

# Are You a Player?

By: Tracey Porpora

*Are you the type of person who likes to meet members of the opposite sex, date one or two guys/gals at a time, is only interested in “one thing,” and “plays” the field to the best of your ability? Or are you the type of person who likes to meet people for genuine companionship and seeks a loving relationship with a significant other? Take our quiz to find out if you’re a ‘player’ or not?*

- 1) When you meet a man/woman in a bar, what is the first thing you want to know about the person:
  - a) If he/she is good in bed.
  - b) How much money he/she makes per year.
  - c) The person’s hobbies, interests, likes and dislikes.
- 2) On a first date your goal is to:
  - a) Be the person your date wants you to be. (So if he/she is looking for someone who is smart, suddenly you have a PhD from Harvard).
  - b) Learn what this persons likes, so you can integrate some “dos and don’ts” into the personality you need to have for him/her to like you.
  - c) See if you have common interests and goals for the future.
- 3) A business associate asks if you’d like to invest in his/her new venture:
  - a) Figure out how you can “scam” this person, and reap the benefits of his/her proposal at the same time.
  - b) Entertain the possibility, and see if there is any way to “get one over on this person” at some point.
  - c) Listen to the pros and cons, and make a decision based on whether it’s something that will be beneficial to you.
- 4) Your girl/boyfriend says he/she is going away with his/her family on a cruise, so you:
  - a) Tell him/her you will be lost without him/her, and try to get yourself a “free” trip with the family.
  - b) Tell him/her if he/she goes you’ll plan a wild vacation with the guys/gals.
  - c) Say you will miss him/her, but let him/her go.
- 5) You’re in a restaurant with your girl/boyfriend when you spot an attractive member of the opposite sex by the bar starring at you, so you:
  - a) Say you have to go to the bathroom, and when you pass by mouth the word, “hello” and hand him/her your business card.
  - b) Smile at him/her.
  - c) Ignore him/her and keep your gaze directed at your significant other.
- 6) You have a fight with your best friend, so you:
  - a) Find a way to turn the argument around so it seems like it’s all his/her fault.
  - b) Ignore his/her calls for a few days until you decide if you want to be friends with this person anymore.
  - c) Think of ways to reconcile, and not allow this to affect your friendship.
- 7) You met someone new whom you really like, so you:
  - a) Tell him/her how crazy you are for him/her, but your internal motive is to sleep with him/her.
  - b) Promise him/her “the world” even though you’re not quite sure how much of your promises you’ll keep.
  - c) Go for it, and take it for what it is with an open mind.

**Give yourself five points for every “A,” three points for each “B,” and one point for every “C.”**

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## Quiz: Results

### If your score is 30 or above you're a player.

"A player is someone who dangles the possibility of a potential future commitment to a relationship while at the same time not having any genuine intention of actually committing," says Jasbina Ahluwalia, a relationship expert, matchmaker, radio show host and founder & president, Intersections MatchMaking. "A player doesn't invest in a relationship and is unlikely to stick around." In addition, a player is often defined by intentions rather than actions, explains Allen Bickoff, a Baltimore, MD-based professional dating coach and founder of AskRomeo.com. "Many people confuse the outcome as the determining factor of a player. A player is not one who is intimate with many members of the opposite sex. A player is someone who attracts and seduces members of the opposite sex by manipulating them: telling lies, changing their personality to appear to be a match, making false promises, etc," he says. In fact, most players follow a certain stereotype. "A player is outwardly confident and smooth. Members of the opposite sex are attracted to this person because they're able to modify their outward personality traits to appeal to each individual separately. They are expert marketers and salesmen/women in that they're able to quickly read and adapt themselves to fit every situation," says Bickoff.

### If you've scored 20 to 29 you're a "wannabe player."

"The appearance of 'part-time players' is, I believe, really just a manifestation of fear of rejection," admits Bickoff. "The low status player uses player tactics, but is too afraid of rejection to be as bold as the high status player. Their insecurities are the same, it's just the confidence that is lacking in the former." **For example:** "A guy may appear to be a player with a woman with whom he does not feel there's any real potential, but nonetheless sticks with the woman out of lack of alternatives or until someone with real potential comes along," says Ahluwalia. "That same guy may be willing to commit to a woman with whom he feels there is real potential, and as such is not a true player."

### If your score is 19 or below you're not a player.

"Someone who isn't a player is someone who doesn't change his/her character to garner affection from members of the opposite sex," says Bickoff. "Their skill with members of the opposite sex varies. There are non-players who are great at attracting people, and non-players who can't do it. The intention is the determinate: do they intend to be honest, or lie to get what they desire." Non-players often desire to forge a relationship with someone they're genuinely interested in. "A non-player is interested in investing in a relationship," says Ahluwalia. This person is interested in connecting at a deeper level, and an emotional attachment. His/her actions align with his/her words, and he/she is straightforward about his/her intentions."

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