

127 Questions Before “I Do”



What You Need to Know

It is important during your time of dating and being engaged to ask the right questions. Over the next several weeks, carve out time to ask one another the questions below. Some are tough and uncomfortable, but you **NEED** to be prepared. This is how you enter marriage with your eyes wide open. Answers like, “I haven’t really thought about” are ones you’ll need to revisit.

sex/romance/love

1. If we eliminated physical attraction from our relationship, what would be left?
2. What is the best way for me to show that I love you?
3. If I put on weight, will it affect our sexual relationship? How?
4. Is it important for you to know if I’m a virgin? Why or why not?
5. What do I do that causes you to question my love?
6. What turns you off sexually?
7. Are you open to trying different things if we both agree?
8. How would our relationship be affected if for medical reasons we could not have children?
9. How often should our date nights be after we’re married?
10. Do you think being in love means: (1) Never having to say you’re sorry, (2) Always having to say you’re sorry, (3) Knowing when to say you’re sorry, or (4) Being the first to say I’m sorry?
11. Can we comfortably and openly discuss our sexual needs, preferences and fears?

the past

12. Which childhood experiences influence your behavior and attitude the most?
13. Could any feelings of affection and romance be revived if you met a previous boyfriend/girlfriend even though you feel strongly committed to me?
14. Is there anything in your past of which I should be aware?
15. What did you dislike the most about your previous partners?
16. If your past boyfriends/girlfriends listed your most negative characteristics, what would they be?
17. Do you keep letters and memorabilia from past relationships? Why or why not?
18. Are you comfortable continuing this relationship if there are things in my past that I am not willing to share with you?
19. Have you ever been involved in any criminal activities? What were they?
20. Did your mother or father abuse each other or you in any way- sexually, emotionally, verbally, or physically?
21. Have you ever had to overcome a bad habit? How long ago was that?
22. What was it? Have you ever been violent in past relationships?
23. How did your parents show their love to you growing up?

trust

24. Have there been times when you were uncomfortable with the way I behaved with the opposite sex? If so, when and what did I do?
25. What do I do now or what could I do in the future that would cause you distrust me?
26. Would you be comfortable transferring all your money into my bank account?
27. Would you be comfortable transferring all of your money into a joint account?
28. Who do you feel should come first, your spouse or your children?
29. Is trust automatic until something occurs that takes it away, or does it evolve over time?
30. Do you trust me with money?
31. Is it permissible for us to open each other's mail?
32. Can we answer each other's cell phone?
33. Will we have the passwords to each other's email accounts?
34. Do you have trust issues and insecurities?

the future

35. How are we different? Could our differences be a source of future conflict? Do our differences complement each other?

36. Do you anticipate maintaining your single lifestyle after we are married? That is, will you spend just as much time with your friends, family and work colleagues? Why or why not?
37. How did your family resolve conflicts when you were growing up? Do you approve or disapprove of that method? what will you change or not change to resolve conflicts in your future family?
38. Is there anything about marriage that frightens you?
39. Would you prefer to live in the city, the country, or by the beach? Why?
40. If I wanted to move away from our families for work, would you support me?
41. How would it affect you if I travel on my own frequently to (1) visit family, (2) earn income, (3) pursue a hobby, or (4) deal with stress?
42. Suppose we are experiencing trouble in our marriage. In what order will you seek help from the following to resolve our conflicts: (1) divorce lawyer, (2) your parents, (3) a brother or sister (4) a marriage counselor, (5) me, (6) a church leader, (7) a friend? Why?
43. What role will your family play in our life together?
44. Are there some things that you and I are not prepared to give up in the marriage?
45. What are my hobbies? How will you support my hobbies?
46. Are there any hobbies we can do together?
47. How do we balance holiday and special occasions with both families and also make sure to have special time for us?
48. How do you feel about having our parents come to live with us if the need arises?
49. What is the thing you feel you will be sacrificing the most to marry me?

50. Is there anything you would regret not being able to do or accomplish if you married me?
51. How will we schedule holidays with our families?
52. Do you expect or want me to change in certain areas?
53. What are your expectations about how we will spend our free time?
54. How will we make sure we have quality time together no matter how busy we get?

children

55. Do you want children? If so, how many?
56. If we are unable to have children, should we adopt?
57. Do you anticipate raising our children (1) the same way you were raised, (2) the way I was raised, (3) completely differently from the way we were raised, or (4), a mixture of the way we were both raised?
58. How long would you like to wait before having children?
59. Other than formal schooling, what types of education will our children get and how will they receive them?
60. When we have children, whose responsibility is it to change the diapers, heat the bottles, prepare the meals, do the housework, bathe the child, get up in the middle of the night when a child is crying, take the child to the doctor, buy clothing, and dress the child?
61. What types of discipline would you implement to correct a child's or a teenager's behavior? Were these practices you experienced or are they new ones you have developed on your own?

annoyances

62. If I had bad breath, body odor or wear dirty clothes, will you tell me? Should I tell you? Why or why not? How should we do it?
63. What do you consider nagging? How does it make you feel? Do I nag?
64. Do you approve without reservation of the way I dress? What would you like to see change?
65. Which, if any, of my family members annoy you?
66. What does my family do that annoys you?
67. Would it bother you if I made body noises all the time, like passing gas, burping, or smacking when I chew?
68. Is there anything you do in your line of work that I would disapprove of or that would hurt me?
69. Do you believe that you should stick with a marriage if you are unhappy all the time?
70. When do you need space away from me?

communication

71. Whenever we have difficult feelings about each other, should we (1) remain silent, (2) say something as soon as the difficult feelings arise, (3) wait a certain amount of time before raising the issue, or (4) do something else? If so, what?
72. If you always say you are going to do something but never do it, what is the most effective way to bring this problem to your attention?

73. What did you admire about the way your mother and father treated each other?
74. What is the best way for me to communicate difficult feelings about you so that you are not offended?
75. Who should know about the arguments we have?
76. What makes you not want to talk to me?
77. Do you feel you could communicate with me under any circumstance and about any subject?
78. Do you feel like we have enough heart to heart conversations that connect us emotionally?
79. Are we both good at apologizing?
80. Are we both quick to forgive?
81. Do we truly listen to each other and fairly consider one another's ideas and complaints?
82. Do you feel like you can be assertive with me? Why or why not?

finances

83. What things justify going into debt?
84. What are all your current personal debts?
85. Do you owe the IRS any money?
86. Do you feel stress when facing financial problems? How do you deal with that stress?
87. How often do you use credit cards, and what do you buy with them?
88. How should we prepare for a financial emergency?

89. Do you feel that lack of money is a good reason not to have children?
90. When our child(ren) is/are born, will he or she go to daycare or will one of us stay home to take care of the child? Who will it be?
91. Will we have a budget?
92. Who will be responsible for handling the bills?
93. How do you feel about helping me pay my debts?
94. What are your feelings about saving money?
95. What are your feelings about joint or separate bank accounts or assets in different names? Why?
96. How much money do you have in the bank?
97. What is your credit score?
98. What amount of available money do you need to have to feel comfortable?
99. What are some of your financial goals?
100. What are your thoughts about having debt?

miscellaneous

101. How would you rank all the priorities in your life: work, school, family, spouse, friends, hobbies, and church? Does your ranking reflect the amount of time you spend on each?
102. Are you closer to your mother or father? Why?
103. What is your preferred work schedule, daily or flexible work activities and timetables?
104. What do you fear?

105. What influence, if any, do you believe my family should have on our relationship?
106. To what extent should our parents know our financial condition, whether good or bad, just because they want to? How far should this go?
107. What are your views on pornography?
108. What are your boundaries with alcohol?
109. How would you react if our son or daughter told us they were gay?
110. What are your feelings on racial prejudice?
111. How do you feel about having guns in our home?
112. Is there anyone close to you who feels we should not get married? Why? Should we be concerned about this?
113. What health problems do you have?
114. Have you ever had any psychological problems?
115. When you are in a bad mood, how should I deal with it? How do you deal with it?
116. Would you want to have a pet?
117. What type of pet would you want to have?
118. What church will we attend?
119. How will we make decisions together?
120. How do you handle your anger?
121. How much alone time do you need?
122. What are the boundaries we want to put in place when it comes to dealing with the opposite sex?
123. How important is it to you to keep up physical appearances?
124. Have you ever cheated on someone or been cheated on?

125. How important do you think self-care is?

126. When conflict arises, do we tend to want to fight, avoid it or work it out?

127. How important is spending time in prayer, daily devotions, attending church and **servicing** to you?