

Austin Mahone Denies Dating Selena Gomez



By Brittany Stubbs

Despite the rumors going around, Austin Mahone, 17, and Selena Gomez, 21, are **not dating**. “We’re **just friends**,” Mahone says. “She’s really cool...I mean, I think she’s really pretty but every time I’m in L.A., she’s like, ‘Hey, you’re in L.A., lets hang out,’” he added at the Aquafina FlavorSplash press conference this Wednesday. “So it’s cool.” An industry insider, having worked with both of the teen stars, claims that though they are not dating, Mahone and Gomez certainly have a special connection. “They’ve been hanging out over the last few months,” the source tells [People](#). “They have a lot of respect for each other.”

How do you know whether to risk your friendship for a relationship?

Cupid's Advice:

Deciding whether or not you should take your friendship to a romantic level is tough; it can often be messy and end badly. Despite the potential consequences though, sometimes the best relationships begin with a friendship, so it is important to know when to take the risk:

1. If the feeling is mutual: If you're starting to feel something for your friend that's more than just friendly, it's important to try and assess their feelings before taking it to the next level. If you haven't actually spoken about these feelings, pay attention to the way he speaks to you, speaks about other girls in front of you, etc. If you're going to risk your friendship by telling him how you truly feel, you want to make sure there's at least a chance he could feel the same way, because once you speak up, your friendship will never be the same.

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2. If the timing is right for both of you: Timing is everything when it comes to any relationship. Deciding whether or not to take it to that next level, consider where you both currently are. Are either of you seeing other people, even if they're not serious? Are either of you fresh out of a relationship? It's important to consider these complications before deciding to be something more.

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3. You can no longer see them as just a friend: If you're at the point where you no longer can look at each other without

wondering if you could be something more, you might as well risk your friendship because you're already past the point of acting as friends. Although things might go south down the road, it will beat a long friendship of wondering, what if?

Have you ever risked a friendship for a relationship? Share your experiences below.