

TIPS FOR MAKING & KEEPING FRIENDS

Be accepting.
Not everyone talks, acts, and looks like you do. (How boring if they did!)

Be a good listener.
Look at people when they're talking to you and genuinely pay attention to what they're saying.

Don't be a show-off.
Your abilities and interests are unique, but that doesn't mean you have to rub it in.

Don't just talk about your problems.
Include your friends in the good times, too.

Do your share of the work.
Any relationship takes effort. Don't always depend on your friends to make the plans and carry the weight.

Let people know you're interested in them.
Don't just talk about yourself; ask questions about others.

Be honest.
Tell the truth about yourself and your beliefs. When asked for your opinion, be sincere.

Reach out if someone is being left out.
Don't always wait for someone else to make the first move. A simple "hi" and a smile go a long way.

But . . . temper your honesty with diplomacy.
The truth doesn't have to hurt. Sometimes frankness is inappropriate and unnecessary.

Learn to recognize the so-called friends you can do without.
Don't put up with friends who aren't really friends at all.