be wary of this matter to avoid estranging your friends.

49) Do not laugh at your friend when he/she makes a blooper.

Don't even chuckle, because somebody may notice it. For example, your friend stumbles over a stone and fell down. As a true friend, you should be propping him/her up instead of laughing at him/her.

50) Do not make people feel you are flattering somebody.

When you are regarded as someone who over-gratifies someone who is more superior to you, such as your boss, most likely you will be ostracized by your friends or colleagues. Complimenting people is good but do not overdo it.

Conclusion

You don't have to be a luminary to be likable. As long as you can devote some time and effort to apply at least 70% of the ways mentioned above, it is good enough in making you a friends' magnet. For those who are already the winners of friends, do continue adopt the virtue of gratitude for the wonderful things the universe has bestowed on you. Attract even more positive energy by sharing this e-book to someone who may need it.

Thanks for reading!