GENERAL

101 questions to ask before getting engaged

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Deciding to take the next step in a relationship is a momentous decision that shapes the rest of your life. Whether you're thinking about a ring, a proposal, or simply a future together, the questions you ask yourself and your partner now can pave the way for a healthy, lasting partnership. Rather than relying on assumptions or fleeting feelings, a thoughtful conversation helps uncover hidden differences, clarify shared goals, and build a solid foundation of trust and understanding.

Below is a comprehensive guide—101 questions organized into ten key themes—that couples can use to explore every facet of their relationship. These questions are designed to spark honest dialogue, help you gauge compatibility, and ensure that both partners are on the same page before you tie the knot.

1. Personal Values & Beliefs

Values are the invisible compass that directs our choices, priorities, and reactions. Understanding each other's core beliefs helps prevent future conflicts and aligns your life's direction.

1. What does honesty mean to you in a relationship?
2. How do you define respect, and how do you practice it daily?
3. What are your thoughts on loyalty and commitment?
4. How do you prioritize personal growth and self reflection?
5. What role does gratitude play in your life?
6. How do you view forgiveness when mistakes happen?
7. What are your biggest fears or insecurities?
8. How do you handle stress and emotional turbulence?
9. What values do you want to pass on to future children?
10. What does a balanced life look like to you?
11. How important is independence versus interdependence?
12. What does it mean to live authentically?

2. Finances & Money Management

Financial compatibility is often cited as a leading cause of marital strain. Addressing money matters early can prevent misunderstandings and foster a cooperative partnership.

1. What is your current debt situation and how do you plan to manage it?
2. How do you budget for monthly expenses?
3. What is your approach to saving for short term and long term goals?
4. Do you prefer a joint account, separate accounts, or a combination?
5. What is your perspective on credit card usage?
6. How do you handle financial surprises or emergencies?
7. What is your investment philosophy?
8. How do you define financial independence?
9. What are your expectations regarding household contributions?
10. Do you have any financial goals you wish to achieve before marriage?
11. How do you view financial transparency and disclosure?

12. What is your plan for major life purchases, like a home or car?

3. Family & Parenting

Decisions about family and children are deeply personal and can shape the future of a marriage. Discussing these topics early helps avoid misaligned expectations.

1. Do you want children, and if so, how many?
2. What are your thoughts on birth control and family planning?
3. How do you envision parenting responsibilities divided?
4. What are your beliefs about discipline and education?
5. How do you feel about extended family involvement?
6. What cultural or religious traditions do you want to incorporate?
7. How would you handle disagreements about childrearing?
8. What is your stance on adoption or fostering?
9. What are your expectations regarding childcare costs?
10. How do you plan to balance work and family life?
11. What does a “family” look like to you?
12. How do you plan to honor each other’s family legacies?

4. Career & Work Life

Work shapes identity, time, and stress levels. Understanding each other’s career ambitions and work habits can prevent resentment and ensure mutual support.

1. What are your current career goals?
2. How do you handle work related stress?
3. What level of flexibility is important to you?
4. Do you anticipate relocating for job opportunities?
5. How do you view work–life balance?
6. What is your approach to professional development?
7. How do you feel about taking career risks?
8. What is your ideal work environment?
9. How do you manage time away from home?
10. What are your expectations for support during career changes?
11. How do you handle conflict with colleagues or supervisors?
12. What role does career satisfaction play in your overall happiness?

5. Future Goals & Dreams

Shared aspirations create a sense of purpose and direction. Aligning your long term visions helps you grow together rather than drift apart.

1. What are your personal dreams that you hope to achieve in the next decade?
2. How do you see your life 10 years from now?
3. What does “retirement” mean to you?
4. Do you want to travel, and if so, where?
5. What hobbies or interests do you want to pursue?
6. How do you plan to give back to the community?
7. What is your vision for your home environment?

8. How do you envision your relationship evolving over time?
9. What does success look like to you personally and as a couple?
10. How do you handle setbacks or failures?
11. What legacy do you want to create?
12. How do you balance ambition with contentment?

6. Relationship Dynamics & Communication

Effective communication and healthy dynamics are the backbone of any lasting partnership. Discussing how you interact can uncover patterns and improve connection.

1. How do you prefer to resolve disagreements?
2. What communication style works best for you—direct, reflective, or a mix?
3. How do you express affection and appreciation?
4. What are your expectations for intimacy and emotional closeness?
5. How do you handle feelings of jealousy or insecurity?
6. What role does humor play in your relationship?
7. How do you keep the spark alive in a long term partnership?
8. What are your boundaries regarding privacy and personal space?
9. How do you support each other's mental health?
10. What does "teamwork" look like to you?
11. How do you celebrate milestones and achievements?
12. What are your expectations for conflict resolution in front of others?

7. Health & Lifestyle

Health choices and lifestyle habits influence daily life and long term well being. Aligning these aspects can reduce friction and promote shared wellness.

1. What are your dietary preferences and restrictions?
2. How do you approach exercise and fitness?
3. What is your stance on alcohol, tobacco, or recreational substances?
4. How do you manage stress and relaxation?
5. What are your sleep habits and priorities?
6. How do you handle medical appointments and health decisions?
7. What are your expectations regarding health insurance and medical costs?
8. How do you feel about alternative medicine or holistic practices?
9. What role does spirituality play in your well being?
10. How do you support each other during illness or injury?
11. What is your plan for preventative health care?
12. How do you balance work, family, and personal time?

8. Religion & Spirituality

Shared spiritual or religious beliefs can deepen connection, but differences require respectful understanding and compromise.

1. What is your faith background?
2. How important is religious practice in your daily life?
3. Do you wish to attend services together?

4. How do you view the role of faith in marriage?
5. What are your beliefs about spirituality outside organized religion?
6. How do you handle religious differences with family?
7. What traditions would you like to start or maintain?
8. Do you see a role for prayer or meditation in your relationship?
9. What is your perspective on religious holidays and observances?
10. How do you support each other's spiritual growth?
11. What are your expectations for children's religious upbringing?
12. How do you reconcile differing spiritual viewpoints?

9. Living Arrangements

Decisions about where and how you live shape daily routines, finances

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