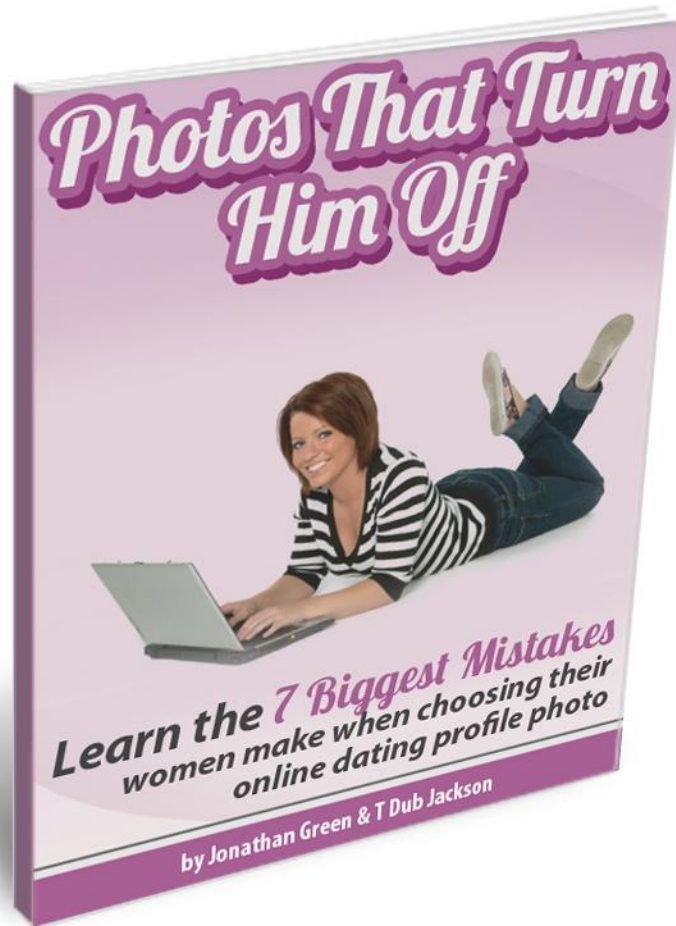


Photos That Turn Him Off!

Learn the 7 Biggest Mistakes Women Make When
Choosing Their Online Dating Profile Photo



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The Seven Big Online Profile Mistakes that Women Make with their Photos



1. Pictures with a Kid
2. Pictures with an animal
3. All group photos
4. Pictures with someone better looking
5. Pictures with other guys
6. Misleading Pictures – far away, fuzzy, sneaky angle
7. Trendy Pictures – pic in the mirror, hair covering face, rearview mirror



Introduction



Men and women are looking for different things from life and we really do speak completely different languages. Men often put things in their profiles that other men will think are really cool, shooting guns or holding up a dead animal come to mind, but that most women don't want to see that in an online profile.

The purpose of your online dating profile is to catch the type of man you want to date and to weed out the type of man you are not attracted to. Your profile itself is very important but every single man online looks at your pictures first and then reads the profile. So even if your profile is amazing, if your pictures send the wrong message, Mr. Right will never read it. I

want to share with you the mistakes that you are probably making with your photos on your online profile right now.

First of all, if you don't have any pictures in your online profile most people will simply ignore you. Nearly every online dating site from Plenty of Fish to Match to OKCupid to eHarmony allows you to filter out any profiles without pictures. I don't know any men who bother looking at or responding to profiles that don't have pictures.

There is a natural assumption that a profile without a picture is either fake or a woman with a good reason to hide her image. I actually started online dating in the mid-90s. Back then I would meet girls off of AOL and this was long before anyone had pictures online. Digital cameras didn't exist yet and only the rich had scanners. I know I certainly didn't have one.

Back then you would ask a girl to describe herself and then when you went to meet her, it would be a big gamble. I'm 5'11, average build, with blue eyes and brown hair. In your mind you are now creating a picture of me, if you haven't seen one already. But there are millions of men who fit that description. So the girls never looked the way I imagined. Those days are now gone forever, so most men avoid picture-less profiles.

Men are visual creatures. We are visually stimulated and our attraction starts with the first time we see a woman. Different men are attracted to different traits so we want to make sure that you can get access to the largest pool of men who will actually be attracted to you when they meet you in person. If you have no picture, some men will meet you but then it's a gamble as to whether or not they will be physically attracted to you. So why waste time meeting men that aren't a good fit?



Far too many online profiles focus on getting as many messages and meetings as possible, without focusing on your real goal. You want to meet a great guy. You want a boyfriend. And eventually you even want a husband. So if we start with that goal in mind, we can create a profile that maximizes your chances of finding the dream guy that's out there waiting for you, rather than just focusing on getting as many emails a day as possible.

To that end I think it's important to know the seven biggest mistakes that women make with their pictures on online dating profiles. If you take the time to correct these mistakes, you will start getting a lot more messages. And more and more of them will be from the type of man you are trying to attract.



Mistake 1

Pictures with Children in them

Every day I see dozens of profiles where women have a picture of them with their little sister, their nephew, their cousins, their best friend's kid, etc. This is the biggest mistake that you can make with your online profile.

Every man who sees a picture of a woman with a child on her profile assumes that the child is hers. I know that a lot of women explain their relationship to the child in the description. The only reason I started noticing that was when I began doing extensive research for my new book.

Most men will see a picture of you with that child and immediately decide whether or not to read the profile based on whether or not they want to date a woman with children. The more attractive you are, the more likely a man is to still email you.

In his mind he is thinking, "I don't want to date a woman with kids, but she's so hot...."



We want to avoid this entire thought process early on. You want to short circuit this thought process. You don't want a man's first thought about you to be along these lines. If you actually do have children there are different ways of approaching the issue, but if they aren't actually your kids you definitely don't want to put them in your online profile.

What you have done is screened out about eighty percent of the male population. I personally don't want to date a woman who has children at this point in my life. My father married my mother when she already had a child and I know that it was always a major part of their marriage.

There are people who understand how I feel and people who feel it's completely unfair. But their opinions don't matter. All that matters is that a lot of men have this mindset. I live in a city right now where a large percentage of the women I meet already have children. So as soon as I meet a woman like this, I have to start thinking about if I'm ready to be a father.

This is how men's minds work. Now instead of thinking about her, I'm thinking about all of the responsibility, etc.

Since I'm not at that place in my life right now, to date a woman with a child would be a waste of my time. But more importantly it would be a waste of her time. There is a man out there who is a better match for her and I don't want to keep her from meeting him.

This gives you a little bit of insight into how men think about a woman if she has a child. And if you have a picture of a child in any of your online dating profiles, men will instantly assume it's yours.





Having a child in your picture only leaves you with two groups of men. The first group is men who have children of their own or who are desperate to become fathers. These guys are looking at long-term relationships. So if you don't have kids you are going to start getting a ton of messages from fathers.

So now your inbox is full of messages from men who are the wrong fit for you. You have accidentally screened out the men you do want to date and screened in the men you don't want to.

The other group of men who will still message you are guys who are looking for fast love. Guys who are looking to see you for a very short relationship won't care about your single parent status. They aren't going to be around long enough to even meet your kids.

This is even worse as now you are only getting emails from two opposite ends of the spectrum. Guys who want to raise your kids and guys who have already decided to dump you before they've even met you.

So now all you have are "nice guys" and jerks. You have designed a profile that keeps normal, quality guys from messaging you.



Mistake 2

Pictures with an Animal

Do you really want a man's first impression of you to be that you are a cat lady?

As you know there are two big groups of people in this world. Those who love cats and those who love dogs. And rarely do the two groups mix.

A picture of a man with an animal shows that he is nurturing and has the right qualities to be a father. That's something that a lot of women are attracted to. Most men are not looking for a woman whose biological clock is ticking so loudly that they can hear it through their computer. A woman with a dog in her arms is a woman desperate for companionship.

It might not be a fair characterization; it's simply how men's minds work.



I had a long talk about this last night with a woman I know who owns two dogs. Whenever I see a woman with a pet, my first thought is that she's just filling the gap until she starts having kids. Having worked with thousands of men I know that I am not the exception.

I am a dog person and if I see a woman with a cat or even worse multiple cats in one of her profile pictures it immediately decreases the odds that I will message her. I have dated women who own cats, but in those cases I had a chance to meet the woman first.

There is nothing wrong with having a pet. But posting a picture of your pet in your online profile means it's more important to you than your personality. Because you are showing him the pet first.

Recently, I have noticed that some women are taking this a step further and posting a picture of their pet by itself. This is not a good idea. Men are looking at your pictures for one reason, to decide if they think you are pretty enough for them to read your profile. Putting a picture of a pet or your car or anything else that isn't you is basically wasting one of your picture spots.

Men see this is wasting their time. They asked you the question, "What do you look like?" and you replied with a picture of your dog. It comes off as either dishonest or dumb. And you don't want to send either of those messages.

Pets are very rarely a deal breaker for people, so it's better to wait and introduce someone to your pet after you have a connection. There is no positive to be gained from a picture with a pet in it. Only negatives.



Mistake 3

Group Photos



There is nothing more annoying than playing a game of Where's Waldo when I'm looking at a woman's profile. Sometimes it's astounding the lengths a woman will go to, to make sure that nobody can be sure what she looks like.

I have seen profiles where the same woman has her hair dyed multiple colors in different pictures. I couldn't figure out if the profile was for the brunette or the blond. The face kept changing.

More and more women are doing this for some reason. There is an affect that happens when a man sees a group of women. He combines all their best features in his brain and imagines that is what all the women look like. But that woman doesn't actually exist. It's one of the many flaws in men's brains.

I can't tell you how annoying it is to try and scroll through a bunch of pictures and guess which girl the profile is for. Two guys will look at the same picture and guess a different woman.

So now you are getting messages for you and for your friend. Your inbox will be cluttered with messages from a man who decided he was more attracted to your friend before he even met you. That's only going to waste more of your time and cause problems if you do actually start dating.

I know that most women put pictures of themselves and pictures of group shots in their profiles.



Mistake 4

Pictures with your Best Friend



This too causes a lot of problems. If you have a picture of you with a woman who is prettier, you get the problem above. The guy who would have been attracted to you is now attracted to your friend's face and your personality.

If you have a picture of you with a woman who is less attractive, the man who was attracted to you is now less attracted to you. He will combine the total attractiveness of the women in the picture and divide by the number of women.

In either case, you have wasted another slot in your profile pictures.



Mistake 5

Pictures with a Guy

Most people just go through their Facebook profile and pick the photos that they look the cutest in. The problem with this technique is that we are rarely in photographs alone. I know that for me, about ninety percent of my photos are me with other people and the other ten percent are photos of just me that I took myself.

Often when you are perusing the photos you already have of yourself, the time you look the best is when you dressed up to go out with another man. You took the time to look your best that night, so of course it's tempting to reuse that same effort on your online dating profile.

You looked great that night, so you want to use that photo.

This sends the wrong message to guys who are looking at your profile. In the section on your profile itself, I'll talk more about this, but a lot of women start off their online dating profiles by saying they are just looking for friends and not someone to date. This picture sends the same message.



When a man sees you with another man, he'll assume it's the competition. Whenever I see a woman in a photo with a man I think it's her boyfriend. Or maybe she's single, but she's still not over him. If a man is in your online dating profile, he is probably still in your life. And that's not a message you want to send to someone when they are first deciding if they want to contact you.

If you are still hanging around with an ex boyfriend, I know that every once in a while something happens. And so I start to factor in whether or not I want to deal with that situation when I'm just looking at your profile pictures. I went from deciding if I think you are cute and my type, to wondering if I'm going to have to deal with some awkward conversation about your ex after a few days.

Just recently this actually happened to me. I met a lovely tall pharmacist and we had arrangements to go on a date that Wednesday. On Tuesday she went out with her ex and Wednesday morning I got the cancellation text letting me know that she is going to try and figure out things with him before she sees anyone else.

Most men have had this conversation. We know that exes have a lot of power and we really only want to deal with women who are fully single. Not just a little single. If you are on a dating site and you really are single, your profile should reflect that.



There is a secondary reason why photos with other men are not a good idea. Even though the Constitution bans it, we all judge each other by the company we keep.



Imagine that you saw my dating profile and there are pictures of me with three pretty blonde women who are all the same height. If you are a brunette, you are probably going to skip over me. You will immediately think, “he only dates blondes that are 5’7” and then move on to the next profile.

But what if I happen to have three sisters who are blonde and I only date brunettes. By sending the wrong message I have screened out the women I am most attracted to.

Most of us date people who are very different from each other. I have dated women from three different continents from myriad races and nationalities. For me attraction is completely subjective. When I meet a woman I either feel something or I don’t. So I want to give myself the option to decide if I am attracted to someone. I don’t want a flawed message in my dating profile to take that choice away from me.

I recently saw a picture of a lovely woman that I was attracted to online. Her third profile picture was her with two thugs throwing up gang signs. Do you think I messaged her? For all I know she only met those guys for two minutes in a club and thought it was a great picture of her. But I don’t want to have to hang out with those dudes if I meet her. So I nexted her and moved on.



Mistake 6

Trick Photography



The whole purpose of your photos is to let someone get the same information they would get if they saw you in real life for 10 seconds. So why try to be sneaky?

Taking pictures from crazy angles and doing everything you can to keep men from seeing what you actually look like is counter-productive.

This happened to a good friend of mine just two weeks ago. He met a girl on a niche dating site that was into spirituality and personal development just like him and they connected via email and on the phone. When they finally met, his first thought was, “whose photos did she use?” He tried to be polite for 20 minutes and then he ran out of there.

Men have this natural instinct to give people the benefit of the doubt. If we can’t really see what you look like in your photos, we will round up and imagine you look like what we hope you look like. Even though there is only a 1% chance of this, we don’t want to pass that up.

So you take all photos of you in the distance around the world showing you are a great traveler, or you only show close ups of your face because you love your new haircut. This is all great, but it’s only going to lose you time. You will spend time connecting with a guy online and on the phone and then when he meets you, he is going to disappear because he will feel tricked.

You don’t want to waste your time catching the wrong fish. If a man isn’t attracted to what you really look like in photos, he’s not going to be attracted to you in real life. You are just delaying the inevitable and there is no benefit to this. What you really want is to find the men out there who are super attracted to you.



Mistake 7

Trendy Pictures

Just because you see other women doing it, doesn't make it a good idea.

Researching for this guide, I saw dozens of pictures of women in their cars. There is no good angle from which to take a picture in a car. I have seen the self-photo with the seat belt. I have seen the picture in the rearview mirror. Even the open door shot of a girl in her driver's seat.

None of these pictures is a good idea.

It doesn't show you at a normal angle and always gives false information. I know that some of these angles seem really artistic or cute to you, but to guys they just don't give the right information. The picture itself shouldn't be more important than the subject of the photo. YOU.

Taking a picture with your iphone in your bathroom mirror is another scourge of the Internet lately. Something always goes wrong with this one. Either the flash goes off and there is a big starburst in the middle of your photo. Or the camera is blocking your face or some other part of your body. It also kind of sends the message that you are 15. Because that's the age of the girls who started this trend.



Conclusion



The real purpose of your online pictures is to get men to want to read your profile and message you. You want your pictures to generate the maximum interest possible from the men you want to date. You don't want to start screening out men until they are reading the text of your profile. That's where you can clearly state what kind of woman you are and what you are looking for in a man and in your next relationship.

It's worth taking the time to go out and take good photographs for your online profile. You don't have to go to a professional studio and get glamour shots or anything, but taking the right types of photos is really worth the effort. Isn't 30 minutes of your time reasonable to spend to find the man of your dreams?

Men are completely visual creatures and if you've read *Girl Gets Ring*, you know that every man is attracted to different things. I have a list of things that I personally look for in women, that most of my friends don't. So when I'm looking for women online or in real life, I am operating from a different manual than other men. You can't be everything to everybody, so don't even try. Just realize that there is a man out there scouring the online dating sites looking for you.

He already likes how tall you are and what your hair looks like. When he imagines his dream girl, he sees you. So why not let him actually find you?

