Turn Ons, Turn Offs and How to Find Love on Russian Dating Sites
While many men have found love and happiness on international dating sites, many more are afraid to give these services a try. The reasons vary, but common concerns include the taboo of the international dating industry, the value of matchmaking services, whether or not the women on such sites are sincere in their quest for love or merely looking for money and a green card, and the potential difficulties of dating women halfway across the world.

A little education about Russian women and Russian dating websites can go a long way towards soothing a gentleman’s fear of the unknown. Many men are pleasantly surprised by the benefits a Russian dating website may have to offer and regret not trying the service sooner.

In creating this guide, we hope to educate men seeking love abroad about:

• What qualities Russian women want in a romantic partner
• What qualities Russian women find repulsive and unattractive
• What to consider when choosing a Russian dating website
• What blacklists and anti-scam sites are about
A recent survey of 580 Russian women on HotRussianBrides.com and RussianLoveMatch.com revealed the Top 10 turn ons.

1. A GOOD SENSE OF HUMOR: A good sense of humor is what turns Russian women on the most, so do your best to make your special lady laugh. When chatting with a woman, try to tell a joke or share a funny story, listen appreciatively when she does the same, and laugh at yourself if you say something silly or make a mistake. Men who take themselves too seriously are simply no fun.

2. GOOD MANNERS: Many Russian women view chivalrous behavior as indications of good manners, so make an effort to open doors for your date, carry her bags, pull out her chair, and generally treat her like a lady. You can also display your good manners by remembering to say please, thank you, and you’re welcome, something many people forget these days. The more you behave like a gentleman the more you will impress your significant other.

3. RESPECT: It should come as no surprise that women want, and expect, to be treated with respect. So what’s the best way to show her you care? Refrain from using foul or inappropriate language. Don’t pressure a woman to do anything she doesn’t want to do. Respect her ideas and opinions, even if they clash with your own. It may seem obvious, but you would be surprised at how many men treat their dates with disrespect.

4. INTELLIGENCE/EDUCATION: Women like men who are intelligent and well-rounded. While you don’t have a Ph.D., or even a college degree to keep a woman’s interest, a basic knowledge of history, geography, and current events will take you far. One easy way to impress your Russian lady is to educate yourself about her country and culture. Do some research online and show her that you’re interested in what makes her tick.

5. SELF-CONFIDENCE: Women like confident men, so don’t be afraid to let your personality shine! Smile, make eye contact, don’t hesitate to share your thoughts and ideas. If you don’t have natural confidence, fake it until it feels right. Men who have a low opinion of themselves are not likely to attract others. Remember, everyone has something to offer so never feel like you’re not good enough to snag a hot woman.

6. KINDNESS: A man can demonstrate kind behavior in many ways, including giving sincere compliments, comforting a lady when she is worried or upset, sending heartfelt gifts on special occasions (or even when there’s no occasion at all), treating others with dignity and respect, volunteering to help those in need, etc. There are many ways to show a lady your kind heart, just be sure your actions are sincere. No one likes a phony.

7. SENSITIVITY: Many men tend to hide their sensitive sides for fear of appearing feminine or unmanly. While you don’t have to cry at every sappy movie or cuddle on every couch, it’s okay to show a little emotion on occasion and cozy up to your significant other. In fact, as you can see from the top billing on this turn on list, Russian women like a sensitive man! If you make an effort to share your feelings and express your affection you won’t be sorry.

8. OPTIMISM: No one likes a pessimist, so take care to maintain an optimistic outlook when interacting with your special lady. While it’s okay to share your concerns with a love interest, try not to drone on about gloomy topics like the failing economy, your unstable job, or your troubled finances. Pessimists tend to drag others down with them and that’s the last thing a woman wants, or needs, in a relationship. Try to see the best of life, even if things aren’t going as well as you’d like.

9. CLEAN AND WELL GROOMED: Just as men want to date a woman who is clean and neatly put together, women prefer men who take care of their appearance. It may seem simple, but a shower; clean, neatly pressed clothing; a freshly shaved face; and a little cologne go a long ways in attracting a woman.

10. A GREAT SMILE: This turn on is pretty self-explanatory. Women love men with a great smile! This doesn’t mean you need the perfect smile of a toothpaste model, but rather one that shows you are cheerful, fun-loving guy who enjoys life. When you’re chatting with a sexy lady, smile, laugh, show that you enjoy talking to her. If you are exchanging photos online, send one of you with a heart-melting smile on your face.
1. BAD MANNERS: The biggest way to turn a Russian woman off is to display bad manners. Neglecting to say please, thank you, and you’re welcome can send a lady warning signs about your sense of etiquette (or lack thereof). You also want to avoid sharing crude or inappropriate jokes and making inappropriate comments about her appearance.

2. LYING: This big turn off is easy to avoid. Don't lie! While it’s tempting to exaggerate certain aspects of your life, resist the urge to embellish facts about your job, salary, age, or appearance. Lying only suggests that you’ve got something to hide or that you’re suffering from low self-esteem, things no woman finds appealing. If you’re open and sincere while courting a Russian lady, she’s much more likely to respond well to your advances.

3. SELF-CENTERED BEHAVIOR: Believe it or not, the whole world shouldn’t cater to your wants and needs. There’s little that annoys a woman more than a man who behaves as if he is the center of the universe. Ask questions, express interest in a lady’s life, let her know you’re interested in something other than yourself. If she wants to take the relationship slower than you’d like, respect her wishes and don’t press the issue. Men who make an effort to consider a lady’s preferences as well their own are sure to do much better.

4. RUDENESS: Rudeness takes many forms, so the old saying “treat others as you’d like to be treated” is a good proverb to keep in mind. You can never go wrong by taking other people’s feelings into consideration.

5. DIRTY APPEARANCE: No woman likes a dirty, unkempt man. Show a little initiative and put your best face forward. Take a shower; shave; put on a clean, nicely pressed outfit. Posting a photo of you in your rumpled pajamas or showing up for a date in torn clothing isn’t going to impress any woman. Russian women are known for their fashionable clothing and immaculate appearance. The last thing you want to do is look like a slob by her side.

6. LAZINESS: Women like enthusiastic, ambitious men. They don’t like men who are content to sit on the couch all day, watching reruns and eating pork rinds. Exercise, visit friends, throw yourself into a hobby, or work on bettering your career. Any passion is better than none at all.

7. ARROGANCE: Even if you are the richest, most handsome man in the world, bragging about it will only make you sound like an obnoxious jerk. While everyone tends to broadcast their best qualities, keep the boasting to a minimum if you want to score that special lady.

8. DISRESPECT: There are many forms of disrespect, but one easy way to avoid this offense is to treat others how you would like to be treated. Some common disrespectful behavior includes lying, cheating, name calling, talking about a woman behind her back, sending crude or suggestive messages, and treating women like sexual objects.

9. SEX ON THE BRAIN: Almost anyone will agree that men think about sex more frequently than women. But while this may be true, most women don’t want a man who constantly expresses his sexual desires. This is particularly true in new relationships. When corresponding with a lady, don’t even think about mentioning sex in the first few emails! You also don’t want to send her nude photos or ask her to do the same. If you do, she might think you’re a creepy pervert.

10. CHEATS: Cheating, by definition, is the act of being sexually or emotionally unfaithful. While there may be a few gray areas as to what constitutes cheating, it’s best to abstain from any borderline behavior. Trust your gut when it comes to determining what’s appropriate and what’s not. Want to know what other behaviors to avoid? Russian women are also turned off by bad language, close-mindedness, stubbornness, a man who is uneducated, a man who lacks goals, a poor sense of humor, men with poor communication skills, anti-social behavior, immaturity, a man with a forceful physical approach, and insecurity.
Now it’s time to put your newfound knowledge to work. Most Western men turn to online sites to meet Russian women who are seeking love and companionship. While some gentlemen may meet a lady while traveling or living abroad, international matchmaking sites, despite their negative connotations as a place for “mail-order brides,” are often the easiest and most convenient way for men to meet ladies from Russia, the Ukraine, and other countries. So what’s the best way to go about finding love online? Here are some things you should do (and NOT do) to make the courtship process go a little smoother.

CREATE A COMPELLING PROFILE
The first step on any dating website is to upload a picture and complete your profile information. Your profile is the first thing a lady will see, so make it good! Men who take the time to write full, developed profiles get better responses than those who write only a few words. The more information you share, the better your chances of finding your perfect match.

It is also very important that you post a nice, yet accurate photo of yourself. Don’t upload a photo that was taken several years ago or one of you in your stained pajamas. You don’t want to appear to be a liar (turn off #2) or a slob (#5). Other photos to avoid are ones that are out of focus, those that show you with other women, anything involving nudity, etc.

BE POLITE AND RESPECTFUL
It may seem obvious, but the best way to court a lovely Russian lady, whether in person or online, is to treat her with dignity and respect. Use appropriate language at all times, refrain from sharing crude or offensive jokes, respect her opinions and beliefs, and avoid treating her like a sexual object.

GET TO KNOW HER
If you want to keep a Russian woman’s interest, show her that you care about getting to know her. Ask about her life, her country, her culture. Listen to her thoughts and ideas. Ask your lady what she’s looking for in a relationship. Men who make an effort to get to know the women they’re dating do much better than those who talk only about themselves.

EASE INTO THE RELATIONSHIP
A few men who frequent international matchmaking sites are understandably excited by the beautiful and intelligent women who appear online, and they want to find a lady to marry right away. The men narrow down their search, single out a special lady, and initiate correspondence. Things seem to go well and after a few months, or even a few weeks, the gentlemen suggests marriage and is shocked when the lady does not agree. So what gives? It’s likely too soon. Russian women, like women everywhere, can be frightened off by suitors who move too fast. Take your time, get to know the lady, and see how things progress. The old saying, “good things come to those who wait” is a good proverb to keep in mind. Not everyone wants to get married right away.
How to Scare Her Away

LIE
Nothing will repel a lady faster than learning that her online suitor is a liar. Be truthful in your profile! Don't lie about your age, your job, your income, or anything else for that matter. On a similar note, don't post a photo of you in your 30s if you're actually in your 50s, and don't even think about posting a photo of someone else! If things progress as you hope, you might meet your lovely Russian lady one day and what could be more humiliating than being exposed as a fake?

BE INAPPROPRIATE
Once you've found a sexy lady who's caught your eye, the last thing you want to do is scare her away by being inappropriate. One way to do this is to ask her for nude or sexy photos or to bring up sex in the first few emails. Sex-obsessed men are a big turn off for Russian women, so tread carefully. It's fine to tell a woman you think she's beautiful, but not to comment on her body.

BE NEEDY
Imagine that you've found the woman of your dreams. She's seems beautiful, intelligent, and charming, so you send her an introductory email. After a day or two, she doesn't reply so you send her another email, then another and another. When she doesn't reply after a week or so, you grow disgusted and perhaps send a curt message telling her not to bother contacting you. While some women like a persistent man, others find it annoying or even frightening. Keep in mind that many women are only able to access the Internet a few times each month, so be patient when awaiting a reply. A delayed response doesn't mean she isn't interested.

BE NEGATIVE
Who would you rather reply to? A woman who says "I doubt this online dating thing will work and I know you'll never want to write back to me, but I thought I'd try anyway" or the one who says "I saw your profile and I am really impressed! I think we have a lot in common, write me back!" If the first impression you make is that you're a negative person who isn't very enthusiastic about meeting someone new, you're likely to scare away women who might otherwise have liked you very much. Be positive, confident and excited in your letters and your Russian woman is sure to enjoy reading them!
How to Choose the Right Website

There are a lot of international dating sites out there, all proclaiming to be the best at helping Western men find the Russian bride of their dreams. So how can you be sure that a site is worth your hard-earned dollars?

VALIDATION PROCEDURES
A big concern among would-be suitors today is the validity of the ladies on dating sites. Gentlemen want to know that their money is going towards meeting real Russian women who are looking for love, not phonies or scammers.

When evaluating a potential site, ask yourself the following questions:

• What is the company’s anti-scam policy?
• What steps do they take to ensure that the ladies on their site are real?
• Is there a video streaming service that allows members to see the ladies for themselves?
• How does the company respond to allegations of fraud?
• Can you easily contact the company if you have a question or complaint?

The more vigilant a company is in validating ladies’ identities and thwarting would-be scammers, the more you can trust the authenticity of the site.

CUSTOMER SERVICE TEAM
Customer service is an integral part of any business. When researching Russian dating sites, consider what kind of customer service they offer (if they even have one at all). Unfortunately, many customers find themselves hunting for obscure contact information or struggling to communicate with a person who speaks limited English. If customer service is important to you, try to find a site that offers a friendly customer service team that you can reach quickly and easily.

INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION FEES
It’s very important to consider translation costs when evaluating a potential Russian dating website. Some sites roll all professional translation and interpretation costs into comprehensive member packages, while others may charge anywhere from $0.02 to $0.10 per word, $15 per letter, or $5 per minute for online chat. These fees can really add up, especially if a customer is interested in chatting with many ladies! Be sure to review the translation fees before joining a site so you don’t end up with any nasty surprises.

SEARCH FEATURES
Search features are very important to many customers. Some questions to ponder are:

• How broad or narrow is the initial search tool?
• Does the site have a bookmarking or Favorites feature? In other words, can you flag women you find particularly appealing?
• Can a man see when a woman has added him to her Favorites folder?
• Does the site offer a way for customers to keep track of the women they are corresponding with, a virtual black book if you will?
• Does the site offer introduction videos, i.e. short videos a woman records to help would-be suitors learn more about her life and personality?

If a site offers a wide variety of search features, it’s generally easier for customers to narrow down their search and find women they are truly interested in pursuing.
About Blacklists

Anti-scam or blacklist websites are informational sites that claim to spread the “truth” about Russian dating websites, purportedly to save innocent men from being scammed by devious matchmakers. While some anti-scam or blacklist site operators may have good intentions, the sad truth is that many of these lists exist solely to slander the competition. So how can you know who to trust? Here are some things to keep in mind when judging an anti-scam site.

SOME BLACKLISTS ARE OPERATED BY OR AFFILIATED WITH COMPETING DATING SITES
Check which international dating websites have purchased advertising space on a blacklist site, and then compare these sites to the ones who appear on the “approved” or “safe” list. If you only see one or two advertisers and they’re high up on the “safe list,” it is possible the blacklist owner is receiving kickbacks from the “approved” website. You should especially be suspicious if links to these sites appear to be part of an affiliate program, where the blacklist publisher receives money in exchange for traffic sent to the linked site.

BLACKLISTS ARE NOT REGULATED
Any website which is considered to be an “International Marriage Broker” must obey applicable laws which govern their industry; however the so called “blacklist” websites are not regulated by ANYONE. There are no “official” black list websites or agencies for the international dating and correspondence industry, so any information you see posted to these “black list” websites should be considered the publisher’s subjective opinion. Want to check with a reliable source? While there are none specific to international dating and marriage broker services, there are many official consumer protection organizations which may be trusted, both within the government as well as in the private sector.

REJECTED SUITORS OFTEN USE BLACKLISTS TO VENT THEIR FRUSTRATIONS
Look closely at reports that come as a result of a failed relationship. Sadly, many women are accused of being “scammers” simply because of a personal dispute. The dissolution of a relationship can be very painful and sometimes a man will stretch the truth or even outright lie to make the woman seem villainous. Always take post-breakup reports with a grain of salt. If you weren’t there and don’t know either of the people involved personally, it’s impossible to know what REALLY happened when the couple broke up.

Remember, just like a brick and mortar establishment, Internet-based businesses are subject to bad publicity from disprovable and often times highly speculative sources. This is even more prevalent nowadays with internet access becoming more widely available and the sense of anonymity provided by online forums and message boards. Use your best judgment when determining the validity of black lists and anti-scam websites.
HotRussianBrides.com is the premier Russian dating Website, committed to raising the standards in technological innovation and customer satisfaction. By offering the most innovative tools in the industry, including Live Video Chat, Introduction Videos, Web Hostess Online Assistance, and an exclusive “Black Book” (the first and only Contact Management Interface in the industry), this widely popular and often imitated international dating site continues to grow its member base and strives to offer new valuable services to their already thriving community.

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