

Romance Plot Outline

For more information about plot outlines, go to: <https://www.novel-software.com/genrestorytemplates>

Act 1

Introduce the protagonist (who feels incomplete)	Introduce the main character's world. They may be successful in many areas of their life, but clearly have a gap when it comes to a loving relationship. Foreshadow the conflict that will create challenges for the romance to come. Establish the hero's non-romance based goal.	+ 🗑️
Protagonist meets love interest but there is conflict	When the two main characters first meet it is extremely likely that they will hate each other on sight. Show how they are from different worlds, with strongly contrasting views on life.	+ 🗑️
Characters are forced to spend time together	Due to external factors, the characters are forced to spend time together, and even to cooperate to achieve a goal. They are still at odds, but the sparks are kindling some fire... A friend may even comment on it, but the couple to be both hotly deny there is anything to be attracted to.	+ 🗑️
Characters' goals are at cross purposes	Despite the growing attraction between the couple, their lives are still at odds.	+ 🗑️

+ Add Act Item 🗑️ Delete Act

Act 2

Characters are bound together in a situation (sexual tension occurs)	The characters begin to realise that they can't deny the attraction between themselves and begin to surrender to it.	+ 🗑️
Protagonist's individual desire conflicts with the growing relationship	However, the characters are still pursuing their individual goals, and these put them at odds with each other, even if they are trying to cooperate. (External conflict) Alternatively, / in addition - the hero has fears about the relationship - which are probably rooted in his or her past, and due to internal conflict, he or she sabotages the relationship. They may pretend that this fear of being emotionally vulnerable is actually due to their other, 'more important' commitments. (Internal conflict)	+ 🗑️
Crisis - shift to prioritize relationship ends in disaster	The protagonist finally begins to see the light and moves towards prioritizing the relationship, but disaster strikes, usually the result of their actions chasing their personal non-romance based goal earlier on. The crisis often involves separation between the two main characters.	+ 🗑️

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Act 3

Climax - protagonist must make personal sacrifice for ultimately fulfilling relationship	The hero realises that if they don't change their ways they will lose the love of their life forever. So he or she summons the courage to overcome their inner demons and outer obstacles and makes some kind of sacrifice (this could simply be voluntarily submitting to humiliation for a proud person) in order to prove their love.	+ 🗑️
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This worksheet is based on a screenshot from the Novel Factory Online novel writer's software. If you'd like to be able to use the interface to complete and edit your plot outline, and see a range of other plot outlines for popular genres, you can [get a free trial here.](#)