

HOPE IS HOT AND BARE-MINIMUM IS NOT - FROM CLEAR-CODING TO HOT TAKE DATING

Tinder Presents Dating Trends For 2026, with singles showing that clarity, confidence and strong opinions will lead the way next year

(Sydney - December 3, 2025): The year may be ending, but clarity is just beginning. Tinder's Year in Swipe™ 2025 reveals how young singles hit reset on romance by ditching confusion, decoding intentions and rediscovering the fun in connection.

If 2024 was about intentional dating, 2025 became the calm after the plot. Singles slowed down, showed up, and started saying what they meant. According to Tinder, young singles are heading into 2026 more open, honest, and emotionally fluent than ever, making it the year of **no** mixed signals¹.

The "Boyfriends Are Embarrassing" Moment Just Raised the Bar

This year's viral trends - from "boyfriends are embarrassing" memes to the rise of solo soft launches - showed that singles aren't shying away from love, they're just redefining it on their own terms. Where relationships once signalled status, today's daters see self-expression and autonomy as the ultimate flex. On Tinder, that shift is reflected in confidence-led trends like Clear-Coding, Hot Take Dating, Friendfluence, and Emotional Vibe Coding, where authenticity, emotional availability, and even a little bold honesty are the new hallmarks of attraction. Dating isn't about cringe, it's about clarity, connection and owning your story.

"We've all got enough going on and dating shouldn't feel like another deadline," says**Melissa Hobley**, Chief Marketing Officer at Tinder. "Singles are looking for a connection that feels easy, honest and a little bit fun. They're done overthinking every message and overanalyzing every match. Dating should add a spark, not more stress. You can already see that energy in what's shaping 2026 - singles are saying exactly what they want, standing for what they believe in, and leading with honesty and openness. Being emotionally available doesn't make you cringe, it makes you interesting."

View the full release here.

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