

LBGTQIA+ Definitions and explanations

What does it all mean?

We know what **LGBTQ** stands for but there are many other terms people now identify with.

LGBTQ+ is an "inclusive" way to represent all the different identities in the longer acronym but here's a breakdown of what each of the letters in **LBGTQIA+** mean.

The seven terms cover the different ways people define their gender and sexuality. Some people may also identify with more than one of these descriptions.

L - lesbian	a woman who is attracted to other women
G - gay	a man who is attracted to other men or broadly people who identify as homosexual
B - bisexual	a person who is attracted to both men and women
T - transgender	a person whose gender identity or gender expression or both do not conform to the sex they were assigned at birth.
Q - queer	originally used as a hate term, some people want to reclaim the word, while others find it offensive. It can be used as a political statement, suggesting that someone doesn't want to identify with binary terms or that they don't want to label themselves only by their sexual activity
I - intersex	a person whose body is not definitively male or female. This may be because they have chromosomes which are not XX or XY or because their genitals or reproductive organs are not considered standard
A - asexual	a person who is not attracted in a sexual way to people of any gender
+	and others

You may also see the acronym **LGBTQQIP2SAA**. This includes the following identities:

Q- Questioning	a person who is still exploring their sexuality or gender identity
I - Intersex	a person is born with reproductive or sexual anatomy that doesn't fit the boxes of 'female' or 'male.'
P - pansexual	a person whose sexual attraction is not based on gender and may themselves be fluid when it comes to gender or sexual identity
Two Spirited	Native American/Indigenous people who identify with a third gender, implying a masculine and a feminine spirit in one body.

Whichever you use be aware that the list is not exhaustive. There are over 85 terms (and counting) defined by people who identify with the terms themselves. Additional terms and explanations can be found on the [Stonewall](#) website.