

GENDERQUEER: Provider 101

GENDERQUEER

(or, gender nonconforming)

Genderqueer is an umbrella term used to describe people who are not cisgender.

Cisgender (Cis): A person is cis if their gender identity matches the sex they were assigned at birth.

Common pronouns:

he, she

Gender identity:

_____ → female/woman/girl

_____ × → male/man/boy

_____ → other gender(s)

Sex assigned at birth:

female male intersex/other

They may have identities like these:

TRANSGENDER (TRANS)

A person is trans if their gender identity doesn't match the sex they were assigned at birth.

Note: the word transsexual should not be used.

Common pronouns:

he, she, they, xe, ze

Gender identity:

_____ → female/woman/girl

_____ × → male/man/boy

_____ → other gender(s)

Sex assigned at birth:

female male intersex/other

NONBINARY

A person is nonbinary if they don't identify fully as male or female. They may identify as both male and female, as a mixture of male and female, or as another gender (neither male nor female).

Common pronouns:

they, xe, ze

Gender identity:

_____ × → female/woman/girl

_____ × → male/man/boy

_____ × → other gender(s)

Sex assigned at birth:

female male intersex/other

GENDERFLUID

A person is genderfluid if their gender identity changes from day to day or from moment to moment.

Some genderfluid people identify as trans. Others do not.

Common pronouns:

they, xe, ze

Gender identity:

————— ~~x~~ → *female/woman/girl*
————— ~~x~~ → *male/man/boy*
————— ~~x~~ → *other gender(s)*

Sex assigned at birth:

female *male* *intersex/other*

AGENDER

A person is agender if their gender is absent or neutral.

Some agender people identify as trans. Others do not.

Common pronouns:

they, xe, ze

Gender identity:

~~x~~ ————— → *female/woman/girl*
~~x~~ ————— → *male/man/boy*
~~x~~ ————— → *other gender(s)*

Sex assigned at birth:

female *male* *intersex/other*

TWO-SPIRIT

Two Spirit refers to someone who is Native and expresses their gender identity or spiritual identity in indigenous, non-Western ways.

This term can only be applied to a person who is Native. A Two Spirit person has specific traditional roles and responsibilities within their tribe.

Not all Native LGBTQ people identify as Two Spirit.

Important Notes on Usage:

- None of these terms have an -ed on the end.
- These terms are adjectives, not nouns. You could say, “a Two Spirit person” or “a person who identifies as Two Spirit.” You would not say, “a Two Spirit.” The same applies to all terms.
- The words “transsexual,” “tranny,” and “transvestite” are offensive and should not be used.
- All of these terms are relatively new and quickly evolving. It’s best if you ask someone what the term they use means to them.
- These terms don’t provide any information about sexual orientation or attraction.
- This sheet is not meant to guide pronoun use. If you don’t know someone’s preferred pronouns, ask, “Do you use pronouns? If so, what pronouns do you use?”