

BE AN ACTIVE ALLY

10 ways to be an active ally for LGBTQI+ communities

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE






The Safe Space Alliance is a LGBTQI+ led nonprofit organisation that aims to help people identify, navigate, and create safe spaces for LGBTQI+ communities worldwide. Being part of the Safe Space Alliance is being part of a global and collaborative safe space community.

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Being a good ally to LGBTQI+ communities involves actively supporting and advocating for equal rights, inclusivity, and respect.

OVERVIEW

This guide covers ten ways you can be an active ally for LGBTQI+ communities:

- ① Educate yourself
- ② Actively listen
- ③ Use inclusive language
- ④ Stand up against discrimination
- ⑤ Support LGBTQI+ rights
- ⑥ Amplify LGBTQI+ voices
- ⑦ Support LGBTQI+ organisations
- ⑧ Be an ally every day
- ⑨ Recognise intersectionality
- ⑩ Accept feedback and grow

1. EDUCATE YOURSELF

Take the initiative to educate yourself about LGBTQI+ history, terminology, issues, and the experiences of LGBTQI+ individuals. This knowledge will help you better understand the challenges LGBTQI+ communities face.

SUGGESTIONS



Talk to your local LGBTQI+ support organisation/s.



Read LGBTQI+ authored books, journals, and articles.



2. ACTIVELY LISTEN

Actively listen to the experiences and stories of LGBTQI+ individuals. Be open-minded, empathetic, and non-judgmental.

Learn from their perspectives and respect their lived experiences.

SUGGESTIONS



Ask open-ended questions that invite further discussion.



If someone shares personal or sensitive information with you, respect their privacy.

3. USE INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE

Be mindful of the language you use and avoid derogatory or offensive terms. Use gender-neutral or inclusive language whenever possible.

Respect people's preferred pronouns and gender identities.

SUGGESTIONS



Respect individuals' privacy and never disclose their sexual orientation or gender identity without their explicit consent.



If you make a mistake or use incorrect language, be open to feedback and willing to learn from it.



Allow individuals to self-identify and express their identities without making assumptions.



Avoid stereotypes and generalisations. Recognise that LGBTQI+ people are diverse and have unique experiences.

4. STAND UP AGAINST DISCRIMINATION



Speak out against discrimination, prejudice, and harassment faced by LGBTQI+ people.

Challenge homophobic, biphobic, and transphobic comments or actions when you encounter them.

SUGGESTIONS



Advocate for policies that promote equality and protection for LGBTQI+ people.



If you have a platform, whether it's in your workplace, community, or online, use it to raise awareness about LGBTQI+ discrimination.



5. SUPPORT LGBTQI+ RIGHTS

Advocate for equal rights and support LGBTQI+ supportive policies and legislation.

Participate in events, demonstrations, or rallies that promote inclusivity.

6. AMPLIFY LGBTQI+ VOICES

Use your platform, whether it's social media, workplace, or community, to amplify LGBTQI+ voices and share their stories.

Give credit to LGBTQI+ activists, artists, and leaders who are working for positive change.

SUGGESTIONS



Actively include LGBTQI+ people as speakers or panelists.



Highlight the activism and advocacy efforts of LGBTQI+ people and organisations.



7. SUPPORT LGBTQI+ ORGANISATIONS

Contribute your time, skills, and/or resources to LGBTQI+ organisations or initiatives. This can involve volunteering, donating, or participating in fundraising events to support their work.

SUGGESTIONS



Talk to your local LGBTQI+ support organisation/s.



Use your platforms to raise awareness about LGBTQI+ organisations and their work.

8. BE AN ALLY EVERY DAY

Being an ally is an ongoing commitment. Show your support consistently, not just during pride month or LGBTQI+ events.

Be aware of the struggles LGBTQI+ communities face daily and offer your support.

SUGGESTIONS



Advocate for policies and practices that promote diversity and inclusion.



Stay open to feedback, learn from your mistakes, and adapt your understanding and actions as you grow.

9. RECOGNISE INTERSECTIONALITY



Recognise that LGBTQI+ people can have intersecting identities, such as race, religion, disability, or socio-economic status.

Acknowledge the unique challenges faced by those who belong to multiple marginalised communities.

SUGGESTIONS



Stay open to learning, unlearning, and evolving your understanding of intersectionality.



Engage in dialogue and joint efforts with individuals and organisations working towards various forms of equality and justice.



10. ACCEPT FEEDBACK AND GROW

Be open to feedback and constructive criticism. No one is perfect, and it's important to recognise and learn from your mistakes.

Use feedback as an opportunity for growth and self-improvement.

Remember that being an ally is an ongoing process. By following these tips and continuously educating yourself, you can make a positive impact and create a more inclusive and accepting society.





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