

Gender Characteristics—Do they make a difference?

MEN	WOMEN
More self-focused	More “other” focused
Need less intimacy	Need more intimacy
Fear engulfment	Fears abandonment
Need less approval	Need more approval
Feel less resentful	Feel more resentful
More independent	Less independent
Often detached	Often emotional
More competitive	Less competitive
Attention-getters	Attention “givers”
Strong drive for power and money	Less drive for power and money
Respect is very important	Respect less important
Often obsessed with sports	Sports are less important
Talk about things	Talk about people
Take things literally	Look for hidden meanings
Use more direct language	Use less direct language
Quick decision makers	Take more time to decide
Gossip less	Gossip more
Engage in “put downs”	Engage in more “back biting”
Focus on solutions	Like to discuss problems
Less apologetic	More apologetic
Less willing to seek help	Seek help readily
Boast about performance	Boast less frequently



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Gender Characteristics—Do they make a difference?

MEN	WOMEN
Nag less often	Nag more often
Often intimidate others	Seldom intimidates others
Issue orders	Make suggestions
Fearful of commitment	Eager for commitment
Sexually jealous of mate	Emotionally jealous of mate
Accepting	Try to change others
Thrive on receiving	Thrive on giving
More polygamous	More monogamous
More sex-oriented	More love oriented
Have fewer close friends	Have many close friends
More sensitive to stress	Less sensitive to stress
More aggressive	Less aggressive
Have more testosterone	Have more estrogen
Less concerned about health	More concerned about health
Shop out of necessity	Often shop for enjoyment



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