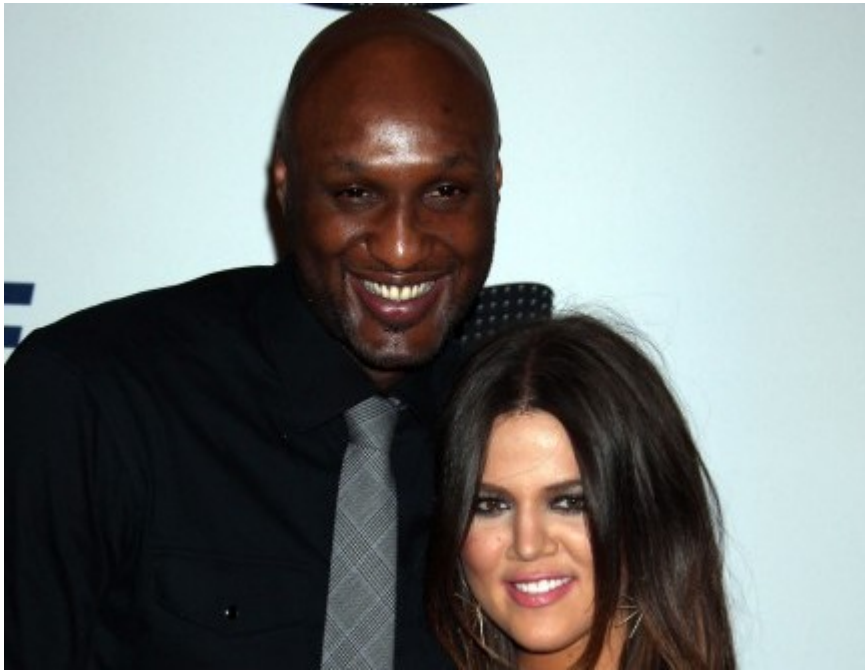


Celebrity Athletes and the Women Behind Them



By Ashley DelBello

It's no surprise that relationships are work, but when your beau is a well-known athlete it takes a special kind of woman to be able to date them and handle the added pressures that come with being in the spotlight. What gives them that extra strength? Cupid takes a look at a few celebrity athletes and their partners:

Lamar Odom and Khloe Kardashian: It couldn't be a worse time for this couple. Lamar is said to be battling a drug addiction and Khloe appears to be trying to stay strong coming off of their four-year anniversary. While Khloe is no stranger to the spotlight and her way of handling it has been somewhat controversial with her cryptic posts on Instagram and Twitter, Khloe has been adamant that she wants Lamar to get better and

will not make a decision about her marriage until after the current season of *Keeping Up with the Kardashians* has stopped filming – allowing her sufficient time to keep her personal life off camera as much as possible.

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David Beckham and Victoria Beckham: Just about every woman in the world is in love with David Beckham, so how does former Spice Girl Victoria keep her cool knowing many women want her man? She became just as successful as her husband. She learned how to deal with the pressures of being a mom of four, a former pop star and she has her own clothing line. This power couple seems to have nothing to worry about.

Andy Roddick and Brooklyn Decker: While they married young and she's just as busy if not busier than him these days, supermodel-turned actress Brooklyn Decker was very much supportive of Andy and his career – even tearing up at the end of his last match. Andy also returns the favor as Brooklyn has openly discussed how being married to him gives her a new appreciation for her body. Speaking to *Women's Health* Brooklyn said: "He's taught me that it's not how thin you are that matters. It's how your body performs, how it endures wear and tear."

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To date an athlete with superstar status, women need to be secure and have their own life, but they also need to know how and when to be supportive when those traits are reciprocated from their partner – qualities that are good for any healthy relationship, whether your other half is a David Beckham or not.

What other qualities do women dating super star athletes need to have? Comment below.