

Date Idea: Turn up the Heat in the Kitchen



 By Amanda Martin

Stay in this weekend and test your skills in the kitchen with your significant other. Prepare the whole meal from scratch and don't forget to set a romantic mood with candles.

Start with something simple for an appetizer. Put together a mixed green salad with fresh vegetables such as grilled eggplant, tomatoes, cucumbers and a balsamic vinaigrette dressing. You'll be eating healthy as a couple, so neither of you will feel too guilty about dessert.

For the main course, make spaghetti with homemade tomato sauce. It's easy enough for beginners and it's the team effort that counts when making the sauce. Be sure that the two of you eat opposite ends of a single strand of spaghetti until meeting in the middle – Lady and the Tramp style.

If you're in the mood for fun romance, individual pizzas are a delicious meal to cook together. Create heart shapes with the dough and make a game out of spinning it in the air like a professional chef. Once the main course is in the oven, start on the sweets. Mix your own cake batter and frosting exactly how you both like it. Use colored icing to write messages to one another on the cupcakes. It can be something important you've been waiting to say, or it can just be a reminder of your love.

Cozy up on the couch with a bottle of wine after dinner. Shut the ringer on your phones and keep the TV turned off. Instead, use this time to really bond.

What's your favorite meal to cook together? Let us know in the comments below.