

Attraction can be split up into 4 types:

Sexual attraction

the desire for sexual contact with someone



Romantic attraction

the desire for a romantic relationship with someone

Sensual attraction

the desire to touch or be touched in a non-sexual way by someone (cuddles, caresses, non-sexual kisses, etc.)

Aesthetic attraction

appreciation for the way someone looks

An **asexual** person is someone who does not experience sexual attraction.

An **allosexual** person is someone who does experience sexual attraction.

More information

Asexuality Education & Visibility Network (AVEN)
www.asexuality.org

Asexual Awareness Week
www.asexualawarenessweek.com

Asexuality Archive
www.asexualityarchive.com

(A)sexual
Documentary, available on Netflix

Asexuality: a brief introduction
Book, available in LGBTQ Resource Center Library



Presented by 
The Ace Spectrum
Many identities fall under the broader umbrella term asexual (or **ace** for short!)



Asexual

someone who does not experience sexual attraction

Gray-asexual

generally, someone who rarely or infrequently experiences sexual attraction

Demisexual

Asexuality 101

someone who only experiences sexual attraction to people they have a close emotional connection to

None of these definitions are set in stone. As with all identities, each individual person decides what label (if any) suits them best, and what that label means to them.

Attraction vs. Action

Having sex or not having sex are **actions**. Choosing not to have sex is not the same thing as asexuality or demisexuality, which only describe a **lack of attraction** – these identities don't determine the actions people take.

An asexual person may choose to have sex despite not feeling attraction, just as an allosexual person may choose not to have sex despite feeling attraction.

Some reasons an asexual person who is not sexually attracted to their partner would choose to have sex might be:

- wanting to make their partner happy
- enjoying the physical sensations of sex
- reproduction
- wanting to be close to a partner
- any reason an allosexual person might have sex, other than sexual attraction

Romantic Orientations

A romantic orientation describes the gender(s) someone is romantically attracted to.

Sometimes romantic and sexual orientations line up, and sometimes they don't.

Aromantic

someone who does not experience romantic attraction (but may or may not experience sexual attraction)

Homoromantic

someone who is romantically attracted to the same or similar gender(s) as their own

Heteroromantic

someone who is romantically attracted to different gender(s) than their own

Biromantic

someone who is romantically attracted to the same or similar gender(s) as well as different gender(s)

Panromantic

someone who is romantically attracted to all genders

