

Online Dating

Reviews

Membership Base

Feature Comparison

online dating

Our Top 5 Dating Picks of 2013

We've compared the best online dating sites to help you determine which services will best suit your lifestyle. Our reviews focus on the diverse offerings of each dating service, so that users can discover the right dating site quickly and easily. Find out which of the best dating sites are right for you!

Last Update: Nov 05, 2013

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BEST OVERALL CHOICE

The fastest growing dating site in the world guarantees you'll meet someone special within 6 months.

As one of the largest and most well-known online dating sites in the world, it's no surprise that Match.com is responsible for more dates, relationships and marriages than any of its competitors. What enables... (Read Review)

10/10

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2

BEST FOR RELATIONSHIP MINDED SINGLES

Responsible for 120 weddings a day, it is designed to create long-lasting relationships.

eHarmony sets itself apart from other online dating sites by offering compatibility matching based on its patented 29 Dimensions of Compatibility. These dimensions have helped create long-lasting relationships... (Read Review)

9.7/10

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3

BEST FOR MATURE SINGLES

Designed to create lasting relationships or companionship specifically for users aged 50+.

OurTime is an online dating website geared toward singles over the age of 50 who are looking for all types of relationships, including marriage, travel companionship or even pen pals. The website launched in 2011... (Read Review)

9.5/10

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BEST FOR MEETING PEOPLE FAST

Browse dates suggested by other members in your area and meet in person.

HowAboutWe takes a shoot first approach to online dating, letting users suggest their ideal dates for other users to browse and accept. This casual approach lends itself to lighthearted fun, decreasing the anxiety... (Read Review)

8.9/10

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5

BEST FOR MEETING BLACK SINGLES

If you're looking for hot black people, this easy to use site could be perfect for you.

BlackPeopleMeet offers an all-inclusive site for sexy black singles to find each other. Though it is obviously geared toward a black audience, anyone who's interested is allowed to join. With great free and subscription features... (Read Review)

8.6/10

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ONLINE DATING STATISTICS

17% of couples married in the last 3 years, or 1 in 6, met each other on an online dating site.

1 out of 5 single people have dated someone they met on a dating website.

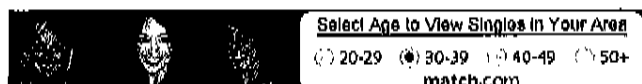
In the last year, more than twice as many marriages occurred between people who met on an online dating site than met in bars, at clubs and any other social events combined.

Approximately twice as many recently married couples met on Match.com than the site that ranked second.

Source: match.com

MONTHLY USERS

Match.com	9.9 Million
eHarmony.com	2.5 Million
OurTime.com	550,000
HowAboutWe.com	1.4 Million
BlackPeopleMeet.com	N/A



Advertisement

Membership Base

With tens of millions of singles using online dating services each month, using one of the best dating websites is an easy way to expand your current dating options. If you're looking to get married, you'll want to choose a service with similarly marriage minded singles, such as eHarmony or Chemistry.com. If you prefer casual romances or brief encounters you may also enjoy sites such as Spark that cater to singles that prefer more casual encounters. And if you just want to meet someone and see where things go, using the dating sites with the largest possible user base, such as Match.com, will provide you with the best odds of success.

Dating Site Price

You may be surprised to learn that, in addition to offering reasonable pricing, the best dating sites also offer coupons, discounts or even free extended memberships. Membership fees can vary greatly from service to service. Match.com, for example, costs only \$19.99/month for a 6-month subscription, while a 1-month subscription to eHarmony or PerfectMatch can cost up to \$59.95/month. And, of course, most online dating sites offer free trials or free access to select services so that you can see for yourself which site you enjoy the most.

Search Options and Matching Algorithms

Tired of being attracted to the wrong type of person or getting set up with losers? Compatibility matching services offered by top dating sites like Chemistry.com and eHarmony have successfully suggested thousands of long-term matches based on personality, "Dimensions of Compatibility" and other specific qualities. Other sites such as Match.com offer powerful search features that enable you to find a match based on the criteria that is most important to you. If you're not sure which is the best dating site for your needs, you can also try a site that offers both such as Match.com, which combines extensive search features with compatibility matching technology that provides 5 recommended matches daily.

Privacy and Security

While some singles prefer to express themselves openly and honestly online, others prefer to keep their identities private. For this reason, the best online dating sites offer a variety of privacy and security options. Some sites allow you to browse profiles without publicizing your own profile. Sites such as Match.com, in contrast, also offer expanded publicity features if you want your profile to draw additional attention. If you prefer privacy, you should be aware that on some sites, such as PerfectMatch, if you hide your profile you cannot receive match suggestions. Your privacy settings can be easily adjusted in the profile section of most of the top dating sites.

Communication Features

Few things can replace the excitement of an introductory wink or flirty smile, which is why many dating sites such as Match.com offer a range of communication options from virtual "winks" to online "ice breakers". If you want to get a better visual impression of your potential date you can also consider sites like Lavalife, which offer video communication. Some dating sites however, such as Chemistry.com and eHarmony, only offer compatibility matching and therefore do not allow you to communicate with others at all unless you were introduced by the sites' matchmaking systems. Services such as these may be ideal for you if you prefer to remain anonymous.

Special Dating Site Features

While you can do without most of the extra features they offer, some dating sites have features that really stand out and should be taken into consideration when you decide on a service. Match.com, for example, offers mobile dating where you can login securely from your cell phone. Chemistry.com offers free help with creating your profile so that you can receive the most relevant matches possible. eHarmony offers a free personality assessment that can help you better understand yourself and pinpoint exactly what you're looking for in a mate. Lavalife offers video chat functionality, which provides a new dimension to the online dating experience.

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