

LGBTQ+

Dictionary

Respecting how someone describes their sexual or gender identity is an important part of supporting LGBTQ+ people. Here are some common terms you may see or hear.

Gay: A broad term for same-sex attraction. Often used for a man who is attracted to other men.

Lesbian: A woman who is attracted to other women.

Bisexual (Bi): A person who is attracted to more than one gender.

Pansexual: A person who is attracted to others regardless of gender identity or sex assigned at birth.

Queer: An umbrella term for people who identify as LGBTQ+. Some use it proudly. Others may not like the term because it was once used as a slur.

Transgender (Trans): A person whose gender identity does not match the sex they were assigned at birth. It can also be an umbrella term for people who are nonbinary or gender-fluid.

Nonbinary: Someone whose gender identity is not only male or female. They may feel like both, neither or somewhere in between.

Gender-Fluid: A person whose gender identity changes over time. They may feel more male, female or nonbinary at different points.

Pronouns: Words used in place of a name, like he/him, she/her or they/them. Using someone's correct pronouns shows respect for their identity.

Gender-Neutral Pronouns: Pronouns used when a person's gender is unknown or when someone prefers them. The most common is the singular they/them/theirs.

Asexual (Ace): Someone who experiences little or no sexual attraction. They may still feel romantic attraction.

Ally: A person who supports LGBTQ+ people and advocates for their rights, even if they are not LGBTQ+ themselves.

For an expanded list of glossary terms, visit pflag.org.

[#HappyPride](#) [#SupportPride](#)

Reviewed by Medical Director, Doctor of Medicine, MD.