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Useful tips on how to make friends

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### THE ART OF FRIENDSHIP: 70 SIMPLE RULES FOR MAKING MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS

By Roger and Sally Horchow

St. Martin's Press, 144 pages,

\$19.95

Some people are like dogs, good at sniffing out new friends. For others, friendship is less instinctive. This little book is for them.

In it, U.S. businessman Roger Horchow and his journalist daughter, Sally, provide tips for making and keeping friends.

Some of the tips are fairly obvious, like that we need to be truly open to others in order to establish new friendships. But the Horchows have other, more original ideas, too. These include their recommendation that eavesdropping can help us decide whether we want to pursue a friendship with a certain individual. They also suggest "pick-up" lines, noting that this strategy is more commonly associated with romantic encounters. If you spot a potential friend, consider inquiring whether he's read anything interesting lately.

The Horchows make useful points about how technology has influenced friendship. The Internet has made it possible to track down old friends; email has become a standard way for friends to stay in touch. But the Horchows argue that there is no substitute for face-to-face contact.

While they devote the first half of their book to making new friends, they also remind us not to neglect our old friendships.

According to the Horchows, "Expression is the ultimate act of friendship."

They point out that though we are likely to tell our lovers and co-workers how we feel about them, few of us tell our friends how much they mean to us.

There are also useful tips on letting go of friendships that no longer sustain us. The Horchows write that accepting the demise of such friendships is, "as healthy as getting rid of something in your closet that doesn't fit you anymore."

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