DATING IN REXIBURG

Case Study

HI, I'M MARY

Dating is something I have struggled with. As many of my friends find their partners, I am seemingly left behind. I know many people feel the same way.

I wanted to change that. At first, this account was created to show my dating journey, and hopefully help me find someone. As I revisited it, I wanted to tweak it a bit. Now, it shows my dating journey, but it also teaches how to date yourself, how to have self-love, my advice for dating, and showing others that their dating life doesn't control their worth.

I wanted to empower women to take control of their dating lives and love themselves more. And I think I did just that.



GOALS

Primary

- Inspire women to take control of their dating and self-love journeys
 - KPI's: DM's, comments, mentions

Secondary

- Successfully engage people with my content and keep them coming back for more
 - KPI's: saves, watch time, engagement rate

Tertiary

- Reach people outside of Rexburg
 - KPIs: follower information

STRATEGY

CONTENTTHEMES

- Personal dates
 - I took myself on dates and vlogged the process
 - This was to show how people can take themselves on dates and learn to spend time by themselves
- Date vlogs
 - I went on dates with friends and vlogged the process
 - These were to show different date ideas instead of the basic ones

- Date reviews
 - After the dates with other people, we sat down and recorded us reviewing the date idea (not the relationship)
- Love languages
 - These were carousels showing how you can cater to your personal love languages and others
 - The purpose of these posts was to teach people how to show love to themselves

CONTENT THEMES

- Saveable advice
 - These were carousels that provided advice and ideas for dating others and yourself
 - This included things like date ideas, conversation prompts, etc
- Dating yourself talk
 - These were videos where I talked or showed advice for dating yourself

- Dating yourself homework
 - Once a week I explained a list of 3 things people could do that week to show more love to themselves
 - I elaborated on each one and made it entertaining
- Dating talk
 - These were videos where I just talked about dating; my advice and experiences

POSTING SCHEDULE

I posted five times a week, Monday through Saturday. Sometimes on TikTok, I would post more than one time a day.

M	T	W	TR	F	S
 Dating talk Saveable advice 	Dating talkSaveable adviceFun	• Love languages	Dating talkHumorFun	• Date vlog	• Date review

PLATFORMS

Instagram

Engagement

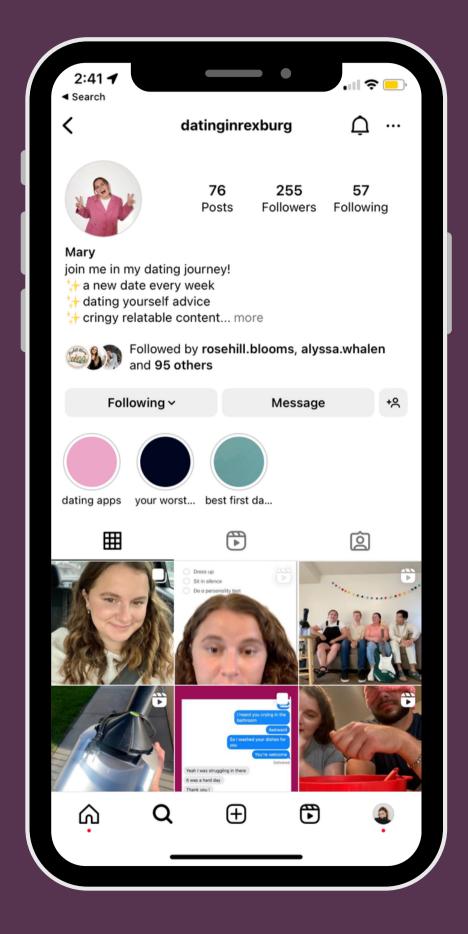
I respond to all DMs and comments. I have conversations with my followers and others who engage with my content.

Content

- More carousels
- More planned-out

videos

More dating talk



PLATFORMS

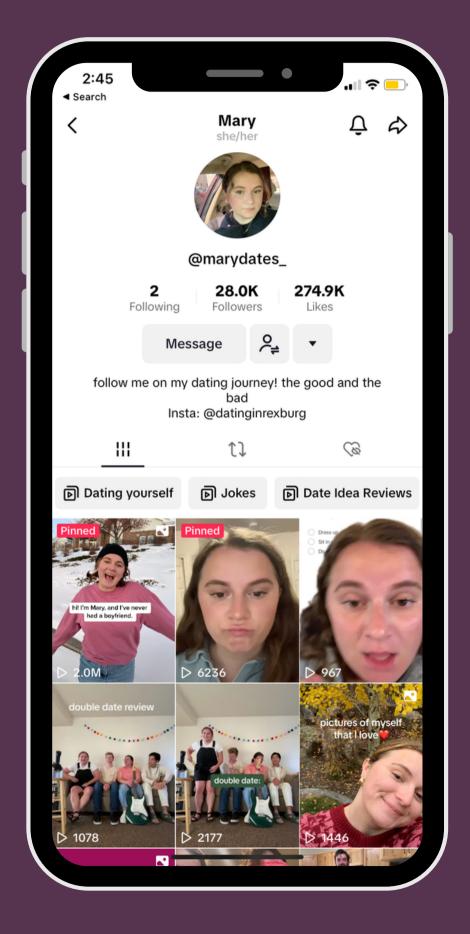
TikTok

Engagement

I research "dating yourself" videos and comment on them if they are posted this year. I repost all videos I see that are relevant to my content. I respond to as many comments as I can, sticking to my voice and tone.

Content

- More dating yourself
- Fewer carousels
- TikTok doesn't allow my account to post carousels a lot of the time



CONTENT PLANNING

In order to be organized with my content, I planned out all of my content before posting even started. The visual on the right shows how I first brainstormed specific content ideas I could use, then planned the general idea for each day that I would post.

Below is a segment of my content calendar, where I planned out each post idea I would use for that day. This way I could look at what the content theme was for that day, then pick a specific content idea to create.

Week 7		Monday, Jun 12,	Tuesday, Jun 13,	Wednesday, Jun 14,	Thursday, Jun 15,	Friday, Jun 16,	 Pickle ball
	Content	How to: have confidence in dating		Love languages, others, physical touch	Dating yourself homework	Date overview	SodaFlip a penny
Week 8		Monday, Jun 19,	Tuesday, Jun 20,	Wednesday, Jun 21,	Thursday, Jun 22,	Friday, Jun 23,	 Photoshoot Floating the river How to's Meet people Deal with rejection
	Content Idea	girls night	dating yourself advice	Love languages, others, words of affirmation	dating yourself homework		
Week 9		Monday, Jun 26,	Tuesday, Jun 27,	Wednesday, Jun 28,	Thursday, Jun 29,	Friday, Jun 30,	
	Content Idea	Interview: best date		Love languages, others, quality time	dating yourself homework	date overview	Get confidenceTalk to people
Week 10		Monday, Jul 3,	Tuesday, Jul 4,	Wednesday, Jul 5,	Thursday, Jul 6,	Friday, Jul 7,	Saturday, Jul 8,
	Content	How to: deal with rejection	My favorite love songs	Love languages, others, gifts	Humorous reel/trending sound		personal date
		Monday, Jul 10,	Tuesday, Jul 11,	Wednesday, Jul 12,	Thursday, Jul 13,	Friday, Jul 14,	Saturday, Jul 15,
	Content Idea	Date ideas		Love languages, others, acts of service	Humorous reel/trending sound	date overview	date review

Dating in Rexburg

Content ideas:

- Rating dates I go on
 - Get people to set me up with blind dates
 - o One date a week
 - Do a video with him after?
 - Have a list of criteria to fill
- Dating yourself
 - Dates by myself
 - How to date yourself (pull information from speech)
- Interviewing people about their dating experiences
 - First kiss
 - Worst date
 - What do you look for
 - Red flags
- Dating humor
- Get ready for the dates with me videos
- What to wear for a date
- First date tips
- Cheap dates
 - Walks

CREATION PROCESS

Talking Videos

- **1.** Get in good lighting (ring light, natural light, etc)
- **2.** Write out talking points
- **3.** Practice talking
- 4. Record!
- **5.** Edit out any mistakes with InShot

CREATION PROCESS

Compilation Videos

- **1.** Select old videos I have that are relevant or aesthetic
- **2.** Choose a sound that is partially trending and invokes emotion
- **3.** Trim videos together to match the sound I have chosen

CREATION PROCESS

Graphics

- I had a style guide I created for my brand, including colors and typography
- Each graphic fit into a different content theme, which had a set template I created myself at the beginning. This made creating them easier and faster
- I used Canva, but none of their templates. All templates I made myself in order to make the process easier



League Spartan

PT Serif

TEMPLATES

These are templates I created in Canva to help my creation process go easier and faster.

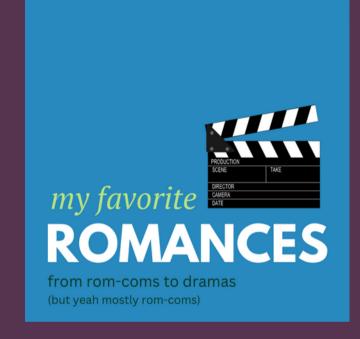


ION WORDS OF AFFIRMATION WO

LOVE LANGUAGES

showing others love

ION WORDS OF AFFIRMATION WO





TY TIME QUALITY TIME QUALIT'

LOVE LANGUAGES

showing yourself love

TY TIME QUALITY TIME QUALIT'



HASHTAGS & SEO

I used 1-5 hashtags in each post. When I first started posting, I didn't think too much about captions. I mainly just put what I thought of right then and moved on. Eventually, I created longer captions with more keywords. This means including words that people could be searching for that relate to my content. This was to help people find my content through the Explore page.

Hashtags:

#datingyourself

#selflove

#mentalhealth

#datingadvice

#travelingalone

#lovelanguages

#dating

If the post was more specific, I also added a more specific hashtag.

ADAPTATIONS

Halfway through this project, I decided to make these changes:

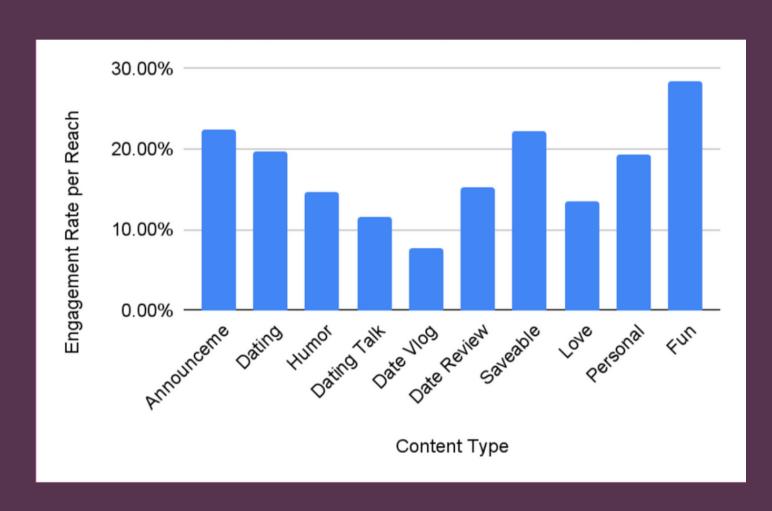
- Show my face in almost every single video
- Create longer captions on Instagram
- Focus more on "dating yourself" content
- Add hooks to the beginning of videos

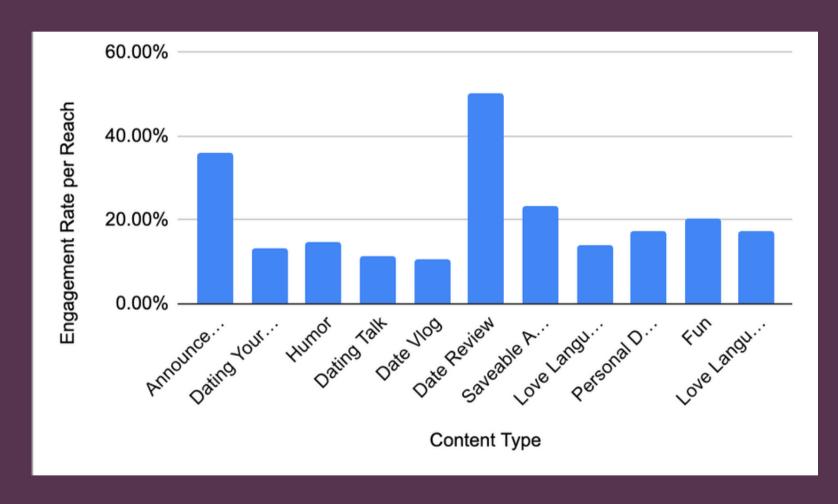
These changes helped increase engagement and improved my content overall.

EVALUATION

CONTENT THEME

Instagram Engagement Rate Per Reach





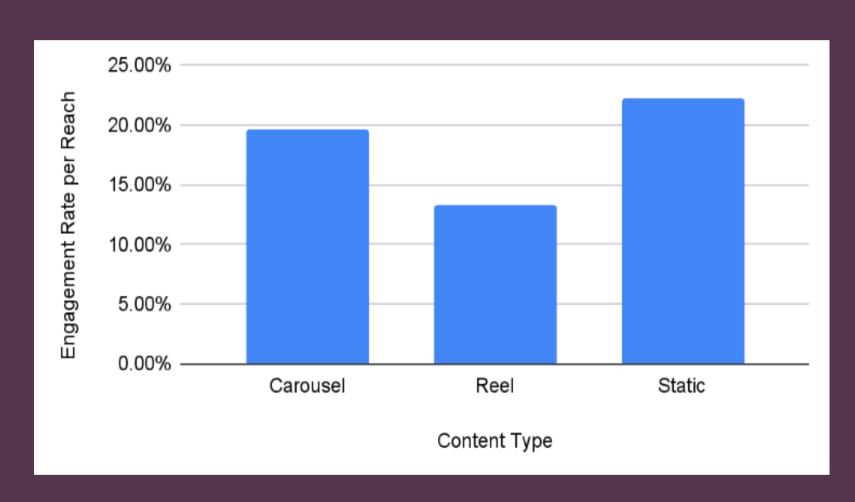
Halfway Report

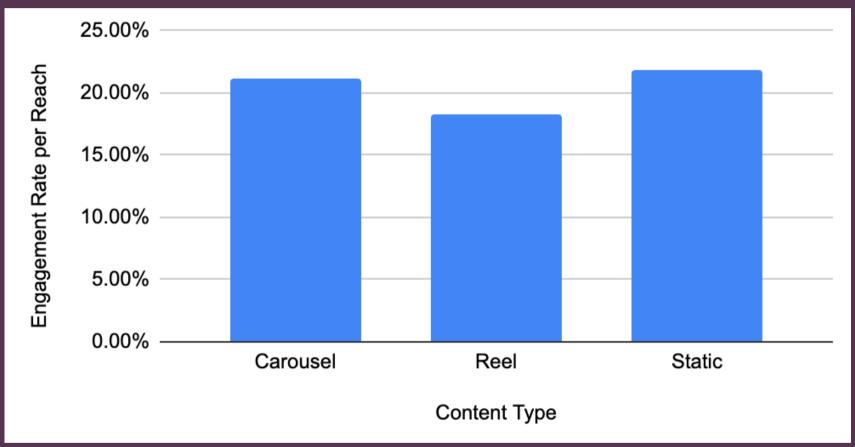
Final Report

These graphs show how the different content themes performed on Instagram. In the beginning, "fun" had the highest engagement rate. However, I had only posted one post for that category. Once it all evened out in the end, Date reviews performed the best. This is because my followers liked to comment their thoughts on the date and how it went. After that, saveable advice did the best, since they all had many saves.

CONTENTTYPE

Instagram Engagement Rate Per Reach





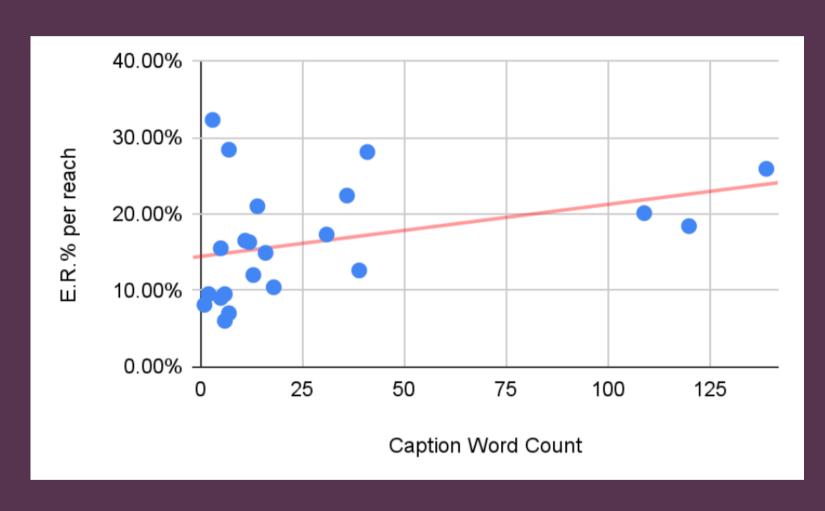
Halfway Report

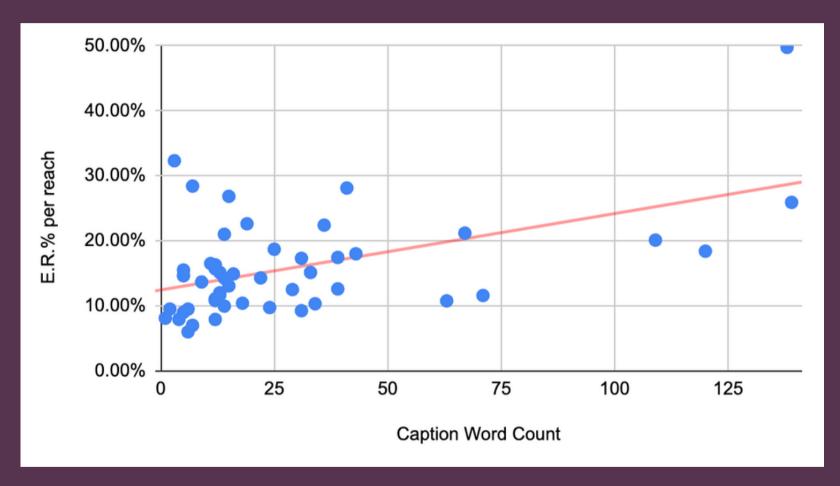
Final Report

These graphs show how the different content types performed on Instagram. Carousels and static posts had higher engagement rates. However, reels got more reach. Carousels and static posts got more engagement since they had more information on them, and people had their thoughts to comment. I also had more calls to action in my carousel posts than in my reels.

MORD COUNT

Instagram Engagement Rate Per Reach





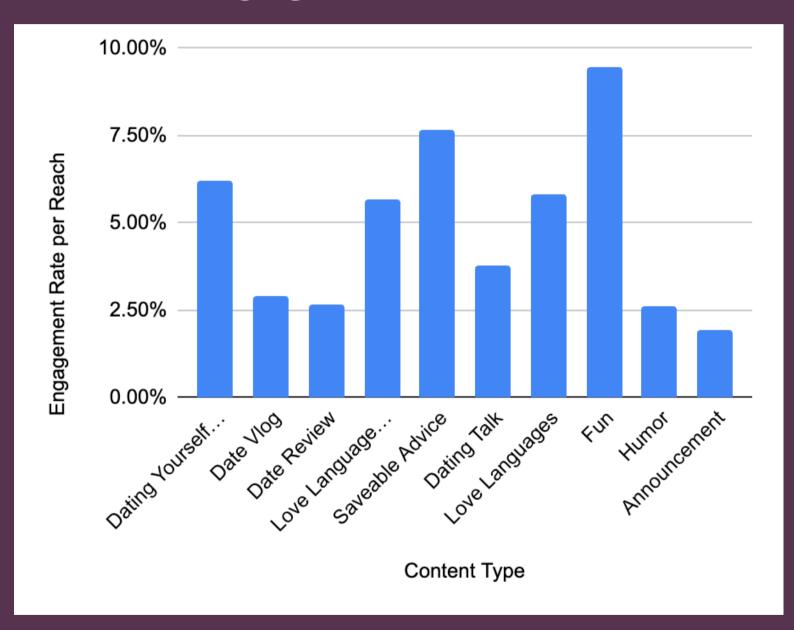
Halfway Report

Final Report

These graphs show how the caption word count affected the engagement rate on posts on Instagram. Halfway through, I discovered that higher word counts received a slightly higher engagement rate. This is something I applied more throughout my content, but still kept most of my captions 10-50 words.

CONTENTIOPIC

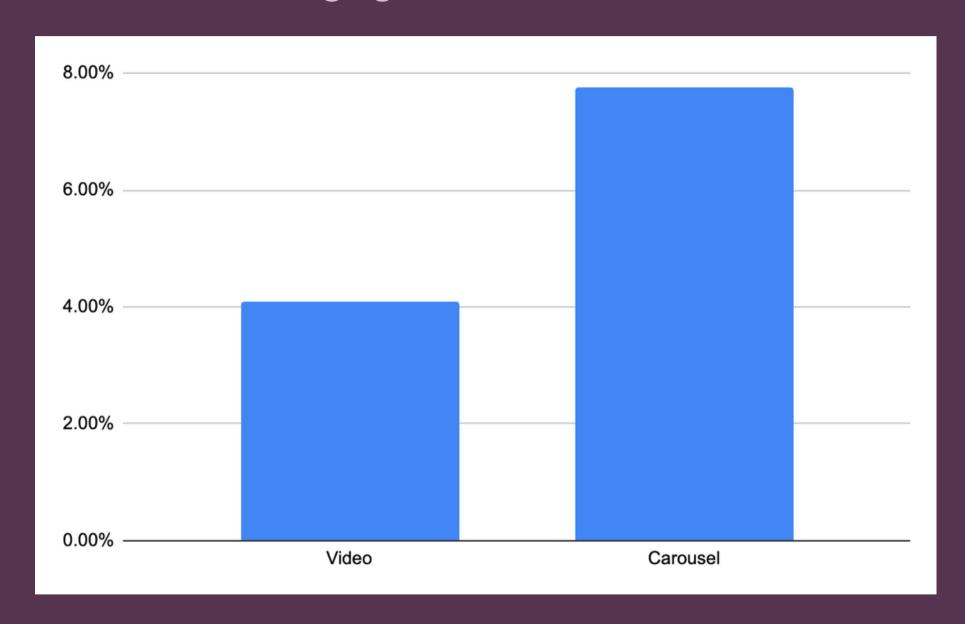
TikTok Engagement Rate Per Reach



This graph shows how the content themes performed on TikTok. This graph shows the average engagement rate per reach. It shows the "fun" content as having the highest engagement rate. This is because I only posted one "fun" post. It had an engagement rate of 9%. However, the saveable advice and dating yourself topics are the more accurate and highest performing. These had high engagement because people enjoyed it and had things to say about it. The saveable advice received many save every time.

CONTENTTYPE

TikTok Engagement Rate Per Reach



This graph shows how videos versus carousels perform on TikTok with engagement rates. Carousels have a much higher engagement rate per reach since they have more information, and they often get many saves. I wanted to post more carousels, but my TikTok account had a glitch where it wouldn't give me that feature for weeks at a time. So whenever it was working, I would post 3-5 carousels in a row while I could.

ENGAGEMENT

Rate Per Reach

16.71%

Instagram
Engagement Rate
First Half of Posting

22%

Instagram
Engagement Rate
Second Half of Posting

3.74%

TikTok Engagement Rate First Half of Posting 5.7%

TikTok Engagement Rate Second Half of Posting

AUDIENCE

The audience I started with was women 18-24 who lived in Rexburg, Idaho, most of them being my friends. My goal was to change this audience to women all over the country, or even the world. I was able to do just that. The next slide shows my channel's current audience analytics,

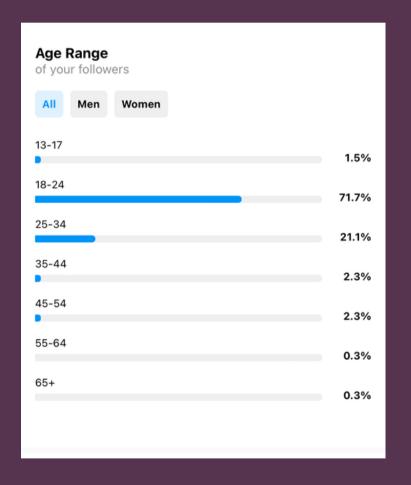
Instagram

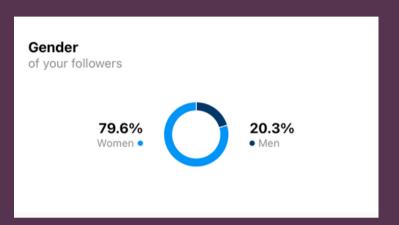
157 -> 254 followers

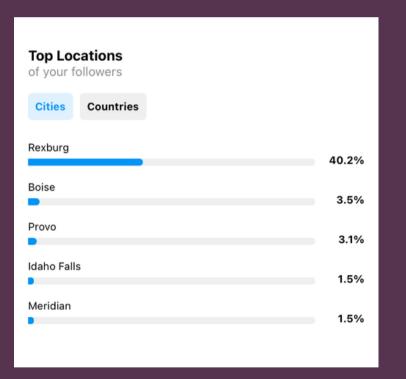
TikTok

 $0 \rightarrow 28.0K$ followers

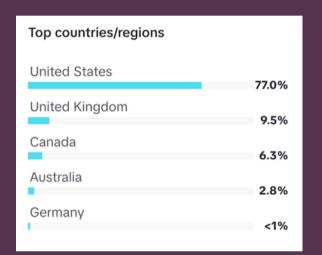
INSTAGRAM

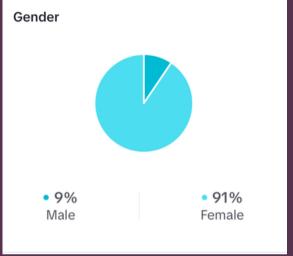






TIKTOK







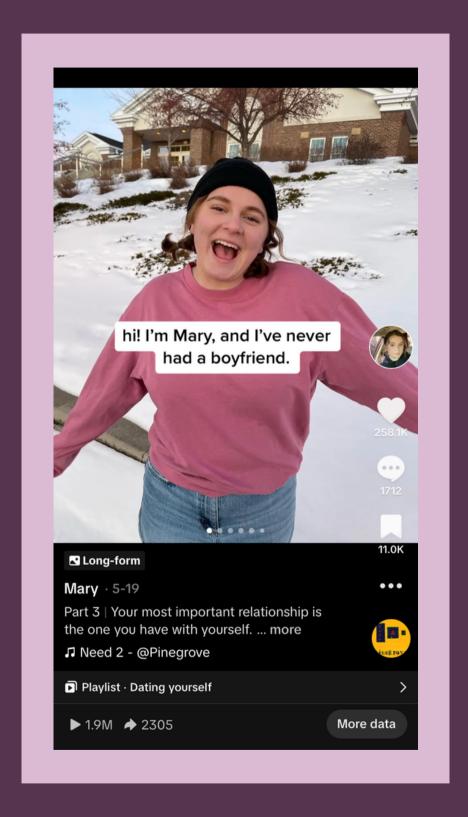


yay for cities all over the country!

VIRAL

The TikTok video on the right went viral! I went from 6 followers to 27K. This video did well because it has a great hook, shows my personality, and is a vulnerable and relatable message. I also used a sound that was just starting to get popular.

Normally when a video goes viral, you gain a few followers but not a ton. I gained a lot because my account has a niche directly related to the viral video. People went to the account and saw more of what they loved from the video. This made them want to stay and see more of my content.



VIRAL PT. 2

Because my account gained a lot of followers, likes, and views, I was able to get a few new features to my account. This includes:

- playlists
- pinned videos
- 10-minute videos

I was happy to use these new features. I was able to post my date review videos to TikTok, not just Instagram. I made several playlists to organize my videos and pinned my viral video, and pinned an explanation video.

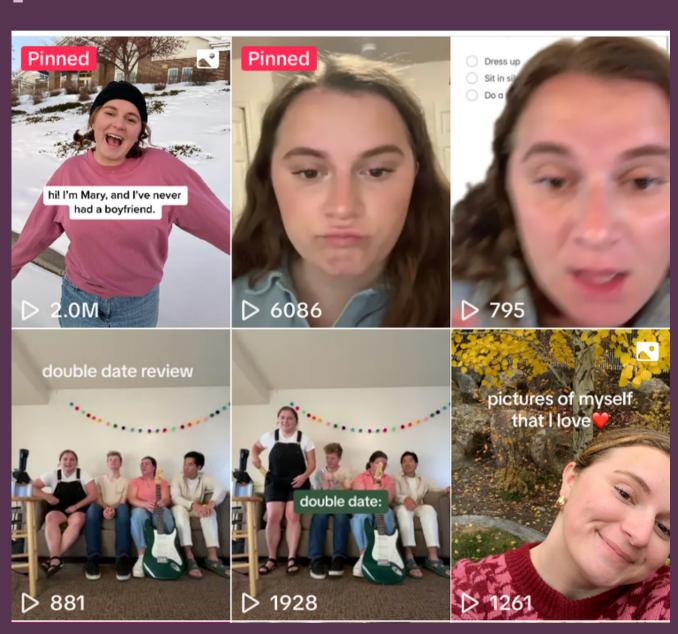
playlists

D Dating yourself

Jokes

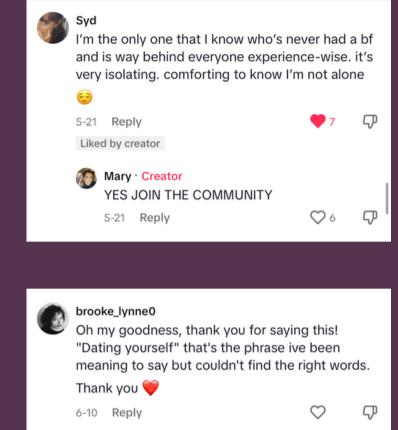
Date Idea Reviews

pinned videos











your account is so inspiring. i too found myself in your position, rushed into a relationship in which i was totally unprepared for, but i lead to have the mindset which now share too. i often like to remind myself there is no shame in being alone when love is tomorrow. wishing you all the very best of luck!

Mary, you are seriously INCREDIBLE

✓ You have no idea how much I
needed that message tonight

Cately it's been SO hard

INSPIRING

My main goal for this account was to inspire people, specifically women, to take control of their dating journey. Here are comments and messages I have received proving I accomplished this.

CHALLENGES

One negative thing that came with going viral was the hate comments. I got several comments talking negatively about me, my body, my personality, and my account. That was hard! But I learned to ignore them (and block them!) and listen to the positive feedback. I also learned that the best validation for my content is the validation from myself. If I think my content is good, then it is!

Another challenge was finding dates to go on. I only have so many guy friends, so I had to be a little brave in asking people. But this helped me grow! I learned that it is always worth it to push yourself when creating content. It's better than just doing the minimum.

FUTURE

After this, I plan on continuing the TikTok page, posting a few times a week. However, I will no longer post to Instagram since I won't be living in Rexburg anymore.

If I were to continue my same amount of posting, here is what I would change in my strategy:

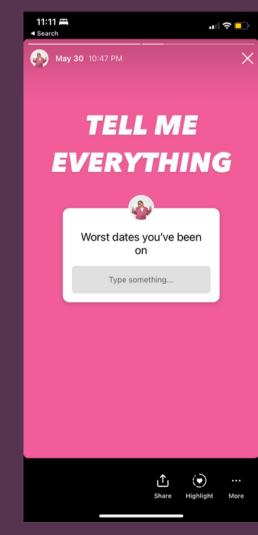
- batching content beforehand
- make date reviews more scripted
- have more community engagement outside of my videos
- post more on stories

CONTENT APPENDIX

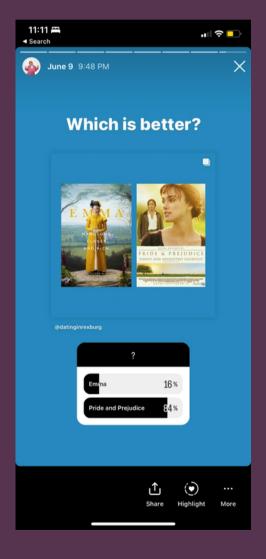
INSTAGRAM STORIES

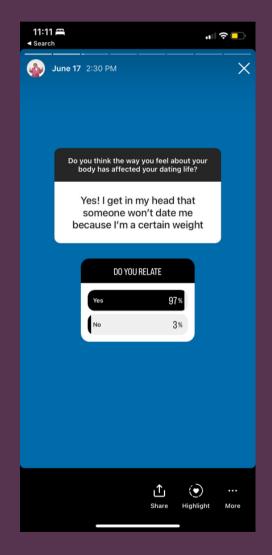
I post dating memes and TikToks I find on my stories. I also ask questions for people to respond to use for questions. This includes Q&As, and asking for dating stories and thoughts.







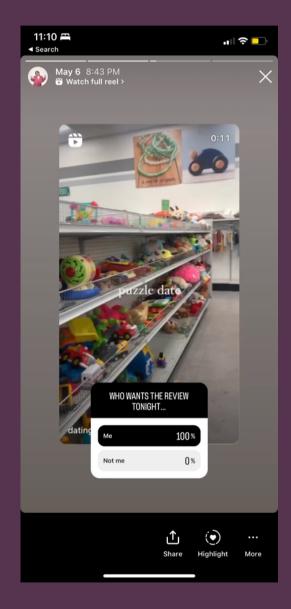


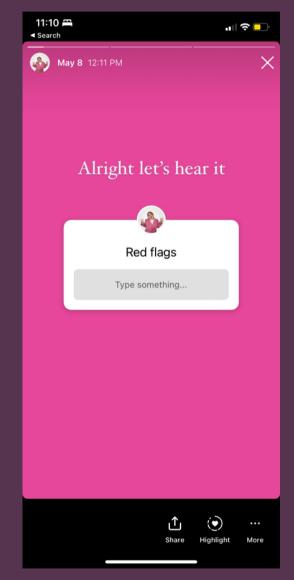


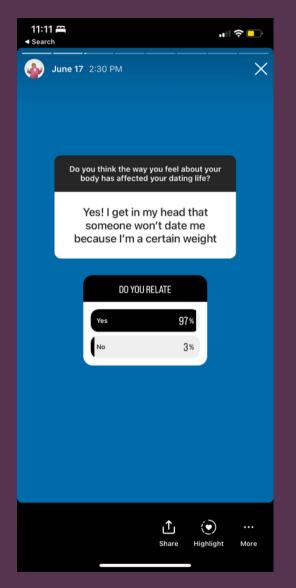


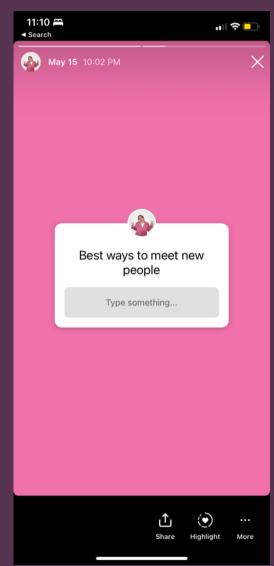
INSTAGRAM STORIES

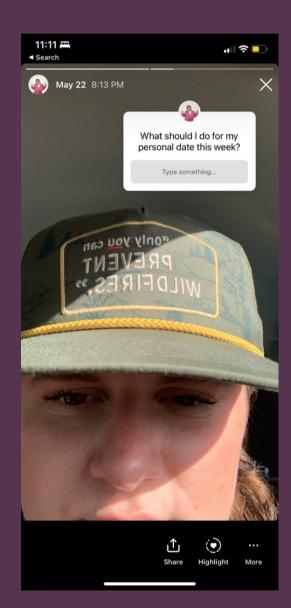












HUMOR

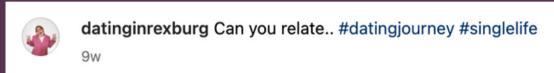
Most Accounts Engaged (Instagram)

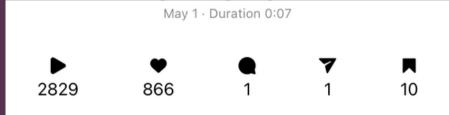
2nd Most Accounts Reached (Instagram)

When I first posted this reel, it did not perform very well. However, after a month, the Instagram algorithm grabbed it and started pushing it out. It was constantly engaged with for several days. This proves that even if something doesn't perform well at first, it might eventually. Don't ever delete content!



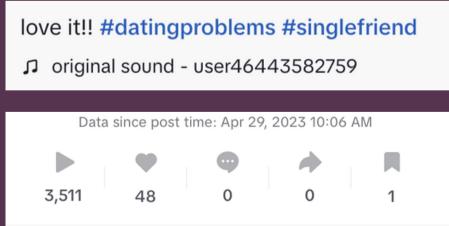
Instagram:





https://www.instagram.com/p/CrtffDQgqpY/

TikTok:



https://www.tiktok.com/@marydates_/video/72 27503940366028074



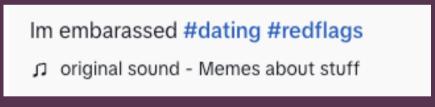
Instagram:

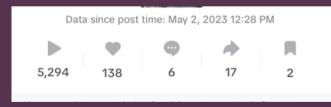




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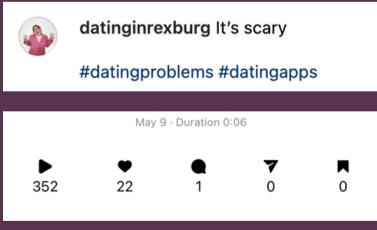
TikTok:





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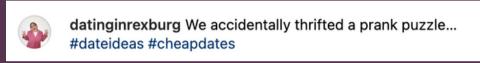


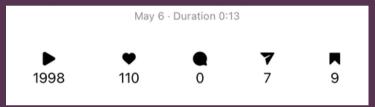


https://www.instagram.com/p/CsHckSWuSOP/

DATE VLOGS





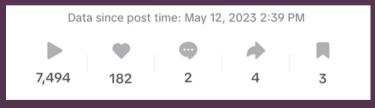


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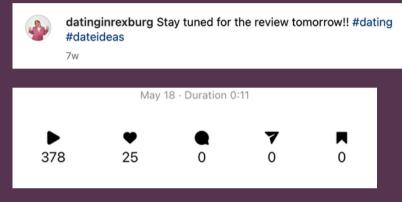
TikTok:

Accidentally got a prank puzzle #firstdates #dateideas

Bad Habit - _.NOT._ME._#2







https://www.instagram.com/p/Csaf5kAA8d0/

TikTok:



2nd Most Accounts Engaged (Instagram)

Most Accounts Reached (Instagram)

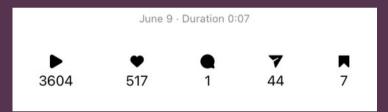
This was also a reel that didn't perform well at first but eventually was pushed out. I received a negative comment (something about not needing a soda, lame) and people defended me in the comments. However, the original commenter deleted it so the conversation can no longer be viewed.



Instagram:

Would you rather have this as a date or do something more exciting? #firstdate #dateideas

□ Loving Machine - TV Girl



https://www.instagram.com/p/CtS4EsKgbYx/

TikTok:



datinginrexburg A simple date today! Lots of time to talk and get to know each other. Would you rather have a date like this or a busier type of date? #firstdates #dating #dateideas #firstdateideas





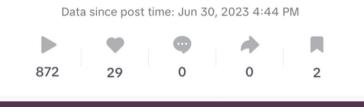


https://www.instagram.com/p/Culb5YaA0Hm/

TikTok:

Honestly the cookies were not that great but it was fun! A 9/10 date idea #dateidea #dateadvice #firstdate

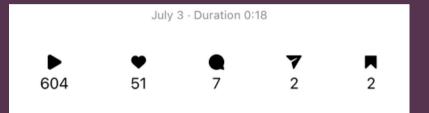
Soulful Strut - The Fame Gang







datinginrexburg DOUBLE DATE: the FINAL date of the semester. Two couples, competing for the best find. Nathan and I did our best (we worked so hard that we didn't have time to film a lot, oops) but Sydnee and John worked smarter (aka they have to return the guitar later). Stay tuned for tomorrow to see our group review and rating. #doubledate #dateideas #firstdate



https://www.instagram.com/p/CuQvSEhp3aN/

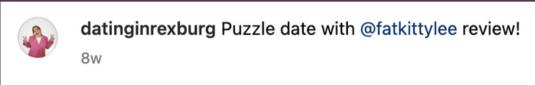
TikTok:

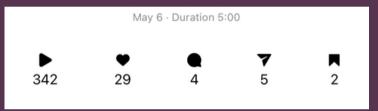
The FINAL date of the semester (and maybe ever for this page?) Two couples, competing for the best fund. Nathan and I did our best (we worked so hard that we didn't gave time to film a lot, oops) but Sydnee and John worked "smarter" (aka they have to return the guitar later). Review coming tonight! #doubledate #dateideas #firstdate



DATE REVIEWS





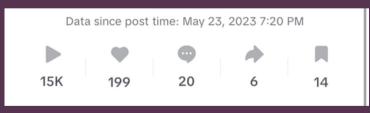


https://www.instagram.com/p/Cr7bDKCul20/

TikTok:

Reviewing the puzzle date idea! #dateideas #firstdates

original sound - Mary



2nd Most Accounts Reached (TikTok)

2nd Most Accounts Engaged (TikTok)

I posted this right after my TikTok account went viral. So many people went to view my account, then saw this. It is a different kind of video that people haven't seen so they loved it. Many people interacted commenting their thoughts on the date.



Instagram:



datinginrexburg This weeks date was music and icecream! Thanks @devon_phelps5 for coming! We rated it a 9/10 #dateidea!



https://www.instagram.com/p/CsbzE8-AoWa/

TikTok:

Reviewing our date of watching live music and getting icecream (at Mcdonalds, gourmet!) #firstdates

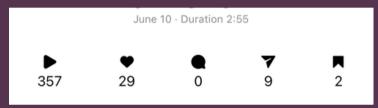
original sound - Mary







datinginrexburg We would soda and a walk about 8/10! Go try it. NOW!!!! #firstdate #firstdateideas



https://www.instagram.com/p/CtUwDhPgszq/

TikTok:

Tucker and I got soda and went on a walk! We would rate it around a 8/10 for a date idea. GO TRY IT OUT #firstdate #dateidea

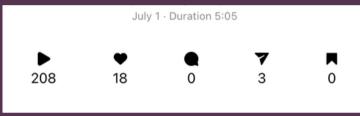
original sound - Mary







datinginrexburg Date review with Zach! We highly recommend this date idea. #dateideas #firstdate #dateadvice

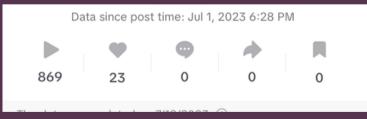


https://www.instagram.com/p/CuLLca5gqFx/

TikTok:

We thought this date idea SLAYED! #dateidea #dateadvice #firstdate #dateideas

original sound - Mary







datinginrexburg DOUBLE DATE: the last date of the semester (and this page!) We rate this idea a 7/10. It was super fun, but hard to get to know each other. But you should DEFINITELY try it!!!! #dateidea #doubledate #dateideas #groupdate

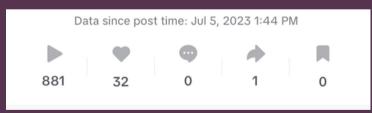


https://www.instagram.com/p/CuVMz4cRU1Z/

TikTok:

BIGGER OR BETTER: we rate it a 7/10 overall. A fun date, not TONS of room to get to know each other. BUT A GOOD TIME #doubledate #dateideas #firstdate

original sound - Mary



LOVE LANGUAGES

TY TIME QUALITY TIME QUALITY

LOVE LANGUAGES

showing yourself love

TY TIME QUALITY TIME QUALITY

••

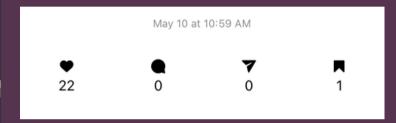
SPEND TIME W/YOURSELF

- Taking yourself on dates
- Long drives with the windows down
- Time away from your phone
- Movie night with snacks
- "Hot Girl Walk"
- Picnic in the park
- Reading a good book

Instagram:

Sometimes, all you need is yourself. #selflove #datingyourself

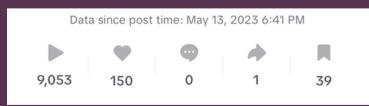
The Bug Collector - Haley Heynderickx



https://www.instagram.com/p/CsEmeGHg_S0/?img_index=1

TikTok:





ERVICE ACTS OF SERVICE ACTS O

LOVE LANGUAGES

showing yourself love

ERVICE ACTS OF SERVICE ACTS O

DO THINGS FOR YOURSELF

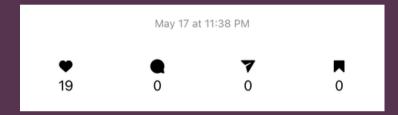
What can you do that you will thank yourself for later?

- Make your bed
 - Clean a space for 10 minutes
 - Make a nice meal
 - Put together a bath
 - Don't procrastinate tasks
 - Exercise

Instagram:



datinginrexburg Showing yourself acts of service! Do things for yourself that you'll thank yourself for later. I love you! #datingyourself #selflove

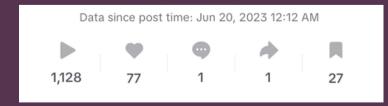


https://www.instagram.com/p/CsX-2dzg7Cx/?img_index=1

TikTok:

Show love to yourself. I've compiled ideas for every love language on how to show yourself love. Try them out. You deserve it. #selflove #datingyourself #mentalhealth #lovelanguages

original sound - frank



ION WORDS OF AFFIRMATION WO

LOVE LANGUAGES

showing yourself love

ION WORDS OF AFFIRMATION WO

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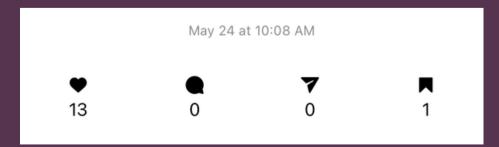
BE KIND TO YOURSELF

- Write yourself a love letter
- Journal every day 3 things you love about yourself
- Set boundaries with people
 - Surround yourself with loving people
- Ask friends and family what they love about you
- Keep a picture of your younger self on your mirror

Instagram:



datinginrexburg How to show yourself love when your love language is #wordsofaffirmation: be kind to yourself!! The way you speak to yourself is huge. As you learn to speak internally with love, your love for yourself will blossom and grow #selflove #datingyourself



https://www.instagram.com/p/Csojs_dAaqD/?img_index=1

DUCH PHSYICAL TOUCH PHSY

LOVE LANGUAGES

showing yourself love

DUCH PHSYICAL TOUCH PHSY

• •

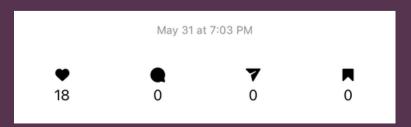
TAKE CARE OF YOUR BODY

- Give yourself a hug
- Get a massage
- Get your nails done
- Go on a walk
- Exercise
- Nice long fancy bath
- skincare/self care routine
- Get 8+ hours of sleep

Instagram:



datinginrexburg How you can show yourself love if your love language is physical touch! #lovelanguages



https://www.instagram.com/p/Cs7ijvmAvtL/?img_index=1

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LOVE LANGUAGES

showing yourself love

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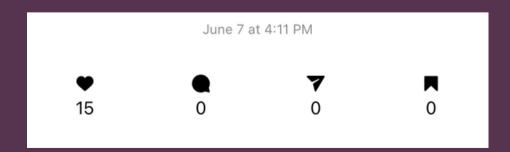
TREAT YOURSELF

- Get little treats
- Go thrifting
- Pick wildflowers
- Buy yourself flowers
- Make yourself a treat
- Set up a budget
- Try new foods
- Do a clothing exhange with friends
- Start a side hustle

Instagram:



datinginrexburg GIFT GIVING: showing love to yourself! This can be done with any budget, check out my ideas on how to do so! #lovelanguages #datingyourself



https://www.instagram.com/p/Cs7ijvmAvtL/?img_index=1



BE KIND TO OTHERS

- Write a kind note
- Check in with the people you love
- Give sincere compliments
- Tell people why you appreciate them
- Contact someone you haven't in a while
- Leave kind comments on social media
- If you have a nice thought about someone, say it out loud!

ION WORDS OF AFFIRMATION WOL

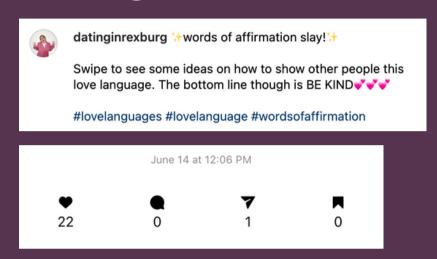
LOVE LANGUAGES

showing others love

ION WORDS OF AFFIRMATION WOL

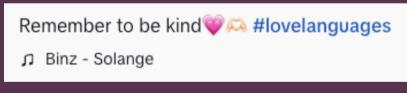
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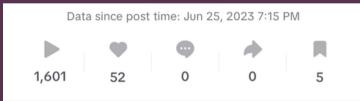
Instagram:



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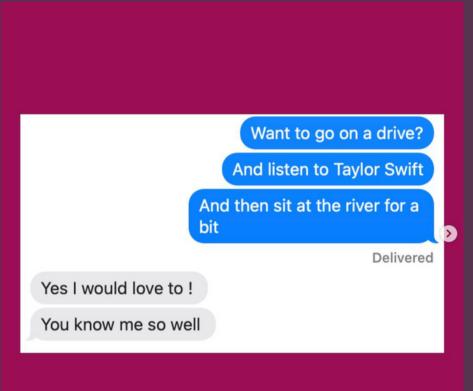
TikTok:





https://www.tiktok.com/@marydates_/video/72 48797278280879406

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TY TIME QUALITY TIME QUALITY

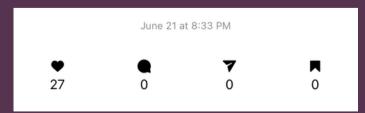
JUST BE THERE

- Go on a drive
- Watch a movie
- Go to dinner
- Have a picnic
- Go on a walk
- Play a sport together
- Watch TikToks in the same room lol
- Have conversations about your relationship
- Go grocery shopping

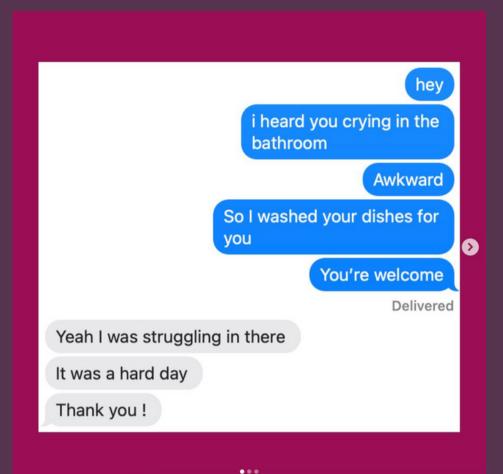
Instagram:



datinginrexburg **QUALITY TIME** this is my love language, use that information however you want. Just BE THERE for these peeps, even if you are just chilling in the same room. It doesn't need to be a big thing. KEEP ON LOVING! #dating #datingadvice #lovelanguages



https://www.instagram.com/p/Ctxxd9XrwF L/?img_index=1



DO SOMETHING

- Wash their dishes
- Take out their trash
- Bring them a treat
- Make their bed
- Take them to dinner
- Make them dinner
- Write them a note
- Provide help with stressful tasks
- Teach them something

ERVICE ACTS OF SERVICE ACTS O

LOVE LANGUAGES

showing others love

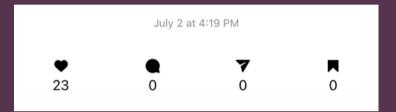
ERVICE ACTS OF SERVICE ACTS O

•••

Instagram:



datinginrexburg ACTS OF SERVICE if you have a loved one with this love language, doing something simple can mean everything. How have you seen this love language being catered too? #lovelanguages #lovelanguage #dating #actsofservice

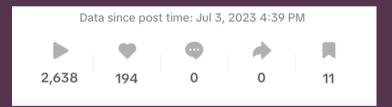


https://www.instagram.com/p/CuNpOM7PC OM/?img_index=1

TikTok:

go out and do something nice! #lovelanguages

sarah - chica



DATING YOURSELF

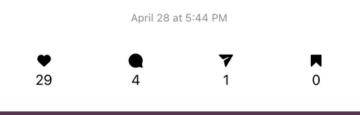
what is DATING YOURSELF?

GETTING TO KNOW YOURSELF

FINDING JOY IN BEING ALONE TAKING YOURSELF ON DATES

Instagram:





https://www.instagram.com/p/CrmbOaYA-RU/?img_index=1

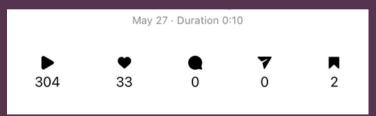


This post is almost the same as the one I posted on TikTok, but I optimized both of them for their platform. The TikTok can be found on slide 102.



- datinginrexburg Ways traveling alone can nurture self love:
- going into a scary gas station to go to the bathroom and making it out alive? feels pretty cool
- •treating yourself to a drink and some snacks on your trip
- practicing self care in the car, chapstick, facial spray, hair mask etc
- ·listening to entertaining, educational, inspiring podcasts
- •singing your heart out and jamming to your favorite tunes without any chance of judgment from others
- time to think and talk through things without distraction
- ·learning to problem solve by yourself

I love driving for long amounts of time. It's uninterrupted quality time with myself. I count it as a date with myself! #datingyourself #selflove #independence

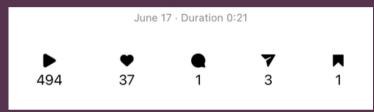


https://www.instagram.com/p/CswSZtOAYWP/





datinginrexburg You deserve fun, good, amazing things NOW!! I've decided to never let not having a romantic partner hold me back from anything. IM GONNA ENJOY MY LIFE #datingyourself #datingadvice #selflove #mentalhealth

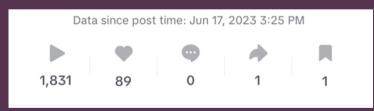


https://www.instagram.com/p/Ctnn6R6grBP/

TikTok:

This is also my subtle flex of going to the Eras tour hehehe #datingyourself

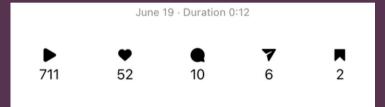
original sound - frank







datinginrexburg As I've gone through my dating and dating myself journey, something so valuable I've found is spending time with just women. Something about being with my friends who get me so well, and where we can share stories and thoughts is so healing. Thank you to all my friends who support me and show me what real love is. Tag a friend below who makes you feel this way. #datingyourself #selflove

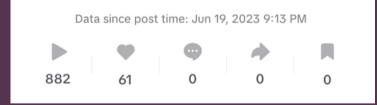


https://www.instagram.com/p/CtsmDzmgR K2/

TikTok:

Sometimes its all you need #selflove #datingyourself #mentalhealth

The Bug Collector - Haley Heynderickx







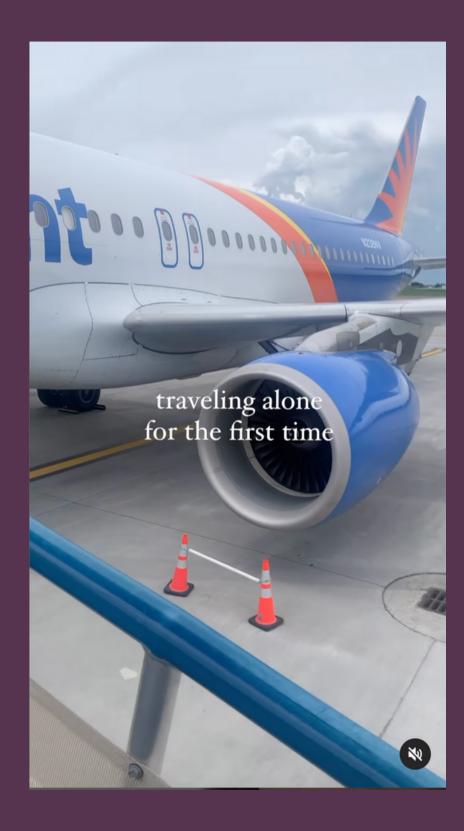
datinginrexburg SPENDING TIME ALONE: taking baby steps is better than nothing! #datingyourself #selflove



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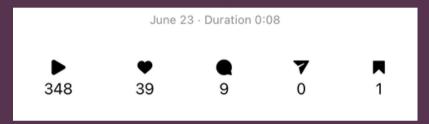
TikTok:







datinginrexburg It was scary but now I know I can do it!! #travelingalone



https://www.instagram.com/p/Ct2iVtdPi Mu/

TikTok:

It was actually terrifying lol #selflove #travelingalone

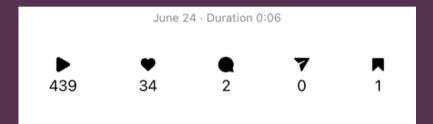
about you - e ★







datinginrexburg Stop using all your energy hating and trying to change yourself. Leaning into who you truly are brings so much more happiness. #selflove #datingyourself

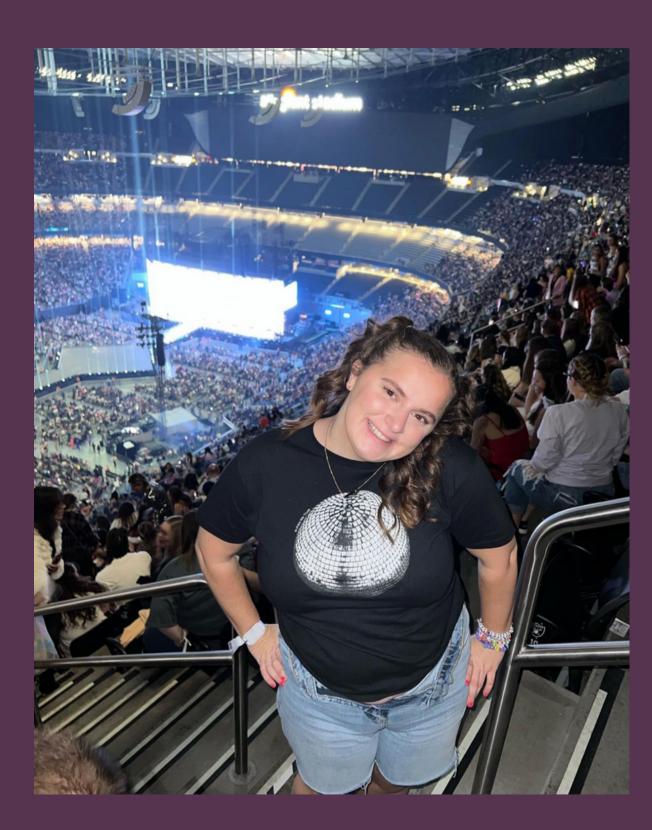


https://www.instagram.com/p/Ct5pgd-Nte0/

TikTok:

It takes so much less energy to just accept who you are and love it. Its worth it. #selflove #datingyourself





This post is repurposed from my viral TikTok. I took the text from the slides and put them into the caption.

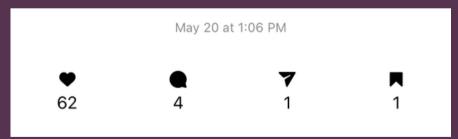


datinginrexburg Hi! I'm Mary, and I've never had a boyfriend. I don't say this for pity or anything like that, I say it because I want you to understand why I have this account. I want to show you that it's okay.

I was a bridesmaid three times last year. Which I loved!! But it's not the easiest thing to watch all of your friends find people while you stand alone. Not having success is discouraging. And lonely. And sad.

But I have found JOY in dating myself. Life isn't all about romantic relationships. There is so much more.

BUT dating can be so fun and it's fun to talk and joke about. So this account is for all of it. The jokes, the dates I go on, my advice for you, and learning to love and date yourself. Enjoy.



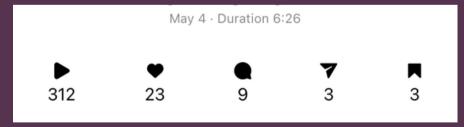
https://www.instagram.com/p/Csek4DPg BP6/

DATINGTALK



Many of the longer talking videos I posted just on Instagram, since the people that like them the most are my friends, not other social media users.



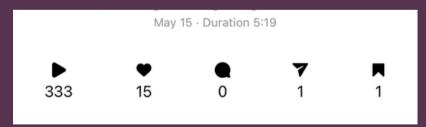


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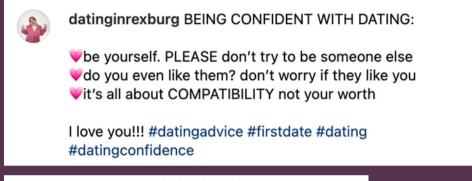


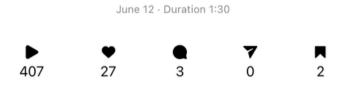
datinginrexburg I will not mother a grown man! #redflags #datingproblems



https://www.instagram.com/p/CsSCtheg Xti/

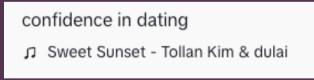






https://www.instagram.com/p/CtaLEziglUA/

TikTok:





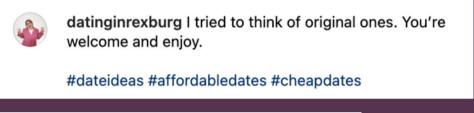
SAVEABLE ADVICE

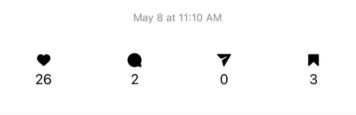


TRY THESE IDEAS:

- Make cookies blindfolded
- Press flowers
- Visit the Human Animal Shelter
- Chalk art
 - Teach each other a skill
 - Farmers market
 - Explore the city by following a color
 - Follow a TikTok recipe

Instagram:



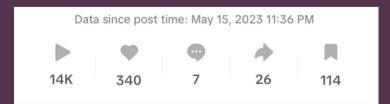


https://www.instagram.com/p/Cr_eE7sA bLv/?img_index=1

TikTok:

with a partner or by yourself! #dateideas #cheapdateideas

original sound - Lydia Campanelli



how to MEET NEW PEOPLE

- Country dancing
- Library
- Hosting parties
- Clubs
- Social media
- Blind dates
- Community gatherings
- Church
- Classes

what else?

(2)

YOUR HOMEWORK:

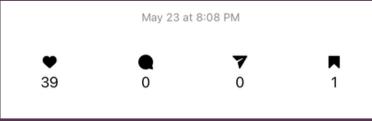
MEET SOMEONE NEW! Host a party and ask people to bring their friends. Network! A simple game night or movie night will do the trick! Plan it a week ahead so you have plenty of time to get the word out.

YOU'VE GOT THIS!

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Instagram:





https://www.instagram.com/p/CsnDm1X gsTR/?img_index=1



- What is a weird fact you recently learned?
- What does your dream day look like?
- Rate your top 5 movies and why
- Tell me about your best friend
- What was your dream job as a kid and if that has changed, why?
- What is something you did as a kid that you wish you still did?
- What is the nicest thing anyone has ever done for you?
- If you had to start a podcast, what would it be about?

• What is your favorite childhood memory?

- If you could live a completely different life, what would it be?
- If money wasn't an issue, what would your dream life look like?
- What is one thing you would change about the world?
- What's a skill you have always wanted to learn but haven't yet?
- What is your biggest accomplishment?
- What's one movie you think everyone should watch and why?

Instagram:



datinginrexburg If you try these you will probably get married on the second date you're welcome #firstdate #dateideas #conversationstarters

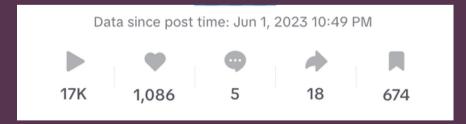


https://www.instagram.com/p/Cs4PTGb AZWh/?img_index=1

TikTok:

have fun and remember its more important to worry about if you like them than if they like you! #firstdates #selflove

Loving Machine - TV Girl



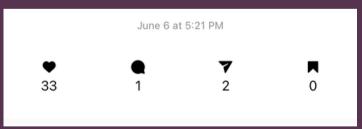




datinginrexburg Dating standards/rules I've set for myself to help me date intentionally, safely, and healthily:

- *no kissing until at LEAST the third date
- †no communicating through Snapchat
- if he asks, he plans
- Het my friends know where we are going and what the plan is
- †no movie on the first date

Setting boundaries and communicating expectations at the beginning creates better, stronger relationships! What rules do you have? #dating #datingrules #healthyrelationships



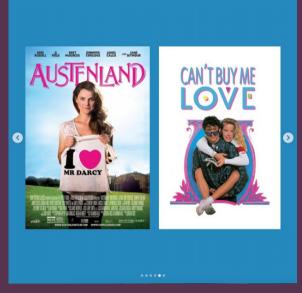
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FUN

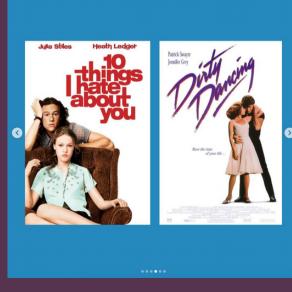




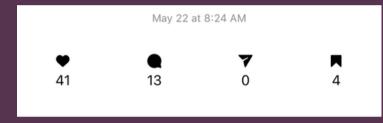












https://www.instagram.com/p/CsjOPogA Mmx/?img_index=1

TikTok:

NOTHING will top Pride and Prejudice (2005) but pls give me recommendations #romcoms

Marianelli: Dawn - From "Pride & Prejudice" Soundtrack - Jean-Yves...







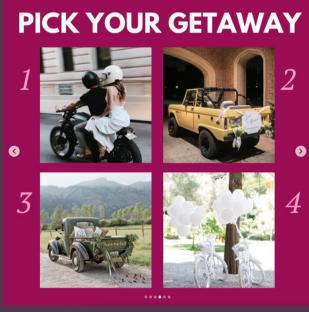
datinginrexburg Sydnee and I play: what's that love song?
And we killed it
#dating #datingadvice

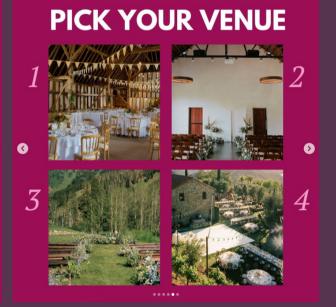


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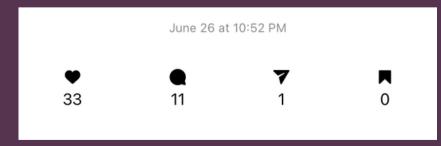




This was a favorite of mine to make! I wish I had come up with this idea sooner, so I could have posted more things like this. Many people loved it and engaged with it!



datinginrexburg ITS GAME TIME A hehe these things are my favorite, let me know what you picked!!
#weddingplanner #wedding #weddingaesthetic



https://www.instagram.com/p/Ct-5VMYgXvM/?img_index=1

DATING YOURSELF HOMEWORK

Dating Yourself Homework

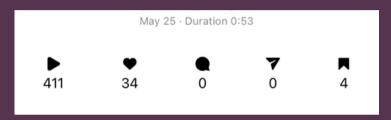
- Go on a walk listening to a podcast
 - What We Said
 - Bad Broadcast
- Everything shower with a candle
- Get a new book



Instagram:



datinginrexburg Giving you homework is my thing now. Have fun dating yourself this week!! #datingyourself #selflove

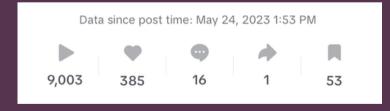


https://www.instagram.com/p/CssJO-hAl_n/

TikTok:

#greenscreen your dating yourself homework for the week !! Imk how it goes!! #datingyourself #selflove

bags at electric lady studios - cottrill

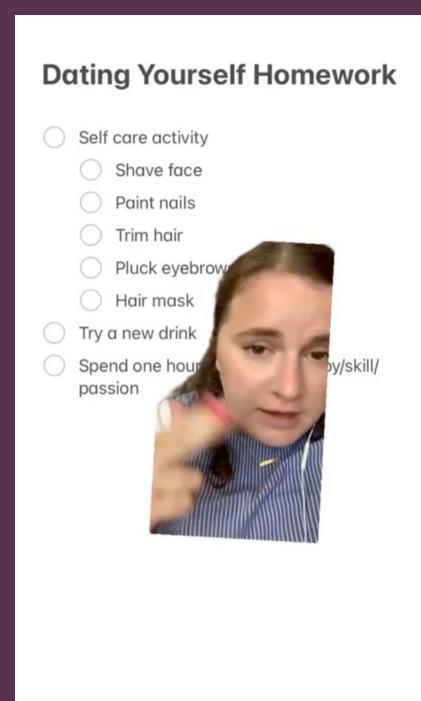








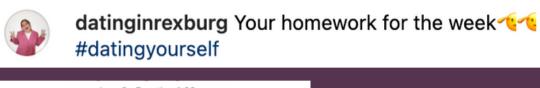




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Instagram:



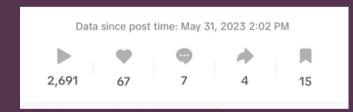


https://www.instagram.com/p/CtCsxBuAmx1/

TikTok:

#greenscreen if you dont do these dating yourself activities i will find you and make you do them (4) #datingyourself #selflove

The Blonde - TV Girl



Dating Yourself Homework

- Take a fat nap
 - White noise
 - Put on some nice lotion
- Write down your three favorite qualities about yourself, put them where you can
- Try a new //hairsty



Instagram:



datinginrexburg Taking a needed rest this week. Remember to listen to your body! #datingyourself #selflove



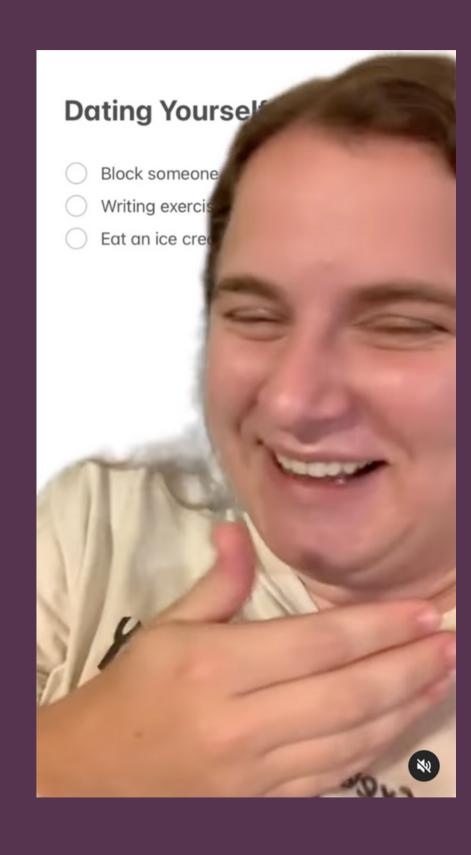
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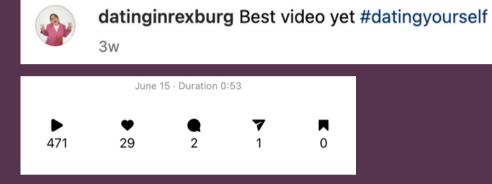
TikTok:

#greenscreen I will be sleeping for the next forseeable future #datingyourself

Easy Lovers - Piero Piccioni







https://www.instagram.com/p/CtiT0C0g Fci/

TikTok:

#greenscreen this is the best video I've ever made #datingyourself

original sound - Mary



Dating Yourself Homework

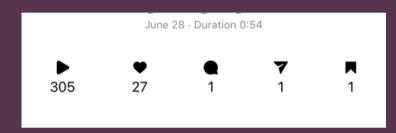
- Sit in the sun
 - Picnic
 - Lake
 - O Nap
- Try something new
 - Food
 - Hairstyle
- Show



Instagram:



datinginrexburg DATING YOURSELF HOMEWORK!! Go have some fun in the sun!! #datingyourself #selflove



https://www.instagram.com/p/CuDUiN2 goQ_/

TikTok:

#greenscreen hot girl summer? self love summer \(\oplus \psi \oplus \infty \infty \alpha \)
#datingyourself #selflove #mentalhealth

original sound - Mary



July 6, 2023 at 7:03 PM

Dating Yourself Homework

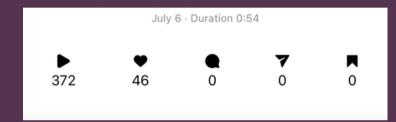
- O Dress up
- Sit in silence
- On a personality test



Instagram:



datinginrexburg Go out and love yourself friends. That's the best thing you can do! #datingyourself #selflove

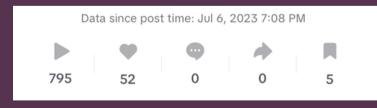


https://www.instagram.com/p/CuYJLKrg KsQ/

TikTok:

#greenscreen GO OUT AND LOVE YOURSELF MY FRIENDS #datingyourself #selflove

original sound - Mary

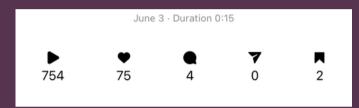


PERSONAL DATES





datinginrexburg Spending time with myself is so important to me!#datingyourself #selflove

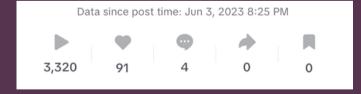


https://www.instagram.com/p/CtDYvaor 3nY/

TikTok:

Thrifting is my therapy #datingyourself #selflove #spendingtimealone

original sound - argyfargo



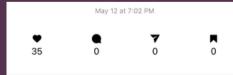


I ended up creating less content about personal dates, and more about dating yourself. People liked hearing advice on how to date themselves more than just seeing me do it.



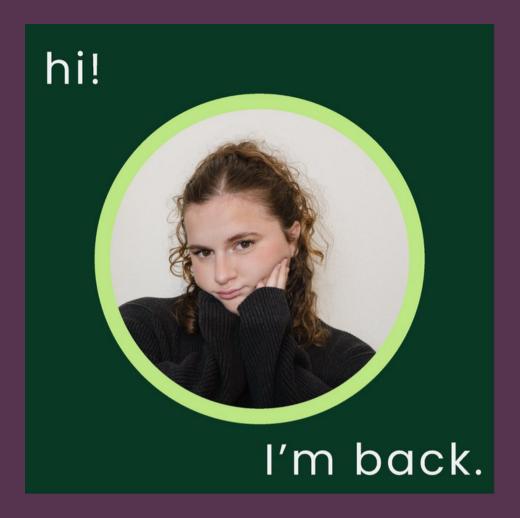
datinginrexburg This weeks date was a personal date, and it left my cup full!! (get it, there is a cup that is full in the picture) I went to the farmers market, expecting to get lots of content and spend plenty of time there. However, after I got my lemonade (7/10) and walked around for like 5 minutes, I decided to leave. Right near the fairgrounds is a rehab/retirement home I used to work at. I decided to visit some old friends. I wasn't able to include any footage for content, but I SO enjoyed seeing the residents. I am so happy I decided to spend some time with them. They are so special to me. Anyways, a solid 9/10 time.

#datingyourself #selflove



https://www.instagram.com/p/CsKnU-JA5VP/

ANNOUNCEMENTS



NEW GOALS

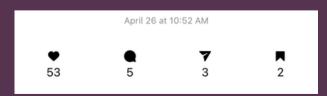
This time around, we are going to do things a little different. Every other week I will go on a date and review it, and the other weeks I will be going on a date with myself. I want to show you how you can date yourself and enjoy it. I want us to learn how to take control of our dating lives, and to keep dating fun and humorous.

Let's have some fun!

Instagram:



datinginrexburg WE ARE BACK! It's time for Dating in Rexburg 2.0. I can't wait to show you guys my dating journey, and how to date yourself. Have something specific you want to see? Let me know! #datingjourney #datingyourself

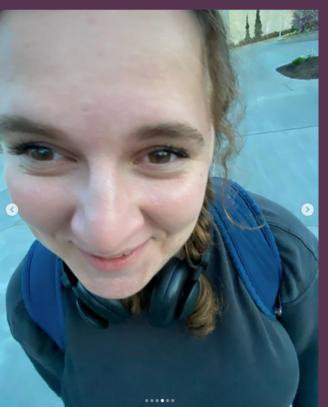


https://www.instagram.com/p/CrgicAvpdgL/?img_index=1















datinginrexburg THE END:

So. Here we are, the end of the semester, and I'm moving out of Rexburg. And moving on to the next phase! Which means... it's time for Dating in Rexburg to come to an end. Here's what I've learned from this journey:

- I am the best relationship I'll ever have
 It's better to love myself and be alone, then
- change myself for someone else
- It's about compatibility, not your worth
 Dating can suck, but it can also be fun!
- I am loved by so many

Thank you THANK YOU for supporting me and engaging and cheering me on. I will still post sometimes on my TikTok account, @marydates_, and feel free to stay in touch with me on my personal socials. Comment down below your favorite part of this account from the last two years! I LOVE YOU >>> 1

5d



https://instagram.com/p/Cuk_Lkeguy7/?img_index=6

CONTENT APPENDIX

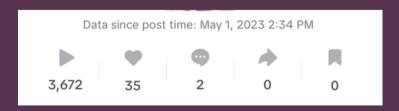
TikTok Specific

HUMOR

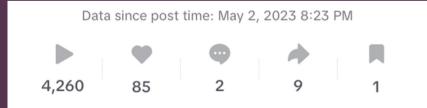
My original strategy for TikTok was just posting humorous videos about dating that went along with trending sounds. However, when I was first posting them, they weren't getting any attention. Once my account went viral, more people saw them and liked them, but as the analytics show, they are the least-performing videos. As time went on, I steered away from humor. The next few slides show the humor videos I made for TikTok.



pass! #byui #mutual #dating
original sound - user10946863438





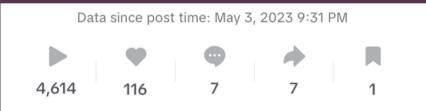


Its interesting okay #datingproblems #firstdates

original sound - Famed Flames

https://www.tiktok.com/@marydates_/video/7228776136543718698

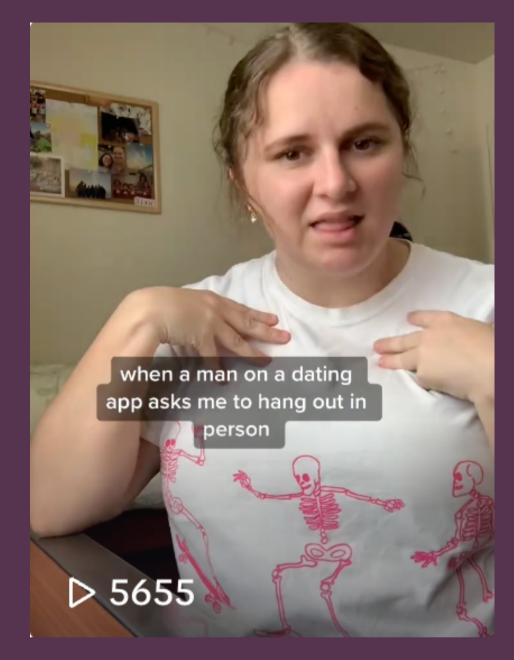




Its hard work, but its good work #dating #datingapps

meaty get on your zoom - Real Queenzzielocthevoice

https://www.tiktok.com/@marydates_/video/7229164641883082026

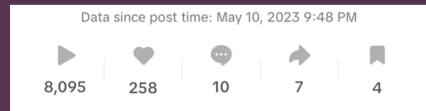




Scary!

original sound - Identityparty

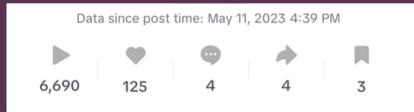




This took me too many times to record #datingproblems
original sound - Little fox

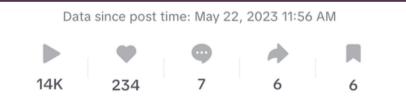
https://www.tiktok.com/@marydates_/video/7231766803528125742

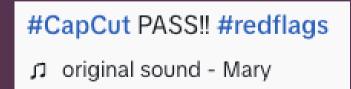


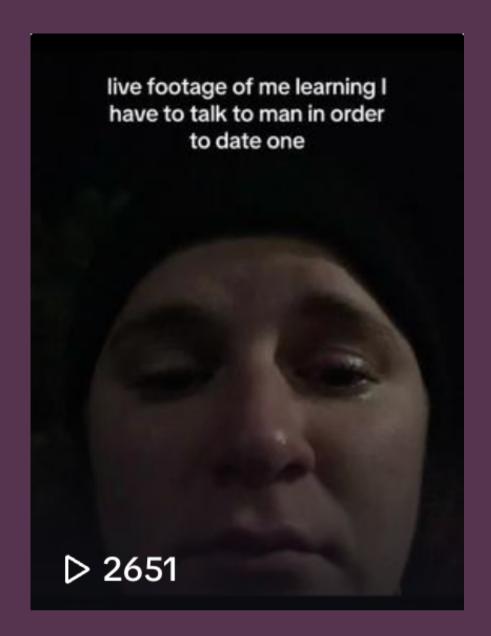


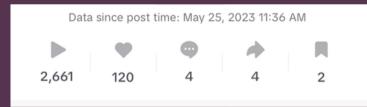
https://www.tiktok.com/@marydates_/video/7232058119709363499

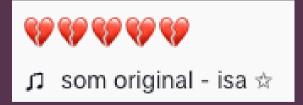






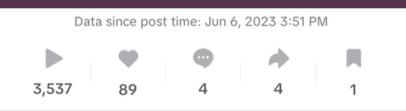






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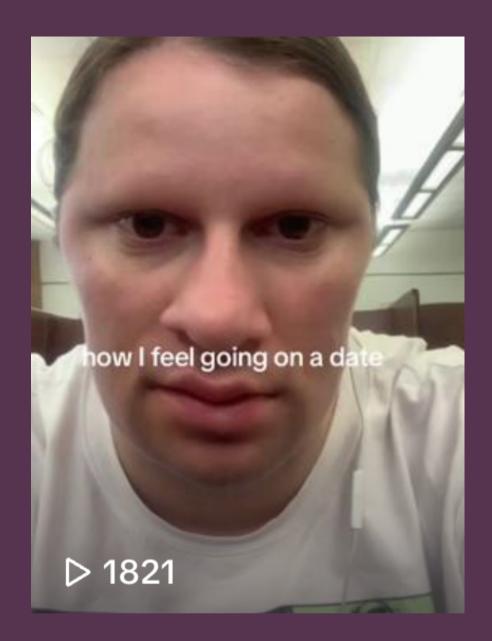




Im very picky

original sound - jacks #1 editor!!

https://www.tiktok.com/@marydates_/video/7241694078222470443





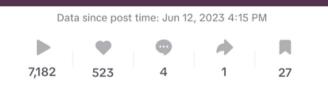
Its all in your head babes #datingadvice

property eyes without a face - **

DATING YOURSELF

This content was my favorite to make, as well as my best performing. This is because it is refreshing for people to hear, and helps improve their lives. It was also rewarding for me to create this content and hear from people that my content is helping them.

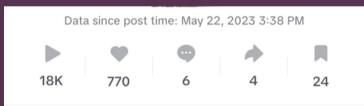




This sound captures it perfectly #datingyourself #datingadvice

Originalton - @Tu

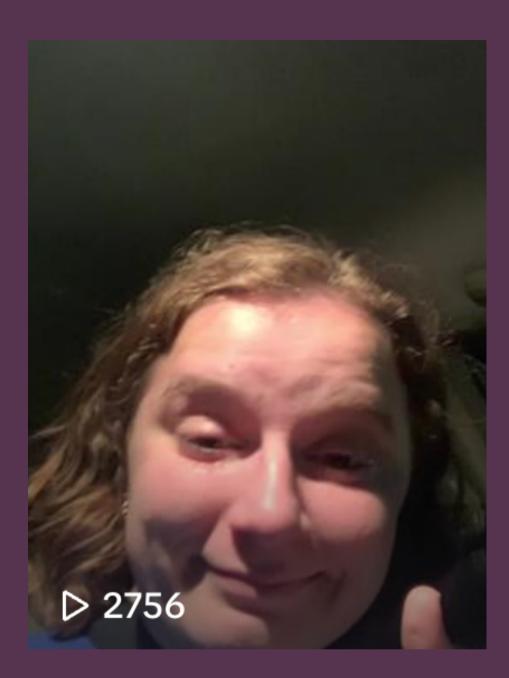


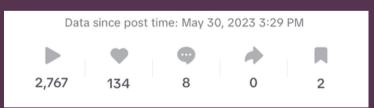


Replying to @katie 😭 seeing everyone relate and supporting each other has been so heartwarming. This is exactly what I wanted when I started this. Love is all around!!! #datingyourself #selflove

original sound - dominic

https://www.tiktok.com/@marydates_ /video/7236124266620833070

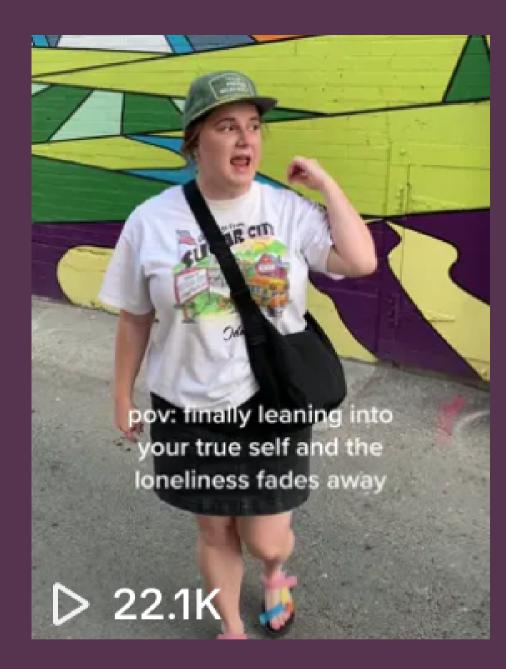




prioritize yourself! #selflove #datingyourself

\$\sigma\$ little miss sunshine - Edward Nashton <?>

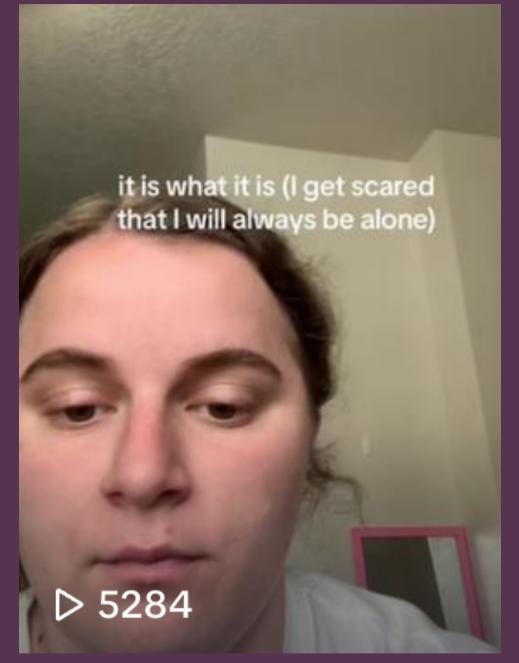
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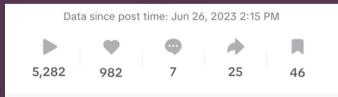




You are you for a reason! #datingyourself

Silver Soul - Beach House



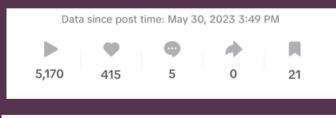


Even after taking time to date myself and find self love, it is still hard. There is always that fear that this is how it will always be. But acknowledging that fear is better than pushing it aside. I love you. #datingyourself #selflove

sarah - chica

https://www.tiktok.com/@marydate s_/video/7249090942106422571



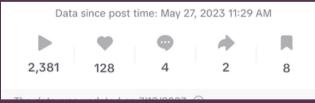


The more time you spend with yourself, the more you get comfortable with who you are #selflove #datingyourself #alonetime

n roslyn -

https://www.tiktok.com/@marydates_/vide o/7239096015712832811





Traveling alone helps build independence, confidence, and self love! #selflove #datingyourself #travelingalone

original sound - kissounds

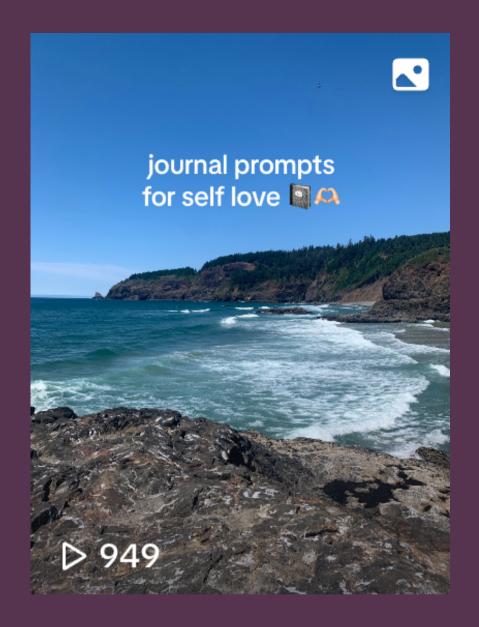
Most Accounts Reached (Overall)

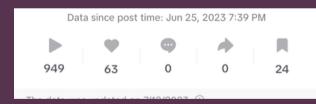
Most Accounts Engaged (Overall)

This is my viral TikTok! I talk about why it performed well on slide 26.



Your most important relationship is the one you have with yourself. #datingyourself #selflove #hope



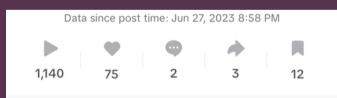


Some of these I do every day! #datingyourself #selflove #journalprompts

Popular - Music from the HBO Original Series - The Weeknd &...

https://www.tiktok.com/@marydates _/video/7248803337246608686



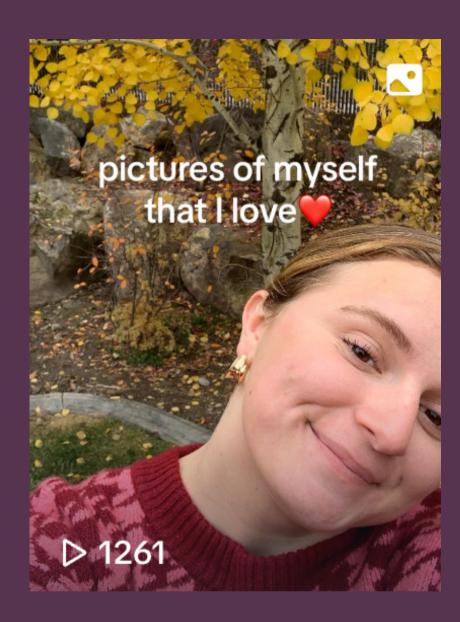


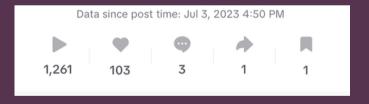
It can be hard cultivating self love for yourself, but it is worth it.

I love you. ** #selflove #datingyourself #mentalhealth

braincells - tomcbumpz

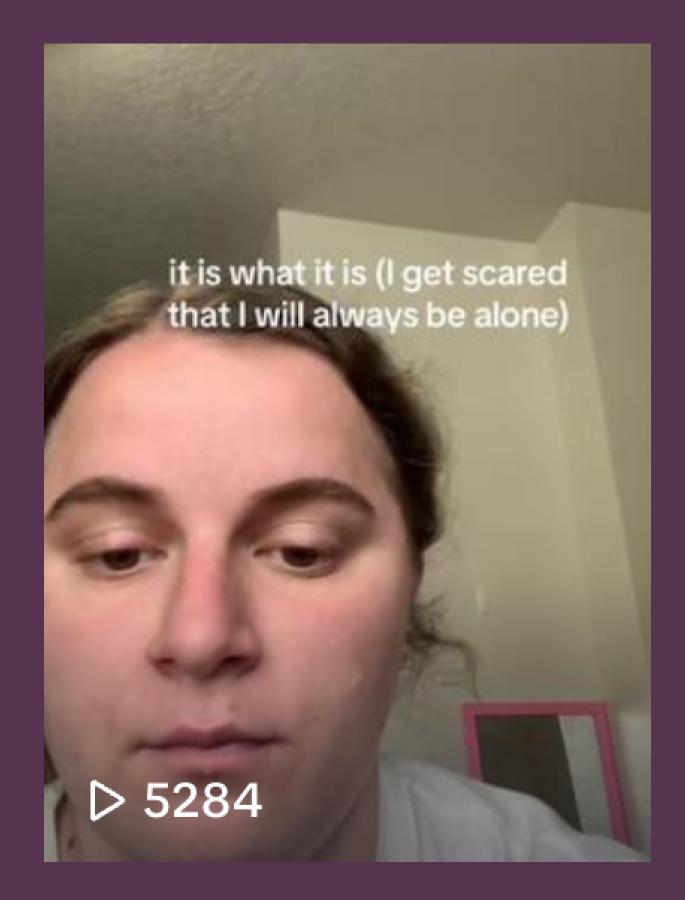
https://www.tiktok.com/@marydates _/video/7249565824221072683





because you're allowed to like things about yourself, and should celebrate it ** #selflove #love #datingyourself

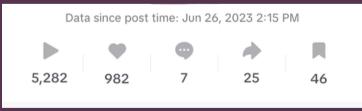
\$\mathbf{J}\$ Summer loop 4 - will paquin

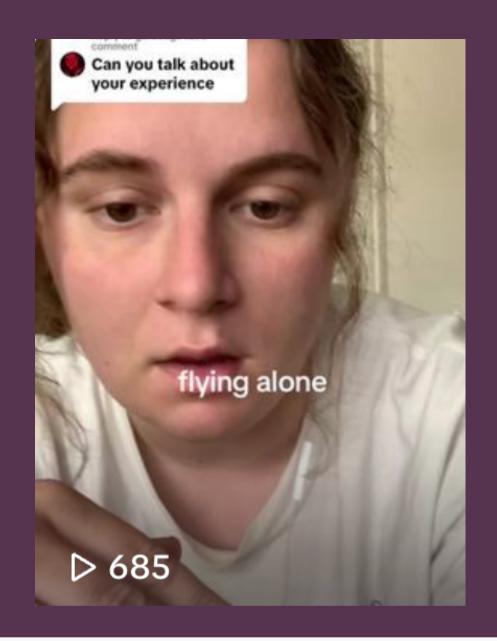


It is important for me to stay authentic with my social media, so sometimes I posted something that was more vulnerable. These always receive high engagement because people like authenticity.

Even after taking time to date myself and find self love, it is still hard. There is always that fear that this is how it will always be. But acknowledging that fear is better than pushing it aside. I love you. #datingyourself #selflove

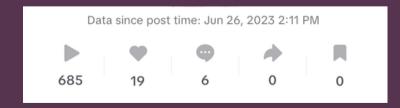
sarah - chica



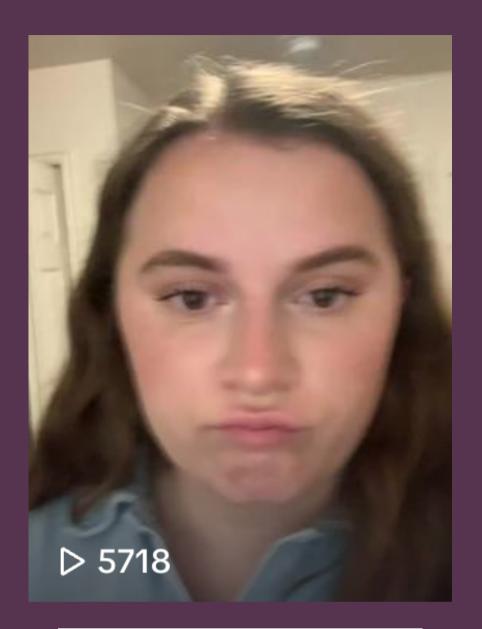


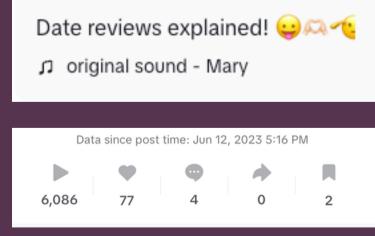
Replying to @garbuage rat things arent as scary if you just do them, instead of just thinking about it #flyingalone

original sound - Mary

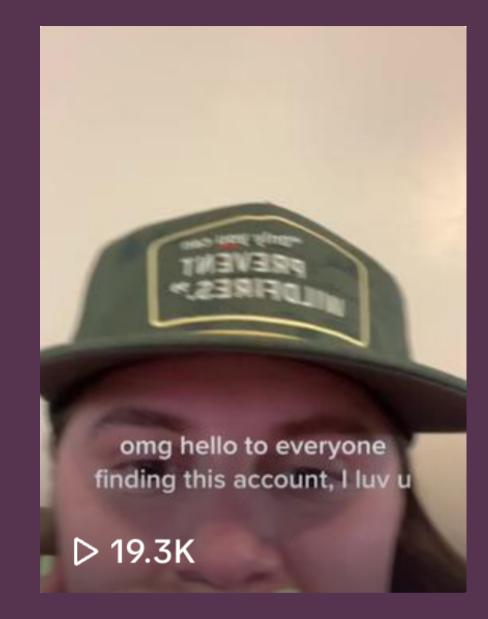


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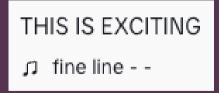




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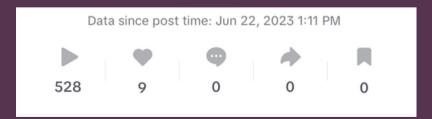




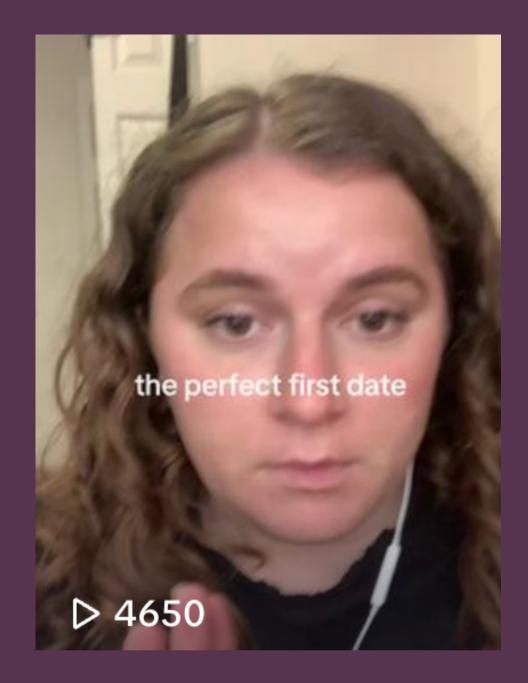


My body image affects my life every day, especially with dating. You are beautiful and worthy of love no matter your size. I love you. #bodyimage #dating #datingyourself #bodydysphormia

original sound - Mary

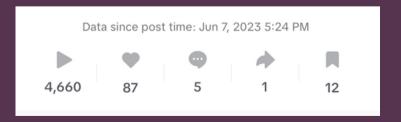


https://www.tiktok.com/@marydates_/video/7247362208949177642



Plus you're in a public place! #firstdate #dateideas

Glue Song (feat. Clairo) - beabadoobee & Clairo



https://www.tiktok.com/@marydates_/video/7242089187128642858

DATING TALK

THE END!

I am so proud of this project. I love social media and I love teaching people to love themselves! I hope to continue to positively affect people through digital and social media.

