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FREE GUIDE

10 TEXTS THAT GET REPLIES

What to send, when to send it, and when to stop.

Copy them, tweak them, send them. Straight from Steve's own phone.

READ THIS FIRST

TEXTS DON'T MAKE HER FANCY YOU.

Here's what nobody selling "text game" wants you to hear: texts don't make her fancy you. Meeting her does, whether that's in person or the first spark on the app.

Your phone has two jobs. Get the date. Keep the door open when life gets in the way. That's it.

Most men blow it in two ways. They write essays, and they're too nice: agreeable, eager, sugary, with nothing funny anywhere. She's had a hundred of those this week. Be the one who's relaxed, a bit cheeky, and actually asks her out.

THE 3 RULES

1 **Send it when you want to, not when you need to.**
Feeling needy? Put the phone down and go and do something. Send it when the urge has passed.

2 **Ask her out within 3 to 5 messages.**
You're not looking for a pen pal. The longer it stays on the phone, the more likely it dies there.

3 **Ask twice. Then stop.**
No date after two asks? She goes in your "possibles" pile and gets the odd light ping. No chasing, no sulking.

THE 10 TEXTS

COPY THESE. THEN STOP.

01 THE PHOTO PING

When: A few hours after you meet her or match. A day at most.

📷 *A photo of you out doing something: a pint in a decent pub, coffee on a terrace, walking the dog.*

> **Great to meet you. Let's do something soon.**

> **[You with a pint] Recovering from the shock of meeting you. Let's do something soon.**

> **[You walking the dog] He wants to know who you are. I told him to mind his own business. Let's do something soon.**

How it works. Your photo does the talking: you're out, you're fine, you're not sat by the phone. One line, no question, no pressure.

Don't: "Hi, it's Steve from earlier. I hope it's OK to message you. I really enjoyed our chat and I was wondering if maybe..." Stop. Breathe. Delete.

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02 THE FUNNY PING

When: Same timing, if a selfie isn't your thing.

"Great meeting you today." + a funny callback to something from when you met. For example:

> **Great meeting you today. I still can't get over that you thought I was Turkish.**

> **Great meeting you today. Right after, a jet-black cat meowed at me. Must be a good sign.**

> **Great meeting you today. My grandmother always warned me about 5'9" Polish girls with green eyes who like English men. Hope she was wrong.**

How it works. Always reference something from your first meeting, and make it funny and a bit out there.

Don't: "You're so beautiful, I can't stop thinking about you." Too much, too soon, from a man she met once.

03 THE APP OPENER THAT ISN'T "HEY"

When: Your first message after a match.

> **Saw your training pics. Bet I could still thrash you in an arm wrestle.**

> **Did your dad buy you that car?**

> **My cat is much better looking than yours!**

How it works. Pick something from her photos or profile and give it a cheeky, teasing challenge. No generic compliments.

Don't: "Hey." "How's your weekend going?" "You're gorgeous." A paragraph about your job.

04 THE ASK

When: Somewhere in messages 3 to 5, once she's replying with some energy.

> **Right, you clearly need supervision. Drink on Thursday? [Bar], 7.30.**

> **Let's settle the arm wrestle properly. [Bar], Thursday, 7.30. Loser buys the second round.**

> **I've decided you're taking me for a drink. I'll be generous and buy the first one. Thursday, [bar], 7.30?**

How it works. Make it a cheeky challenge, but always with a day, a place and a time. All she has to do is say yes.

Don't: "We should meet up sometime." Or texting for three weeks first. That's how you become her pen pal, and pen pals get ghosted.

05 THE LOCK-IN

When: She can't make it but offers another day. Good news: she's keen.

> **Saturday it is. 7.30, [bar]. Don't be late, I get nervous on my own.**

> **Saturday works. 7.30, [bar]. I'll be the handsome one at the bar.**

> **On the day: Still on for 7.30? I'll be the one at the bar looking suspiciously Turkish.**

How it works. Confirm it with a joke and stop. Nothing else is needed until the day.

Don't: Turn it into a 40-message warm-up. Save the good stuff for the bar.

06 THE "I'M A BIT BUSY" REPLY

When: She ducks the ask with nothing concrete: no other day, no enthusiasm.

> **No worries. Let me know if you'd like to go out sometime.**

> **No problem. The cat and I will try to cope.**

> **Fair enough. Shout when you've escaped.**

How it works. One calm, light line, then the ball's in her court. No sulking, no begging, no list of other days.

Don't: "Oh OK, what about Friday? Or Sunday? Or next week? I'm really flexible!" You're not a dentist's receptionist.

07 THE REVIVAL PING

When: It's gone quiet for a week or two. She's been busy, ill, whatever. Life happens.

📷 *A photo of you somewhere good: a pint in the sun, the sea, a new city.*

> **[You somewhere good] I love it here. Found this neat little bar and thought "I bet [her name] would love it here"... then I realised you haven't been out with me yet. C'mon woman, get on it! How about Thursday?**

> **[You out and about] Saw a black cat earlier. Took it as a sign to message you.**

How it works. No guilt trip and no "where did you go?" Just you having a good life, with the door open.

> **STEVE'S STORY**
>
> *A woman I'd met in Marbella went quiet for a while. She'd been ill, and to be honest I'd let it slide too. Later on I sent her a couple of pictures of me out and about with a pint and asked her out. We met. One relaxed ping did what twenty "hey, how are you?" messages never would have.*

Don't: "Hello?? Did I do something wrong?" Never.

08 THE SECOND (AND LAST) ASK

When: Your ping gets a warm reply.

> **She lives! Right, drink this week before you vanish again. Wednesday or Friday?**

> **The cat's been asking about you. Wednesday or Friday?**

> **Good to hear from you. Let's fix that drink properly. Wednesday or Friday?**

How it works. Tease her lightly for going quiet, then give her two easy choices. It's your second ask, so make it count.

Don't: A third ask if this one doesn't land. Not because you're sulking, but because chasing past two asks only ends in frustration.

09 THE AFTER-DATE TEXT

When: That night or the next morning.

> **Really enjoyed tonight. You're trouble, in the best way.**

> **Tonight was fun. Still not convinced you could win that arm wrestle though. Rematch?**

How it works. Call back to something from the date, keep it cheeky, and leave her smiling.

Don't: A long review of the evening, or three texts before she's even home.

10 THE POSSIBLES PING

When: She's had her two asks and it didn't happen. She goes in the "possibles" pile.

📷 *Every few weeks, something light: a funny thing you saw, a ridiculous animal. No ask attached.*

> **[Photo of a ridiculous dog] This dog has more confidence than most men I know.**

> **[Photo of a black cat] He's back. Should I be worried?**

> **Just saw a woman who looked exactly like you. She was eating three doughnuts. Was it you?**

How it works. Something light every few weeks, no ask attached. Timing changes, and you stay in the picture without chasing.

Tip. A WhatsApp broadcast list sends one message to several people privately, so nobody sees anyone else. Never use a group chat.

Don't: Pinging every week, pinging with a guilt trip, or pinging at 1 a.m. after four pints.

THE WORST HABIT I SEE IN MEN

Being too nice. Agreeable, eager, no jokes, all sugar. "Whatever suits you!" "No rush at all!" "Hope you're having a lovely day!" She isn't looking for a customer service rep. Be warm, sure. But have an opinion, make her laugh, and ask her out like a man who's got other things going on. Because you have.

THE FIRST DATE, IN ONE PARAGRAPH

Keep it simple: a relaxed bar, not a fancy dinner. You pay, always. It isn't to impress her, it's just class. Move on to a second place if it's going well, or call it a night after one. And no pressure, ever.

WANT THE WHOLE PLAYBOOK?

THE TEXTING & FIRST DATE PLAYBOOK

- 50 copy-ready texts for every situation, from the first ping to date two
- Flakes, silence and "months of texting, then ghosted": what to do instead
- Reading her replies: keen, polite or gone
- The first date: where, how long, what to talk about, and who pays
- The mistakes that make women swipe past you

$24

GET THE PLAYBOOK →

stevejabba.gumroad.com/l/playbook

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For adults dating adults. If she says no, or doesn't reply after your second ask, that's your answer. Respect it and move on.