

Rascal Flatts' Jay DeMarcus & Wife Are Expecting!



After six years of marriage, bassist Jay DeMarcus from Rascal Flatts, and wife Allison, a former Miss Tennessee and presenter on CMT, are expecting their first child, the *Associated Press* reported Wednesday. "I'm looking forward to hearing the pitter-patter of little feet around the house and all of that wonderful stuff," DeMarcus told [People](#). After celebrating the announcement with band-mates Gary LeVox and Joe Don Rooney, the father-to-be added, "I'm ready for the challenge." The couple's baby is due in January.

Are you ready to have kids?

Cupid's Advice:

Children are a big step in a relationship. While they are bundles of joy that bring meaning to life, they can also bring frustration, exhaustion, and a little pinch of doubt that causes you to ask, "Am I doing this right?" Here are some things to consider before the water breaks:

1. Plan on spending: Raising a child costs money, from the beginning of pregnancy through the child's life. Stats show that you can expect to spend at least \$11,000 on just the first year of your baby's life. Budget your money early so you can become accustomed with your new allowance when you need to.

2. Evaluate you and your partner's emotional health: Being a parent can bring out the best in you, but it can also bring

out the worst. Realize the negative aspects of your personality, and work to control bad habits. Being emotionally stable will help your children to grow, as well as show them how to develop security in their lives as well.

3. Are you doing it for the right reasons? Don't have a child if you think it will save your marriage, make your partner settle down, or if you feel forced into it. A person convinced into having children may feel resentment, annoyance, and even anger when the baby arrives. Make sure you and your partner both want to take this step.