

COSMO

For
Latinas

SEPTEMBER 2014

OMG!

**WHAT
NOT TO
TEXT**

**BULLIED
@ WORK?**

HOW TO
FIGHT
BACK

**¡COMIDA
RICA!**

BAD FOODS
THAT ARE
GOOD FOR
YOU

FALL FASHION

**NEED NEW
HIGHLIGHTS?**

FIND YOUR
PERFECT SHADE

**SEXIER IN
SECONDS**

1-MINUTE
FITNESS
MOVES

**ZOE
SALDANA**

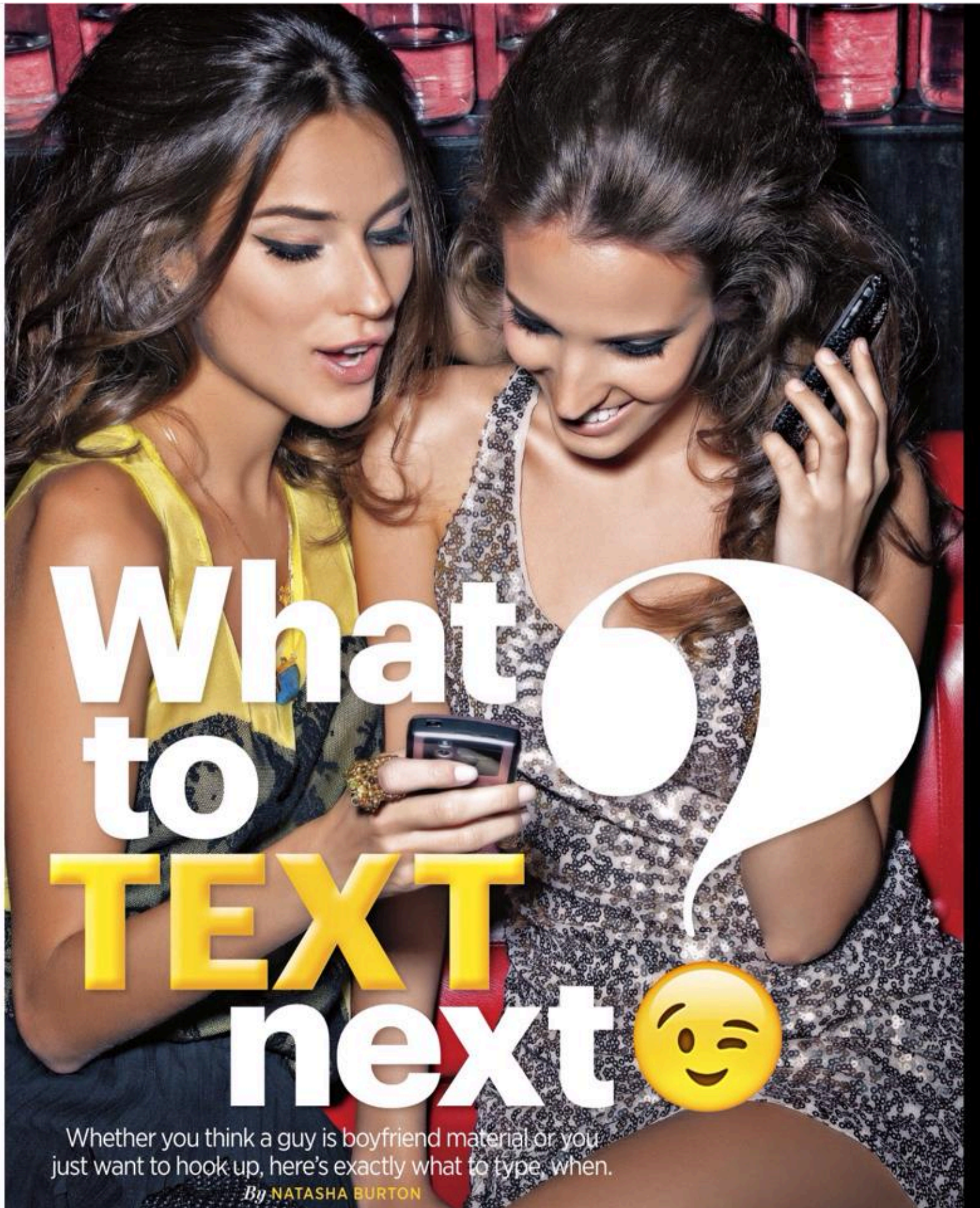
ON
POWER
PLAYS &
GREAT
SEX

**Beauty
Awards!**

BEST NAILS,
HAIR, SKIN
& YOU!

HOT
HEELS,
COOL
COATS &
SMOKIN'
STYLES





What to **TEXT** next



Whether you think a guy is boyfriend material or you just want to hook up, here's exactly what to type, when.

By **NATASHA BURTON**

YOUR HOW TO

DIGITAL DATING GUIDE

DON'T TEXT FIRST

"Latinas can be too giving too fast with our time and attention," says matchmaker Renessa Rios, so she advises not texting first. But once he reaches out, it's totally cool to keep things moving. "Send a message that's relaxed and fun, like 'Last night was great. Would love to do it again,'" says relationship pro Charles J. Orlando. Avoid too-soon statements like "Thinking of you," or he may think he's got a clinger on his hands.



KEEPING THE PACE

Dating expert Adam LoDolce says not to "text him more than he texts you." That includes asking what he's "up to" all the time. "You can't keep tabs on the guy if he's not your boyfriend," he says. Since even short texts (like "hey") can sound desperate, Rios says, text only when you have a reason—or make one up. Maybe you ran into a mutual friend or ate at a restaurant he wanted to try—both are totally acceptable reasons to reach out.



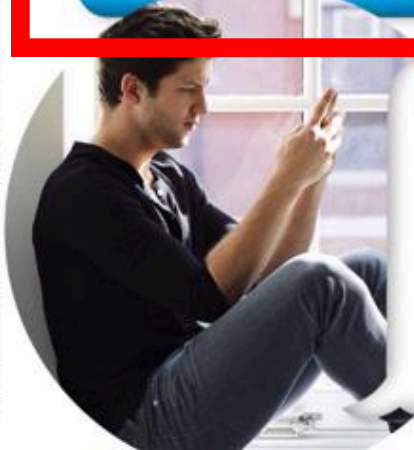
CLOSE THE DEAL

Show confidence without being aggressive, says relationship expert Lori Bizzoco. Instead of texting something vague like "How was your day?" ask him out. "Inviting him for late-night drinks versus afternoon coffee, signals you're looking for a fun evening." If you simply want a hook up, and you've done so before, text something like "I can't stop thinking about kissing you again," says LoDolce. "If he doesn't get the hint, move on."



BREAK THINGS OFF

If you've gone out only once with the guy, then a simple "Sorry, I'm really busy, I'd rather just be friends for now" text is fine, LoDolce says. But, if you've been on a few dates, you're going to have to say a bit more. Start with something you liked about him (like his sense of humor), but that you just didn't feel a spark, Rios says. To soften the blow, end with: "I wish you the best—I know the right girl will adore you."



Messages Real Life Edit

TEXT FAILS

"I was complaining to a friend that I needed a pedicure, but I sent the text to a guy I was hooking up with. I think my exact quote was, 'My jagged toenails are cutting me.'"

—Emily, 32



"I wrote a long text to my boo saying, 'Hey babe, meet me back at my place and we can eat some Chinese and snuggle all night.' My mom then wrote me back and said, 'Uh, sounds like fun, but I don't think that was for me.' I pretty much wanted to die right there."

—Alex, 30



"My biggest text fails always happen when I'm texting different people simultaneously. I've sent my boss texts like 'I can't wait for you to get home!' or 'What's for dinner hot stuff?' And to my boyfriend, 'Shall I pick up some muffins for the meeting?'"

—Arielle, 29



"Once I went out to lunch for Philly cheese steaks with a guy, and then we went to his place to chill. While he was asleep, I went to the bathroom with awful diarrhea. I was mortified! I texted my cousin about what was going on, and a few seconds later, I heard his phone beep! When he woke up and read the text, I tried to laugh it off, but the damage was done. We never saw each other again after that."

—Mercedes, 34

