How Celebrity Couples Overcome Their Stressful Lives





By Whitney Baker

While it's tempting to think that celebrity couples never experience the ups-and-downs of real life, that's not always the case. Like everyone else, they must survive personal heartbreak, career letdowns and various forms of rejection – and they must do it all in the public eye. Of course, being a Tinseltown twosome means that they have money and means to overcome their stressful lives, perhaps by doing one of the activities below.

1. Learning something new: Although stars are often on set for long hours or traveling for various commitments, there is always downtime during their hectic schedules, giving them time to pick up a new hobby. For instance, Curtis Stone, who has a son with fiancée Lindsay Price, hopes that he and Price can learn how to speak Spanish and then teach their son the language.

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2. Taking an extravagant vacation: Thanks to their hefty paychecks and flexible jobs, stars can jet off to Mexico or the Caribbean on a whim. Some of them even own their own private planes, making it extra easy to take a last-minute vacation. After co-hosting ABC's *New Year's Rockin' Eve* with Jenny McCarthy, Ryan Seacrest headed down to St. Barts for some fun in the sun with his long-time girlfriend Julianne Hough. This trip provided some much-needed R&R for the busy couple: Seacrest is gearing up for the twelfth season of American Idol, while Hough is promoting her upcoming movie *Safe Haven*. Likewise, Reese Witherspoon, Jim Toth and their three children spent the holidays in Hawaii.

3. Enjoying normal, domestic activities: Sometimes, just doing basic, everyday chores helps alleviate the pressure that comes with being rich and famous. When their schedules align and Carrie Underwood and husband Mike Fisher are both at their Nashville home, they like to keep things simple: they often spend time cooking and watching television together. Underwood likes to keep a similar routine when she's on tour, often doing her own laundry on her days off.

4. Donating to charities: While stardom certainly comes with stress, it also includes many wonderful perks. One way for stars to fully appreciate how blessed they are is by giving back — and no couple does this better than the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. Kate Middleton is making sure her charitable donations reflect on her pregnancy; in January, she gave both a hamper of new baby products and a package of baby clothes to one of her favorite causes, East Anglia Children's Hospices.

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5. Adopting a puppy: Similarly, many celebrities show their goodwill by rescuing dogs from local shelters. These furry creatures provide them with constant companions despite their busy schedules. At the start of the New Year, Miley Cyrus and Liam Hemsworth adopted a Chihuahua-mix puppy, Bean, who joins their family of four other rescued dogs. Likewise, Katherine Heigl – who even started her own animal companion charity – and husband Josh Kelley have a full house: they're raising their two daughters alongside seven rescued dogs.

How do you and your partner handle stress? Tell us in the comments below!