# WHAT ARE ATTACHMENT STYLES? -I (PART 1)

Understanding and enhancing attachment styles can enable you to build healthy and loving relationships and foster a deeper understanding between you and your loved ones.



Imagine that relationships are like colourful kites flying high in the sky. And the strings of those kites are the invisible bonds that connect us. Attachment styles, like those different strings, play an important role in how these kites fly.

But, before we delve into untangling the strings of different attachment styles, let us help you understand 'attachment theory'.

#### What is the 'Attachment Theory'?

Developed by psychoanalyst John Bowlby, the attachment theory talks about the emotional bonds we form with others and how these bonds affect our relationships. It explores how your experiences with early caregivers shape your attachment styles, which influences how you interact and connect with others.

So basically, attachment styles are blueprints that shape the way you receive and give love and support to others.



To help you understand what the 4 types of attachment styles are, let us take you on a thrilling tour through different attachment styles and discover how they make your relationship a sweet adventure!

### Secure Attachment Style: The Merry-Go-Round of Trust!

In this attachment style, trust shines vibrantly at the core. With a strong foundation built with emotional security, you enjoy a smooth ride of transparent communication, intimacy, and support.

People with a secure attachment style view themselves and others positively. They feel comfortable with intimacy, communicate their needs effectively, and are able to support their loved ones. A secure attachment fosters trust, emotional safety, and mutual understanding in relationships.



### Anxious-Preoccupied Attachment Style: The Roller Coaster of Affection!

People with this attachment style take you on a ride of intense and deep emotions and crave closeness. They face a whirlwind of ups and downs and may need additional reassurance and understanding to keep their relationship ride enjoyable.

Individuals with this attachment style may feel insecure and worry if they are worthy of love and affection. They may also fear abandonment and rejection. Understanding and addressing these anxieties can help create more secure and satisfying relationships.



## Dismissive-Avoidant Attachment Style: The Ferris Wheel of Independence!

In this towering ferris wheel, personal space, independence, and self-reliance take the centre stage. This attachment style provides a unique view of relationships from above, allowing you to maintain distance while enjoying the panorama of your relationship.

Balancing independence with emotional connection is the key to enjoying this ride. People with this attachment style tend to avoid closeness or emotional intimacy and prefer to maintain their distance. Acknowledging and challenging these avoidance patterns can help in developing more emotionally connected relationships.

# Fearful-Avoidant Attachment Style: The Maze of Vulnerability!

People with this attachment style desire closeness but fear getting hurt.

They may fear rejection or abandonment and feel uncomfortable with too much intimacy. Nurturing self-compassion and seeking support can help with the complexities of this attachment style. Navigating this maze requires courage, self-compassion, and support from trusted companions.

By understanding and embracing attachment styles, you can unlock the secrets to building stronger relationships and creating your own unique love story at this relationship carnival.

So, fasten your seatbelts and get ready for a roller coaster of self-discovery and exciting relationship adventures in the next worksheet!

If you, or someone you know is looking to seek professional help, reach out to us at **The Mood Space** <a href="https://www.themoodspace.com/getstarted">https://www.themoodspace.com/getstarted</a> and our Care Team will get back to you within 24 hours.

Not looking for professional help just yet? We understand, keep browsing through our Care Space tools and explore our self-help handouts and worksheets to navigate mental health-related challenges in a better manner.

