

## **How to Determine if Your Relationship Is Destined to Last**

Anyone can get very excited about the potential of a new relationship to become the next best thing to happen in their lives. Unfortunately, there is no way to guarantee a relationship's stability in the long term. However, there are certain aspects of the bond between you and your partner that can give clues as to the viability and long-term possibilities.

Every relationship is different, and each one will go through different stages, as well. New relationships and those which have lasted for quite some time are all going to experience different stormy arguments and issues. No matter what, every relationship requires constant work by both members involved in order to contribute to its long-term success.

Anyone who has been in a long-term relationship knows that the 'butterflies' and excitement experienced at the beginning never last for long. Typically, this romantic time is very intense, but short-lived. Thus, it never predicts how the future of a relationship will look like.

Many relationships end because one or both partners equate the feelings at the beginning of a relationship as the basis for their love; this causes them to perceive that their partner has lost love and affection toward them, and thus must end the relationship. This is why it's best to take new relationships quite slow, and try to separate the initial romantic feelings from lasting and long-term intimacy that will make the partnership successful.

When trying to assess the potential for your relationship's success, try to be as objective as possible – not subjective to your current feelings. Separate your emotions and feelings toward your partner and vice versa, and truly test the state of the relationship against real life aspects bound to interfere at some point.

Truthfully assess whether you will be comfortable with losing the passionate feelings you experience right now to some degree. If you don't feel you are in the midst of a fairytale romance, this may not be all bad. This latter type of relationship may actually stand a better chance of making it in the long term, as you will be better acclimated to dealing with real life when it inevitably intervenes in the partnership.

There is no black-and-white answer when it comes to discerning the effects and importance of the heart. Obviously, some serious soul searching needs to take place when considering a life-altering choice such as marriage. Your feelings can be taken into account, but a more realistic view of how much you have in common, how well you deal with conflict, and whether you share common goals are more important.

Always remember that taking it slow is much smarter than rushing things. Try to interpret what your new partner's feelings are about you via their language and behavior. Once you have been together for some time, have a conversation about where they would like to see the relationship go in the future, and ensure you have the same ideas about this – otherwise, it may be time to move on and find someone who knows they want to be with you for the long haul.