First Principles



These Principles serve as the FOUNDATION between you and your partner.

- No one is more important than my partner.
 Nothing comes between us
- Every decision I make, does it serve me of the relationship?
- My partner is a good and decent person, and they come by their feelings honestly, have a right to their feelings and their feelings are valid. I do not have the right to dismiss or be offended by feelings.

Daily Monologue & Connection



- 1 What satisfied me about US today?
- 2 What did not satisfy me about US today?
- 3 What do I need help with?
- 4 Self Critique of our adherence/lack of adherence to first principles

CONNECTION

REMEMBER to build in 1.5-2 hours daily quality time, as defined by you both!

Active Listening



- 1 LISTEN without interruption.
- 2 REFLECT Make sure intent and message align.
- 3 GENTLE RESPONSE We are responsible for our perceptions. Ensure your response embodies honouring first principles.

PRO HACKS:

Reflection: What did you hear me say?

Empathy: What do you think a person is feeling and why?

Acknowledge and Validate the feelings of the other.

It does not mean you agree.

Response: Would you please rephrase that?

Listen to understand, not to respond

Triena McGuirk, BSW.