

# Cultivation of Friendship within Epicureanism

Post by “Kalosyni” of November 26, 2022 at 7:22 AM

They didn't have dictionaries back in hellenistic Greece... but we do 😊

**friendship**, a state of enduring affection, esteem, [intimacy](#), and trust between two people. In all [cultures](#), friendships are important relationships throughout a person's life span.

source: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/friendship>

(This site has an interesting write-up about friendship development across the lifespan).

## Quote

Friendship is generally characterized by five defining features:

- 1. It is a dyadic relationship, meaning that it involves a series of interactions between two individuals known to each other.
- 2. It is recognized by both members of the relationship and is characterized by a bond or tie of [reciprocated](#) affection.
- 3. It is not obligatory; two individuals choose to form a friendship with each other. In Western societies, friendships are one of the least prescribed close relationships, with no formal duties or legal obligations to one another.
- 4. It is typically egalitarian in nature. Unlike parent-child relationships, for instance, each individual in a friendship has about the same amount of power or authority in the relationship.
- 5. It is almost always characterized by companionship and shared activities. In fact, one of the primary goals and motivations of friendship is companionship. In addition, adolescent and adult friendships often perform other functions, such as serving as sources of emotional support and providing opportunities for self-disclosure and intimacy.