Getting Your Ex Back from Another

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When you break up with someone (or they break up with you) and you find that your heart still aches for them, you need to make a decision about whether or not you're willing to fight for the relationship.

Once you know that you want to move in that direction, you'll have to size up the current status of their own love life. It's possible that they've already moved on and are with someone else now.

That doesn't mean all hope it lost. You just have to work on it more consistently and diligently to get the outcome you want. Follow the steps outlined here to help you reclaim your ex when he or she has already gone into the arms of another.

One thing you have to be cautious about, though. Sometimes when you break up with someone, you feel good about it – until another person comes into the picture.

Suddenly, you feel like they're the one who got away. You get possessive and want them back – or at the very least, not to be in another relationship just yet. Be conscious about your intentions.

You Have to Be Able to Remind Them of the Good Times

When we start dating someone, it's easy to go from the honeymoon stage to a phase where we don't even recognize the other person. You forget why you fell in love in the first place.

You want to show (not tell) your ex about what the honeymoon stage was all about and how you still resemble that same person they once were attracted to for all the right reasons. Many couples start out as friends first, but as soon as a heavy relationship gets started, the friendship dissipates and they become possessive and controlling, jealous and demanding.

Get back to square one. What do you like about them as a friend? What did they like about you? You can't rebuild this relationship and lure them away from a new person if there's not a solid foundation to work off of.

You have an advantage over a new person because you have backstory. Yes, some of that backstory is bad, but in most cases, the history goes back to a time that was filled with fun and laughter and butterflies in your stomach.

You don't want to focus so much on the bad moments by continually apologizing and begging them for forgiveness. One apology is enough. From that moment, make your efforts all about focusing on the positive moments.

You might want to casually remind them of something fun and casual. Don't barrage them with deep memories of heavy romance. Keep it light – make them want to leave their current relationship for you.

Be on Your Very Best Behavior

Right now, you might be feeling wounded. You're seeing your ex – the one you once loved (and still love) spending time with another person and giving them the attention you once received.

But now is not the time to get nasty and behave poorly toward the new person they're spending time with. The second you start acting jealous and irrational, it will confirm their decision to be with someone other than you.

You want your ex to think you're doing okay without them, but that doesn't mean you won't be giving them hints that you wouldn't mind a reconciliation. There's a big difference between being open to the idea and pursuing them in a stalker-ish manner. Sometimes a couple will break up and the person who gets into a new relationship intentionally does it to try to make the other person jealous. You don't want to play games – you want someone to be with you because they can't stand the alternative – not because they enjoy testing your loyalty.

In today's modern world, it's easy to become a stalker without meaning to be. If your ex is on social networking sites, you need to resist the temptation to cyberstalk them online.

This means doing things like commenting and responding or liking every post they have on Facebook, Twitter or other networks. Part of you might be using this as a way of staying relevant in their life.

But if they're with another person, there's probably a small part of you that is hoping that your participation will drive a wedge between he (or she) and their new significant other.

After all, nobody in a new relationship enjoys seeing their boyfriend or girlfriend continuing to interact with someone they recently got out of a relationship with in life.

If you see your ex and their new love out somewhere, never pick a fight with the new romantic interest. That will only end in disaster for you and make your ex look for a way to distance themselves from you even more. The best thing you can do is be gracious and hospitable when you meet them – because your ex will be attracted to the maturity level and class that you show.

What Do You Have That the Other Person Doesn't?

What will often happen is your girlfriend or boyfriend will be in a rebound relationship. Sometimes it's a short-term fling that will fizzle out quickly. You can't predict it, so you have to go forward regardless.

Here's the good news: you know your ex much better than the new person does. You know all of their likes and dislikes – from music to food to

movies and all of the emotionally intricate details like insecurities and things they're proud of.

This is a huge advantage for you. You know what your ex loved about you – and what they disliked, too. You might be able to find out what your ex's new love interest is like (careful research behind the scenes) and emphasize your attributes for things you know they'll dislike about the other person.

For example, if your ex loves long hair and red lipstick, and you notice the new girl he's dating has medium length hair and wears Chapstick, then you can emphasize those qualities he is attracted to.

Do the same with interests that you have in common. Maybe she hates Will Ferrell – and you know that's his all-time favorite actor. Even if you're not a huge fan, you can post and talk about going to see one of his movies and how great it was.

Make him long for the times he had with you. Make him (or her) remember what they loved that they don't have now. If you're still hanging around the same people, then have them help create scenarios where the two of you happen to be at the same event having fun with some common interests.

Flaunting these things might not be easy at first. You might need to use a variety of methods to initiate conversations or show off the fact that you have something the other person doesn't, such as:

- Be at the same events, parties and activities that you know s/he'll be at.
- Have mutual friends arrange for you both to attend something.
- Message him/her on Facebook in a friendly conversation.
- Post pictures of yourself doing that activity (reading his favorite Stephen King book for example) with a comment about it.

Fix Whatever Drove Them Away – and Show It

Have you gotten to the root of your previous problems yet? Do you know why your ex was drive into the arms of another person rather than stay with you to work things out?

Sometimes it's easy to pinpoint. Someone may have cheated on the other person. That's the kind of thing that makes it easy to repair. You can apologize and build loyalty and trust back with the person.

Other times, the reasons are vaguer. This makes it more difficult to fix, but it's not impossible. As long as you have the drive and determination to repair things, it's a possibility.

What problems did the other complain about with you? Start by making a concrete list so that you have a plan to work from. For example, was it one of these issues?

- They felt like you were irresponsible.
- You spent too much time with your friends.
- You nagged them too much like a parent.
- You spent too much money and never planned or saved.
- You became a hermit and quit taking them on fun date nights.
- You weren't willing to open up and have meaningful conversations.

Those are just a few examples of what can go wrong in a relationship and cause your ex to find someone better equipped to make them happy. So, what you have to do is fix the issue and then prove that it's something you understand to be a problem and are addressing.

Be specific in talking about how you're working on the issue. Thank them for making you aware of it and let them know you finally see the light. For example, if you weren't having emotional conversations, you can do that now – as friends first, and later as lovers if you are able to win them away from a current relationship.

If your ex complained because you were irresponsible, maybe unemployed and living in your parents' basement, then get a respectable job, start making plans to move out on your own and let them see the progress you're making.

Don't Rush the Process – and Don't Obsess About It

The best thing you can do under these circumstances is take it slow and don't get antsy about getting your ex back. Yes, it's a horrible situation to be in – knowing you love someone and they're currently with another person.

But that's the state of the situation, so now you have to work a plan to get them back. It's guaranteed that any drastic, shocking, fast and "in your face" methods will fail.

This will leave you looking stupid and feeling worthless. It also gives leverage to the next person because they'll be whispering in your ex's ear about how desperate and pathetic you're acting.

Don't give them the opportunity to do that to you. Play it cool. Think about what people are attracted to when they're dating. They're not into the clingy, forward guys and girls.

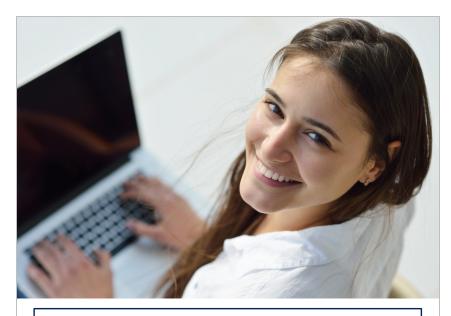
They're into the calm, cool and collected people who project an air of confidence when they walk into a room. That's what you have to do – and it might take some practice.

Whatever you do, don't start drunk dialing your ex at 3 in the morning, sobbing about how sad you are without them or how horrible you think their new relationship is.

The very best thing you can do is show that you've grown – a lot – and that you're someone they'd be a fool not to reconsider. In fact, you don't want to make it obvious at all that you're "after them" again.

You want it to seem as if it just happened to fall back into place – even better than before. You should appear as if you could take it or leave it, but you might enjoy getting reacquainted with them.

By taking this approach, you'll learn that whether or not your ex is smart enough to take you back over his current love – it won't matter anymore – because you will be a confident, self-sufficient person whose focus is on living a good life, and not desperately trying to regain the attention of someone who can't see how great you are.



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