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burning A.D.
LOVE

Asheville disclaimer



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Welcome to your guide to creating a profile on MountainX.com's new online dating site, Xpress Love!

This guide will help you select responses to profile questions to guarantee the creation of a "profile net" that will attract the highest number of potential life-partners or lonely, horny online lurkers.

A few words of advice for drafting your initial description:

Don't put anything too serious. Describe yourself in a semi-nonsensical fashion that in part evokes the Appalachian landscape, i.e.:

- "I'm such a river rat."
- "Friends tell me I'm a mountain-Yoda, but my heart pumps pure moonshine."
- Or, something surprisingly ridiculous and unlikely such as, "I'm a total tree monkey."

As you continue describing your peculiar perception of yourself, muddy it up a bit by using contradictory terms (as suggested in self-help book, Split the Difference!).

- "I get crazy car-sick, but I haaaaate walking."
- "I'm not too tall, but you definitely can't miss me!"
- "I'm advertising access to my genitals online, but I'm not a gold-hearted hooker with a hot crack pipe and a Wifi connection."

Drop a music reference:

- "Jerry Garcia-type looking for his leggy black tar heroin."
- "I have a Neil Young smile and Tom Petty feet."
- "One day, I'll slow down and raise children (hopefully girls: Lady and Gaga)."

Play hard to get: "My divorce is almost final."

You're something slightly other than "adorable," or you wouldn't be here. Go with:

- A. I'm perfectly acceptable. B. I look about the same after you've sobered up.
- C. Got some issues I want to resolve all over you.

Deeper:

If you could have a dinner party and invite any 4 people, dead or alive, who'd be coming?

Deliver a list that boasts a sense of order at the hypothetical dinner party, such as the following groupings:

- Joseph Stalin/Leon Trotsky/Lee Harvey Oswald/Sean Penn
- Hailey Duff/Jaime Lynn Spears/Khloe Kardashian/Jeb Bush

My favorite physical activity is: DO NOT SELECT THIS AS ONE OF YOUR QUESTIONS.

- Fact: Many physically attractive people (most, actually) are sedentary and lazy, and you don't want to scare them off, forcing yourself into a life of despair spent running and hiking with some middle.
- Plus, there's a chance that steep-slope roller-blading is probably just a brief, lonely phase you're going through in an attempt to attract the member of a sex. Once this type of thing works, you want to spend your days in bed, not step off a cliff wearing skates.
- Ladies, there are many good reasons not to state your favorite physical activity is "sex," but you're going to do it anyhow. It just comes off, I don't know.

The best thing about Asheville is:

Describe yourself as you only wish other people saw you, but replace "My" with "Asheville's." If, deep down, you believe one day you will be unbelievably rich and famous but don't know how that will happen, put "Mountains."

What do you hate about Asheville?

Describe your most recent ex-boyfriend or ex-girlfriend without names or pronouns.

The first section I look at in the Mountain Xpress is:

Unacceptable responses: • Help Wanted • All of the advertisements, then the table of contents. • Why do they hide the Suicide Hotline each week?

One thing people are surprised to find out about me:

This is where you give a variation of the job-interview worst-quality-about-yourself question: • That I'm so well adjusted. • That I have so much fun on dates. • No matter how much blow I do, I never run out.

The last concert I went to was:

Tell the truth, but in order to CYA, be sure to: • Precede answer with "Actually, ..." • Follow answer with "... if you can believe that. :)" • That will give you lots of wiggle room should they have an opinion on the matter. It's the perfect out, or in. Don't forget the ambiguous winkie emoticon.

My favorite place to eat is:

Don't re-invent the wheel on this one. • If you'll be paying the bill, write, "By a waterfall" or "In a meadow." • If your date will be paying the bill, name a restaurant you've never been to because you can't afford it. • If you're going Dutch, write, "Gerben's Haus of Frikadellen and Stooftpeertjes."

Fill It

I consider myself an open-minded person, but my deal breakers are _____ and _____.

- Acceptable answers (pick any two):
 - Lies
 - Real hard drugs
 - Convicted thieves
- Unacceptable answers:
 - Non-gullible people
 - 12-step life-change bullshit
 - Anger Management class instructors

It's Sunday morning at 10 a.m.

If I'm not still sleeping, I'm _____.

- Correct answer: "Creeping."
- Incorrect answer:
 - "Re-arranging contents of hope chest"
 - "Poking through ex-girlfriend's e-mail inbox."

Would You Rather...

Follow our guide to answering these either/or questions.

Pool or Pacman

Think carefully: do you smoke or are you overweight?

Charlotte St. Computers or Best Buy

Go with Best Buy if your profile features the name "Billy Ray Cyrus" twice.

Guitars or turntables

This answer will reveal your true interests: Beer, or ecstasy.

Beatles or Stones

Not enough room on this page to help you navigate this one. "Beatles" is always safe. You pick the Stones, you're going to have to talk about it.

Orange Peel or Grey Eagle

Hot potato! It's popular to hate on the Orange Peel, except when you see your favorite band perform there. Grey Eagle is a safe pick, but choosing Orange Peel takes some backbone. On the other hand, it's more fun to say Greagle than Orangeel.

Mamacita's or Taco Bell

Even if you've never heard of Mamacita's, pick it. You're not trying to date someone who reads Take 5.

Pie or Cake

Do you smell like a grandparent or do you get depressed and eat sheet cakes all by yourself twice a month?

Cat or dog

Are you trying to say, "My house smells like cat piss" or "My dog will destroy and defecate upon a possession you cherish"?

Harvest Records or Static Age

Whoa, this is a political hand grenade. Go with geographical proximity.

Facebook or Twitter

Picking "Facebook" says, "I'm available and legit, sans mid-coital status updates."

Characteristics

Body type: _____

- Girls, the correct answer is always "curvy."
- Boys, stick with a winner: "Athletic."

Ethnicity: _____

- Avoid "Caucasian." It's just a little dry for dating.
- Go with "Mixed" even if that mix is Scottish and Irish.

Religion: _____ Turn "agnostic" for the sake of a wider dating pool (to some, it enticingly screams, "Save me, save me, I'm drowning!").

Seeks: _____

The best answer for the highest return on investment is: "Man or woman for friendship or dating." No reason to limit your options, or commit to romance. Or remain straight, or remain gay. Just see what bites.

Personality

Dietary preference: _____

"Conscious Omnivore" says, "I care, but not so much that I'm a pain in the ass."

I spend my free time: _____

• Nothing you put will sound likely or interesting. Maybe go with "Plotting" or "contemplating all sorts of things."

• If you like giving or receiving digital-genital stimulation, mention "alternative healing."

• If you need some pot, put: "Training to be an all-natural homeopath" or "hanging out with men who have fat sacks."

Want children:

• You want them so, so bad, and the only way to get them is by saying "Not sure."

• Interestingly, this is a correct answer even if you already have children. It's like saying, "If we click, my kids are gone."

• To describe yourself as selfish and hateful, put "No."

Habits

Smoking: _____

This is a no-brainer: Always put "No." (If you chain-smoke, just pretend like you've fallen off the wagon because something bad happened recently which you'll have to make up and pretend to be deeply affected psychologically from the event, which is sexy.)

Drinking: _____

We highly suggest the answer "Socially," even if that means you flirt with the clerk while celebrating Tuesday afternoon by indulging yourself with a bottle of wine at the gas station.

Drugs: _____

Give a little change-up, like "Whatchou got?" if only to satisfy your curiosity about what they got.