

Taylor Barbato



February 2017 to Present
Public Relations Intern

Taylor Barbato is a student at the University of Maryland where she majors in Public Relations and minors in Business. She enjoys fashion, [celebrity news](#), and binge watching *The OC* (Summer and Seth forever). When she graduates in December 2017, she hopes to move to New York City and continue her career in PR. Her favorite [celebrity couple](#) is [Miley Cyrus](#) and Liam Hemsworth because she always believes in second chances.

Taylor's Expertise: [Product Reviews](#)

Dating Advice for Women: How to Break Your Dating Patterns



By [Whitney Johnson](#)

On this week's Single in Stilettos [dating advice video](#), founder and [relationship expert](#) Suzanne Oshima talks to relationship strategist and dating coach Cyndi Olin about three ways to break your dating patterns – and every woman has them, so don't think that you don't! Listen to their expert dating advice in the video above.

Relationship Experts Discuss How to Break Your Dating Patterns

1. Date more than one person: "A lot of women don't date," Olin warns. "They just get into relationship after

relationship.” Instead, date more than one person at a time. Men often do the same thing, but they may not share it with you. Stand in your power and explain your motivations. Say something like, “I like to take my time in important areas of my life, and getting to know someone takes time.” Remember that the wrong guys will walk away, but the right ones will stick around. “Be committed to dating and opening up that journey,” she adds.

Related Link: [Dating Advice Video: Beware of These Relationships](#)

2. Ask for help when it comes to your blind spots: “You need to get really clear about what you deeply desire in a partnership and what you’re not willing to accept,” the dating coach explains. Think about those fabulous five must-haves that you want in a partner. It doesn’t take a lot of time to figure out if someone aligns with you, but asking someone who supports you for help will make it even easier to see the truth. “It can be very difficult to unfold on your own – it can take some dissecting when it comes to getting clear,” she says. It’s even more difficult if you have a lot of chemistry with someone – you become blinded by your emotions!

Related Link: [Dating Advice Video: What Men Want You to Know](#)

3. Focus on what you want: If you want big love and a partnership that lasts a lifetime, set that intention, take the inspired action to move forward, and let go of the outcome. “That can be easier said than done, but if you’re following the first two steps, you really can let go,” Olin shares. “Look at what worked well for you in the past, what didn’t work well. Is there a golden thread in your past relationships?”

“We all have patterns – I guarantee it,” she says. “And they can all be broken.”

For more dating advice videos and additional information about

the Single in Stilettos shows, click [here](#).

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Dating Advice Q&A: Can Technology Make a Long-Distance Relationship Work?



Question from Jay E.: My girlfriend and I are about to be separated by an ocean and an 8-hour time difference. Technology has made it so much easier to stay connected, but how can we make it feel genuine in a romantic relationship, especially with the large time gap?

Long-distance relationships have been made easier by

advancements in technology, but it's still important for you and your partner to find your groove and feel connected despite the distance. Let our [relationship experts](#) help by offering their best [dating advice](#) for using technology in the *right* way! Learn valuable dating tips from matchmaker Suzanne Oshima and relationship author Robert Manni. Here, they answer your question about how technology can make a long-distance relationship work. Check out their dating advice below!

Dating Advice for Long-Distance Relationships

[Suzanne K. Oshima, Matchmaker](#): A long-distance relationship actually takes a lot more work and effort than a relationship where you both live in the same city. Because you can't see her in person, your only option is to connect with her through virtual forms of communication. While it can be stressful and lonely, technology offers a great way to make it through the hard times.

The great thing is, you both always have your phones on you. So texting is perfect for a quick flirt or to let her know you're thinking of her during your busy work day. However, texting should never be your sole means of communication. To keep your long-distance relationship going, phone calls and FaceTime or Skype are much better for connecting on a more intimate level. Try setting a regular time that works best to have a call. This way, you'll both have something to look forward to that helps make the time apart pass by a little easier and faster

And the truth of the matter is... When it comes to a relationship, no matter how "busy" you both are, you will make time for those things that are important to you! Sure, it may be difficult at first to get past the hurdle of the time difference, but experiment with your communication and never

be afraid to try out new things.

Related Link: [Dating Advice Q&A: How Has Technology Changed the Way We Date?](#)

[Robert Manni, Guy's Guy](#): Long-distance relationships are tricky, and unique. Technology helps, but time, distance, and presence are the key variables for potential success. Circumspection is a good starting point. Ask yourself the following questions: How serious is the relationship? How far away is s/he moving and for how long? Will s/he be close enough so you can see one another on weekends? If not, how long will you be separated? Is this a permanent move? How badly do you want it to work? And what sacrifices are you willing to make to keep things going?

It's great to be romantic, and Skype certainly comes in handy with long-distance relationships, but let's be practical. If your partner is moving to Australia for five years or more, the odds of staying together are less than optimal. If s/he has been transferred to the Chicago office and you're in New York, the odds of success are better due to proximity. The old saying, "Out of sight, out of mind" often rings true in these circumstances. Long-distance relationships can work, but listen to your heart and your head before committing yourself. Good luck.

For more dating advice and to find out more about our dating and technology gurus, click [here](#).

If you have any questions you would like answered by our relationship experts, please e-mail them to cupid@cupidspulse.com.

Expert Relationship Advice: Spring Cleaning Tips for a Happier Life



By [Amy Osmond Cook, Ph.D.](#)

When the smell of spring is in the air, it can only mean one thing. No, not the spring sale at Neiman Marcus. Instead, for many of us, the end of winter ignites a passion for cleaning. But along with hauling old furniture and clothing to the curb, let's take a look at our emotional well-being and the relationship we have with others.

So, in the spirit of renewal, here are four areas where we can benefit from some mental and emotional spring cleaning. Don't miss the [expert relationship advice](#) below!

Expert Relationship Advice for Spring Cleaning

1. Examine relationships: It's time to address the negative feelings that may be lingering with others. "Releasing your grip on a gripe can free up emotional energy that you can then invest in other, more positive areas of your life," says [Julie Hanks, PhD, LCSW](#).

This same belief also applies to people who may have a negative influence on your ability to feel good about yourself. "Feel good about who you are, how you have grown, and what you offer in your personal and professional relationships," says [Jeffrey Bernstein, PhD](#). "If you have trouble remembering your own value, then think about what you would say to a family member or close friend who wanted to return to a toxic relationship." Bernstein says thinking about how you may value or advise someone else can help you treasure yourself and move on.

Related Link: [Expert Relationship Advice: Four Reasons Going Outside of Your Comfort Zone is a Good Idea](#)

2. Find your passion: There's doing things you enjoy, and then, there's doing things about which you are passionate. "I've always said that passion is my drug of choice," says [Steve Sims](#), a professional ultimate experience concierge, founder of Bluefish, and author of *Bluefishing: The Art of Making Things Happen*. "I can get further with passion than I can with any amount of money in the world. Passion is my secret weapon."

Hey, we all have dreams: We can visualize our dream vacation, career, life experience, celebrity encounter, or life partner. But Sims often encounters clients who are afraid to realize those dreams or passions. "One of my first questions for clients is how far they are willing to go to make this passion

– this experience – truly unforgettable.” If you are ready to uncover your passion, three of Sims’ many life lessons are to never underestimate the power of simplicity, to ask yourself why this matters to you, and to realize that nothing is ever going to happen if it benefits only you. “Work for win-win every time,” Sims says.

3. Make physical health a priority: Remember that New Year’s resolution to lose 10 pounds? Fewer than [10 percent](#) of us actually achieved that goal. However, it’s never too late to adopt healthy lifestyle choices. With the warmer weather and more hours of sunlight, outdoor activities and exercise are easier. And research shows that exercise is not only good for your body but that the brain gets a healthy boost as well. “Exercise is a scientifically proven mood booster, decreasing symptoms of both depression and anxiety,” says a published article from [Walden University](#). “Physical activity kicks up endorphin levels, the body’s famous ‘feel good’ chemical produced by the brain and spinal cord that produces feelings of happiness and euphoria.”

Experts say even moderate weekly exercise can improve depression and anxiety. In some cases, doctors recommended an exercise regimen for these conditions before turning to medication, which is particularly good for older adults who are generally [more susceptible](#) to depression. “Clinical depression is a major concern for those of us working in healthcare since it is so common with older adults,” says [Derek R. Orme](#) of Mission Hills Post Acute Care. “Healthcare providers and loved ones focus on the physical needs of patients, but we also need to make sure their emotional needs are addressed.”

Related Link: [Expert Relationship Advice: Six Ways to Keep Work & Life Demands in Balance](#)

4. Declutter: Whether it’s clearing out stuff in the closet, garage, or your married and gone son’s bedroom, removing the

physical clutter from your surroundings is essential for your mental health. "Clutter can increase stress by distracting us and overwhelming our senses with extraneous stimuli – toppling piles and unsightly messes as well as associated smells and noises," says [Jonathan Fader, PhD](#).

[Organizing expert Lauren Piro](#) says that when facing a cluttered space, we should ask ourselves tough questions like, "Is this item enhancing my life?" or "Is this something I'll want my children to see one day?" Sometimes, forcing yourself to defend owning an item can help gain a realistic perspective on the true value of that item. Keep in mind that you don't have to clear the area to gain inner peace. "Take comfort in knowing that your home and desk do not have to be pristine for optimal living and working," says Fader. "The key is finding what environment is most efficient and productive for you."

Now is the time for some personal spring cleaning. By tending to relationships, our health, passions, and the physical clutter that surrounds us, we are on the road to authentic rejuvenation and renewal.

For more information about and articles by our relationship expert Dr. Amy Osmond Cook, click [here](#).

Love & Libations: Date Ideas & Summer Loving With Rosé





By [Yolanda Shoshana](#)

With the start of spring earlier this week and summer creeping closer, it's time to bust out the rosé. While it's fun to "rosé all day" anytime of the year, there's something even more magical about sipping the pink wine during the spring and summer months. If you're looking for a fun [date idea](#), here are four rosés that you can enjoy to make you feel like the rich and famous.

Spring & Summer Date Ideas with Rosé

Related Link: [Sparkling Wine for Holiday Date Nights](#)

Château Miraval Rosé

Love didn't keep [Brad Pitt](#) and [Angelina Jolie](#) together, but their wine, Miraval, is still flowing strong. When the former celebrity couple came out with the rosé, it was such a hit that it was named "the best rosé in the world." When they split, the first question was, "What will happen with the wine?" Luckily, the wine lives on!

Pitt once said that he tastes every barrel himself – but now,

I'm not sure who tastes for him now since he is rocking a sober life. Made from four grape varietals in Provence, it's an elegant wine that works for all types of occasions. This wine is perfect for what Wendy Williams calls the "kitchen table top," when you are with family and friends sharing secrets, celebrity gossip, and the joys or oys of life.

Diving Into Hampton Water Rosé

Can you imagine Jon Bon Jovi sipping rosé by the pool? It's not a bad image at all. He just launched a new rosé inspired by the Hamptons called Diving Into Hampton Water. Rosé wine is known as "Hampton's Gatorade" because it's a big deal during the summer. Bon Jovi's son, Jesse Bongiovi, came up with the concept and name of the wine. While the name of the wine features the Hamptons, it's actually produced in the South of France by the very charming winemaker, Gérard Bertrand.

It's the kind of wine to sip by a pool when hanging out with your boo. The wine is selling out because it's shiny and new. If you can get your hands on a bottle, it will be a special treat for you and the one you love.

Sofia Rosé

This rosé by Francis Ford Coppola is named after his only daughter Sofia, who most people know as a talented director and screenwriter. With her busy schedule, I can't help but wonder how often she has her wine. This California wine is a blend of Syrah and Pinot Noir. It's an elegant wine in a sexy bottle that showcases the lively pink color of the rosé. The aromas in the wine are floral and berries, which make it wonderful to pair with fish, seafood, and cheese.

Skip the Sofia Rosé bubbles in the can and go for the still wine in a bottle. It's perfect to pair with a quiet date night at home or when you're cooking dinner together.

Related Link: [Heat Up Your Relationship with a Date Night in](#)

[the Kitchen](#)

Vanderpump Rosé

While Lisa Vanderpump is famous for being one of the stars of *Real Housewives of Beverly Hills*, she is quickly becoming known for her wine. Since she and her husband, Ken Todd, are in the hospitality business with 28 bars and restaurants, having a wine is a natural progression. The Vanderpump Rosé is produced in Provence, so it's perfect to drink when you want to feel like you are in France without hopping on a plane. As Vanderpump says, "Life isn't all diamonds and rosé – but it should be."

It's a feminine wine with a lot of personality on the palate. This wine is perfect for your summer soirees at a rooftop bar or in the backyard with your squad.

For more Love & Libations date ideas and [celebrity couple predictions](#) from Yolanda Shoshana, click [here](#).

Dating Advice Video: Dating After Heartbreak





By [Whitney Johnson](#)

On this week's Single in Stilettos [dating advice video](#), founder Suzanne Oshima talks to [relationship expert](#) Iris Benrubi about dating after heartbreak. First, it's important to note that it's okay to put a wall up. "It's actually a good thing," Benrubi explains. "It's a coping strategy." You've just been hurt, so it's completely understandable that you want to go back into your shell and do some grieving. It can, however, become ineffective if you stay there. Continue reading for three things to know about dating after heartbreak!

Relationship Expert Iris Benrubi Shares Her Best Dating Advice

1. Everyone's anxious after heartbreak: In fact, being anxious is a way of taking care of yourself – it's completely normal. You need to pay attention to how your anxiety shows up in your relationships. "What do you do to keep yourself safe? And is it working?" Benrubi asks. "You want to see how that anxiety is either moving you towards a relationship or moving you away." You should be learning to manage your emotions –

through breathing or meditation – so that you're ready to risk your heart again.

Related Link: [Expert Dating Advice: How to Find Love](#)

2. Consider what you learned from your last relationship: Don't come from a place of blame, but think about what you were responsible for. Did I speak up enough? Was I too harsh? How can I do things differently in the next relationship? "Our lives are about maturing and growing and evolving," the relationship expert shares. "As unfortunate as a break-up is, it's actually an opportunity to become a better version of yourself." This piece of dating advice is very positive and future-focused – which is a good thing!

Related Link: [Expert Dating Advice: 3 Tips to Turn Around Your Dating Life](#)

3. Be clear on what you're looking for: Develop a list of 10 must-haves to give you a solid foundation of what you need in a partner. That way, when you're dating again, you have a clear picture of whether or not he fits into the future you want. By doing so, you'll be less likely to get into another relationship that doesn't meet your needs.

For more dating advice videos and additional information about the Single in Stilettos shows, click [here](#).

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Executive Director Dr. John

Sessa Opens Up About Creating a Better World for Dogs Through The Vanderpump Dog Foundation & Rescue Center



Interview by [Lori Bizzoco](#). Written by [Karley Kemble](#).

Since its inception in 2016, The Vanderpump Dog Foundation has worked tirelessly on its founding mission to create a better and more humane world for dogs. After learning about the mass abuse of dogs at China's annual Lychee and Dog Meat Festival in Yulin, [celebrity couple](#) and reality TV stars Lisa Vanderpump and husband Ken Todd were inspired to create their organization, along with Executive Director Dr. John Sessa. More recently, the power duo hopes to continue spreading their message to people worldwide with their new documentary, *The Road to Yulin and Beyond*, which is Dr. Sessa's directorial, writing, and producing debut.

In our exclusive [celebrity interview](#), we talk with Dr. Sessa about the award-winning documentary, how the Foundation has helped stop animal cruelty in Yulin, and how you can help out.

Exclusive Celebrity Interview: The Vanderpump Dog Foundation



Though the Dog Meat Festival in Yulin shows mass animal abuse and cruelty, it is just one “example of the torture that many dogs in Asia face,” Dr. Sessa explains. “The cruelty varies, and the methods of cruelty change as well, but the underlying torture for consumption is the same.” In fact, 30 percent of the Chinese population still consume dog meat, and unfortunately, the percentage is about the same throughout the rest of Asia.

Related Link: [Celebrity Interview with ‘Lucky Dog’ Host Brandon McMillan](#)

The Vanderpump Dog Foundation has played a direct role in saving many of the dogs who fall victim to the cruelty in Yulin. Last year, Dr. Sessa says they surrounded trucks that were illegally carrying dogs to their slaughter. Since a harrowing 80 percent of the dog meat trade in China comes from stolen pets, the Foundation worked with local police to enact a law that requires origin certificates for every animal that

is transported. Because the animals were stolen and no certificates were on hand, the animals were seized and passed into the care of trusty local medical triages. They then tried to reunite them with their owners or find new forever homes. "This is the only way we have found that does not perpetuate the trade," Dr. Sessa explains. "The dog traders are fined, and their inventory is taken away from them."

The Road to Yulin and Beyond documentary gives audiences an accessible look into the harsh realities of Yulin, highlighting the Foundation's travels to China, rescue missions, visits to slaughterhouses, and legislative lobbying. Ultimately, it gives an overarching review of what the Foundation has done to stop the dog meat trade. After its premiere at the L.A. Awareness Film Festival in 2017, the documentary snagged the Audience Choice Award. Dr. Sessa says that they hope to eventually host a showing for U.S. Congress and are discussing avenues of global distribution in order to make the most impact and reach the most people.



The Foundation is also gearing up for their third annual World Dog Day fundraiser, coming up this June. "The summer date serves as a juxtaposition of the Yulin Dog Meat Festival," adds John Blizzard, PR and Events Coordinator for the Foundation. "We try to have it during the same time period so

we can show the world what a ‘real’ dog festival looks like.”

Locally, The Vanderpump Dog Foundation recently launched The Vanderpump Dog Rescue Center and hopes their mission will continue to make an impact in many dogs’ lives in California and beyond. In the first year of operation, the center adopted out nearly 500 dogs, and they’re hoping to increase this number in 2018.

Related Link: [Dating Advice: Picking Out a Pet Together](#)

Though The Vanderpump Dog Foundation has taken huge steps in creating a better world for dogs, they know their reach will have an even greater impact when people enact change on local levels. If others want to start their own fundraiser with friends and family, they can visit [The Vanderpump Dogs Classy Fundraising Page](#), where they can set up individual campaigns. They can also follow the Foundation on social media – @VanderpumpDogs on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) – for the latest updates and ways to help take action.

No matter where in the world The Vanderpump Dog Foundation may be – whether in China, Los Angeles, or Washington D.C. – Dr. Sessa knows one thing to be true: “We will always continue our four spheres of advocacy: grassroots, education, awareness, and legislation.”

For more information about The Vanderpump Dog Foundation, check out their [website](#).

Relationship Advice: Date

Ideas For Your Significant Other's Birthday



By Lori Zaslow and Jenn Zucher
for [Project Soulmate](#) // Contributing Writer: Lauren Serrato

Planning the perfect birthday can be tough, especially when in a relationship. The date you plan can make or break your significant other's big day, so choose wisely! When planning, you should consider what would be fun and memorable for both of you. Whether you are thinking sentimental, sexy, or spontaneous, the birthday [date idea](#) should always have a touch of *you* in it. Add in something special that makes it clear that you put a lot of thought into the date, like your significant other's favorite food or something only you two would understand. Follow the [relationship advice](#) below, and you will definitely make your partner's birthday one to never forget!

Five Birthday Date Ideas for Your Significant Other

1. Plan a picnic: This is the perfect date idea if you're looking for something sentimental. The food prep, the wine, and the location are all aspects that you can arrange based on your partner's preferences. Maybe he'd be into a picnic in the park with a perfectly-packed basket of wine and homemade comfort food as well as a cozy blanket for the two of you to share. If the weather isn't nice enough for a picnic outside, no worries! Move it indoors. A picnic in the living room is just as romantic. Set the mood with dimmed lights and some flowers and candles, and you are destined for the perfect birthday date.

Related Link: [10 Date Ideas Inspired by Celebrity Couples](#)

2. A night out on the town: If you're not into the sentimental stuff, plan a night out. Get dressed up and hit the big city! A night at his favorite bar is a great way to spend any birthday. If you're looking to make it extra special, after happy hour drinks, go to a fancy restaurant that neither of you have been to before. Trying something new together will make it even more memorable.

3. Host a brunch: Looking to include your friends and family in the birthday celebration? Hosting brunch is a perfect way to get all your favorite people together. French toast, fresh fruit, and mimosas make up a delicious (and easy!) menu. This date idea is a great way to make your significant other feel loved, and it allows the two of you to have the night to yourselves after the party is over.

4. Recreate your first date: This date idea is the perfect way to show off your sensitive side. Recreate the first date you had as a couple. If it was a movie date, rent the movie (or

find it on Netflix) and set up a theater at your place. Complete the date with popcorn and candy. You can add to the night by cooking your partner's favorite meal.

Related Link: [Dating Advice to Revamp Your Love Life in 2018](#)

5. Plan a getaway: If you two have a favorite vacation spot nearby, book a nice hotel for the night or weekend and make reservations at your favorite restaurant. Or you can plan a road trip to a secluded destination. It's the perfect chance for you to reconnect. Looking to make it more extravagant? Plan a few days of vacation in a different city or even a different state. If you're tired of the cold, find somewhere warmer to travel for the weekend, like Arizona or California. You can find a nice place to stay through Airbnb. Whether it is an outdoorsy vacation or a few days filled with good food and shows, you're sure to have created the perfect birthday weekend for your partner.

Don't be afraid to alter these birthday date ideas to fit your relationship. Make it personal and memorable. Your significant other will appreciate the thought and planning you put into this date, whether it's sentimental or spontaneous!

For more [expert relationship advice](#) from Project Soulmate, check out their [website](#).

Expert Dating Advice: How to Handle Heartbreak



By [Megan Weks](#)

Arie Luyendyk Jr.'s point of view on negative commentary regarding his experience on [The Bachelor](#) holds a life lesson we may all be able to benefit from, especially related to finding The One. With regard to facing a backlash from viewers, the [reality TV](#) star tells *E! News*, "It's all about the ending, and finding that person for yourself. That's the important part." The takeaway, then, is that, even though he had to endure hardship, he knew it was all part of the journey to finding his soulmate. This thought process can offer us an intelligent and healthy way to approach heartbreak.

Dating Advice for Dealing with a Broken Heart

Related Link: [Checklist for Dating from Different Decades: Get Love Advice from 'The Bachelor'](#)

It seems as though Luyendyk will be seriously breaking some

hearts this season, especially since he destroyed the “I love you” rule by saying that powerful phrase to *two* women. Still, the expert dating advice here is that you must take a risk to get the big reward in life.

In Luyendyk’s case, he risked facing all sorts of negative commentary by living the public lifestyle that is on reality TV. Going on *The Bachelor* was, for him, the ultimate matchmaking experience. He had twenty-nine handpicked women there, all pre-screened to match his criteria. It’s a big risk, but if we look at the results, there are a lot of successful love stories created through this process. Choosing the right woman certainly was a tough choice for him, though...

The women were less fortunate, as only one out of those twenty-nine would end up not feeling disappointed. A couple of them would be severely heartbroken. And one of them might feel badly embarrassed (spoiler alert!). When we face these devastating moments in our lives, how can we handle them? What can we do to keep our sanity?

The key is to look at heartbreak as a beginning and not an ending. The more we fight the flow of life, the more pain we will endure. Look for the opportunity in everything. If you were not someone’s choice, there is a better choice out there for you.

A couple of months ago, a woman approached me for help with news of a devastating break-up. Upon working together, she decided that it could be an opportunity for her to go out and get everything she had been dreaming of in a relationship. She wasted no time in her decision to adopt the Manfunnel Method of dating: She quickly put herself back out there and reported back in exactly one month’s time that she had met an incredible man. They are now planning their summer trip together with her family. She knew what she wanted and took the action to make it happen.

Related Link: [Expert Dating Advice: How I Used a Manfunnel to Meet My Dream Husband](#)

If you're not looking to date right away, that's okay too. What can you do to take even better care of yourself? Perhaps you commit to your yoga mat, get into that infrared sauna, and spend extra time in the steam room. Fill your body with the highest-quality foods. Take time to sort through what might have gone wrong on your end. If you sit still, reflect, and grow from your experiences, you will eventually attract higher-quality people into your world because of your heightened level of awareness.

Your break-up is an opportunity. It happened for a reason. Soon, you will find out the reason. You may end up being delighted and thankful. So for now, just allow everything to unfold as it is meant to.

For more information about dating expert Megan Weks, visit her website at www.meganweks.com. For more relationship advice articles from Megan, click [here](#).

Dating Advice: Something's Off About Him – Should I Trust My Intuition?





By [Whitney Johnson](#)

On this week's Single in Stilettos [dating advice video](#), founder and relationship expert Suzanne Oshima talks to [relationship author](#) Duana Welch about whether or not you should trust your intuition when you feel like something is off with your new partner. The short answer is, "Yes." Watch the video above to understand why!

Relationship Author Duana Welch Is Interviewed in Dating Advice Video

Related Link: [Expert Dating Advice: How to Move a Stagnant Relationship to Commitment](#)

"I recently heard that there's research that shows that we actually have a nerve that connects our stomach to our brain that gives us a true 'gut feeling,'" Welch shares. "And what I know for sure is that people *report* that feeling and that their intuition leads them to good things." Expanding on this idea, the relationship author says that we have a side of our brain that is unconscious and gives us information that we don't have access to when we're conscious.

We also have an adaptation. "An adaptation is something that

has evolved,” Welch explains. “It’s a spontaneous genetic change that happened in antiquity and was favorable enough that it gave that organism’s offspring better odds of surviving, creating, or both.” For example, all bucks have antlers – because if they don’t pass that gene along, they won’t be able to survive.

Related Link: [Dating Advice Video: Why Smart, Successful Women Can Fail at Love](#)

So the question, then, becomes: Why would nature give us all of these gifts and not give us a way to be able to tell when we are going to be prey? “I think we can all think of a time when we thought, ‘Oh, this guy – there’s something off about him, but I’m not being fair right now. I’m just going to learn more about him until I find out if my intuition is right,’” she reveals. “Well, some women don’t survive to find out that their intuition was correct.” In fact, the number one cause of murder or violent death to women between the ages of 15 and 50 is a male partner who got jealous or was controlling.

Welch concludes, “If your gut is telling you that this guy is dangerous, do not collect more data. *Don’t*. Just stop seeing him.”

For more dating advice videos and additional information about the Single in Stilettos shows, click [here](#).

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Celebrity Interview: Reality TV Star Becca Tilley on 'The Bachelor' Finale: "Well, I Read the Spoilers!"



Interview by [Mallory McDonald](#). Written by [Whitney Johnson](#). Social media influencer Becca Tilley has built an impressive fanbase since she first appeared on seasons 19 and 20 of [The Bachelor](#), but she hasn't strayed far from her roots: She's close friends with many former *Bachelor* and *Bachelorette* contestants, including [JoJo Fletcher](#), Ashley Iaconetti, and Dean Unglert. In our exclusive [celebrity interview](#), she opens up about these relationships and says, "Being on *The Bachelor* or *The Bachelorette* is such a unique experience. There's absolutely nothing like it... It can form a bond instantly, whether it's romantically or just a friendship."

Celebrity Interview with Becca Tilley

Related Link: [Celebrity News: Hometown Heartbreak on 'The Bachelor'](#)

And, of course, she's still a fan of the show. With next week's finale of season 22 of *The Bachelor*, we had to ask about her prediction for Arie Luyendyk Jr.'s final rose. "Well, I read the spoilers!" she says with a laugh. "I kind of feel like I know what happens, but at the same time, I always think they're going to throw me for a loop."

For her latest project, Tilley is partnering with Lime-A-Rita to introduce The Ritas, three legendary women who are sharing their best life hacks, including dating and relationship advice. "Of my friends, I'm always the straight-shooter, tells-it-like-it-is, so it's nice to have these three women to ask for advice. They give it to me straight, just like I would do for myself!" she shares.

If you go to any of the Lime-A-Rita social media sites and hashtag #RitaSays with a question, they'll send you an answer. "I want everyone to tag me in their questions so I can see what kind of advice they're getting from The Ritas," she adds in our celebrity interview.

Related Link: [Celebrity Wedding: 'The Bachelor Winter Games' Couple Clare Crawley and Benoit Beauséjour-Savard Are Engaged](#)

As for what's next, the reality TV star will continue recording her podcast *Scrubbing In with Becca Tilley* each week and sharing pictures from her swoon-worthy vacations, including an upcoming trip with Fletcher. "There's just always something fun going on – and it's all thanks to getting dumped on TV twice," she says with a laugh. "It's the silver lining, people!"

You can keep up with Becca on [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#). You can also listen to her podcast [Scrubbing In with Becca Tilley](#).

Expert Dating Advice: 3 Dating Myths Busted



By [Whitney Johnson](#)

On this week's Single in Stilettos [dating advice video](#), founder and relationship expert Suzanne Oshima talks to relationship author Wendy Newman to prove three dating myths wrong and offer their best [expert dating advice](#). "I think a lot of people believe things that just aren't true," Oshima shares.

Relationship Author Wendy Newman Shares Expert Dating Advice

1. Women only date to find a partner, and men just date for fun: “The root of this myth comes from the idea that women and men approach dating differently – and I’ve got to tell you, I think men have it right,” Newman explains. Women lead with the end game in mind, while men just want to figure out if they want to spend time with their date. It’s that simple for them! “Men will talk about who they are as an interesting person, usually highlighting something fun – and they wish that we would do the same thing,” the relationship author adds. Before they jump ahead to the future, men just want to know if the two of you will get along – not because they’re not serious but because that’s really the most important thing early on.

Related Link: [Expert Dating Advice: Be a Fantastic Date for Anyone!](#)

2. Men are non-committal: “They commit all of the time!” Newman says with a laugh. It does take men longer to commit than women, but there’s a good reason for that: Men are naturally accountable, so they’re not going to say “yes” unless they’re willing to be on the hook for all of it. “Women will commit to a partner, but there are going to be things about him that they want to change,” she explains. Men, however, will sit back and assess the situation first; when they commit, they’re committing to the whole package.

Related Link: [Dating Advice Video: Don’t Be a Rules Girl!](#)

3. You slept with him at the wrong time and blew it: It’s tempting to think you waited too long and he lost interest or you did it too soon and he thought you were easy, but know that men don’t think like that. “They think sex is a fun thing to do with someone they really like, care about, or love. They don’t think it’s the hinge that makes the relationship happen

or not happen,” Newman reveals.

For more dating advice videos and additional information about the Single in Stilettos shows, click [here](#).

For more videos from CupidsPulse.com, check out our [YouTube channel](#).

Expert Relationship Advice: Is It Lust or Love?



By [Joshua Pompey](#)

The first few weeks of dating can be so exciting: the laughter, the new experiences, and, of course, the physical connection. But how exactly do you know if the chemistry you're feeling should be attributed to blooming love versus something that is merely an intense physical attraction? If

you are attempting to determine whether it's lust or love, try asking yourself the following questions:

Dating Expert Shares Expert Relationship Advice

1. How excited are you to see each other when you are outside the bedroom? Sure, it's easy to get excited when you're about to get physical. But how motivated are you to hang out when it isn't late at night or only because all of your other plans fell through? Love is when you are dying to just be *near* that person, regardless of the circumstances or whether or not there is a physical interaction on the horizon.

Related Link: [Expert Relationship Advice: 4 Reasons to Avoid Matchmakers](#)

2. Are you having romantic thoughts? If you're in love, you will most likely go out of your way to make the other person happy on an emotional level. Your thoughts and [date ideas](#) will have a little extra romance infused into them. With love, you don't just want to make the person happy in order to get them into bed. You want to make them happy because it genuinely makes you feel good to see them smile.

3. Would you be willing to go months without sex? Ask yourself: If your partner suddenly decided they wanted to wait a few months before having sex again, would you stick around? If the answer is yes, you are definitely leaning in the direction of love.

Related Link: [Dating Advice: How to Make the First Move \(Women's Edition\)](#)

4. Do your conversations constantly default back to sex? When I was involved in mini relationships that were mainly focused on lust, the conversation would more often than not turn sexual or revolve around physical flirtations. On the flip

side, when I genuinely connected with someone, sure, there was sexual flirtation, but there were also conversations that probed towards getting to know the other person on a deeper level. If you are moving towards love, topics that hold more weight should be a part of your daily interactions.

For more expert relationship advice from [dating expert](#) Joshua Pompey, including how many online dating photos you should have in your profile, click [here](#).

Love & Libations: Heat Up Your Relationship with a Date Night in the Kitchen



by [Yolanda Shoshana](#)

Preparing a nice home-cooked meal on a [date night](#) with your partner is one of the sexiest things that you can do together. It's also important to pair your food with the right spirit or wine. There are some [celebrity chefs](#) who have the perfect libations to add a sensual touch to your dinner table.

Ideas for Date Nights at Home

If you are a foodie, you have probably already gone to an Alain Ducasse restaurant. The celebrity chef has around 19 Michelin stars under his belt. Ducasse partnered with Grey Goose to create the first gastronomy vodka called Grey Goose Interpreted by Ducasse. Basically, the vodka was made to pair with food. Since it has notes of coffee, chocolate, and vanilla, it would be great to pair with something from the slow cooker on a night that you and your partner plan to stay in. It would be particularly wonderful with a mole sauce.

Related Link: [Romantic Cocktails for Winter Date Nights](#)

If anyone should be in the libation business, it's Martha Stewart: She shows us how to cook and entertain better than anyone. She finally got into the wine game by creating a wine club with some of her favorite picks. Joining the club could be a great way for you and your boo to plan your meal based on wines from around the world. Stewart has plenty of aphrodisiac recipes available to whip up that can go with your wine choice. Don't forget to try new dishes! It adds to the excitement.

If you are into Italian wines, then chef Lidia Bastianich has the right wine for you. Besides hosting a television show, Bastianich is a restaurateur mainly on the East Coast, but she has a spot in Kansas City too. She founded the Bastianich Winery in 1997 in the Friuli-Venezia Giulia area of Italy. Since she has various cookbooks, you and your partner could select one of her recipes and pair it with one of her wines.

If white wine is your choice, the Bastianich Vespa Bianco would be great with fish. On the flipside, the Bastianich Vespa Rosso is the perfect selection for a red sauce dish – and just because red wine is sexy.

Related Link: [Date Night Ideas Inspired by Celebrity Red Wines](#)

Wolfgang Puck is known for his extravagant dinners and his work with celebrities. Did you know that Puck also has his own wine? Luckily, they're very affordable: There are both red and white selections in the 12 to 15 dollar range. The wine was created to celebrate family, friendships, and hope. If you wonder what to pair his wines with, go with pizza. Everyone knows that Puck loves pizza, and he has a pizza dough recipe that makes people salivate. Plus, pizza and wine are the perfect pairing for a night of romance.

For more Love & Libations date night ideas and [celebrity couple](#) predictions from Yolanda Shoshana, click [here](#).

Dating Advice Video: Stop Settling for Men Who Don't Deserve You!





By [Whitney Johnson](#)

On this week's Single in Stilettos [dating advice video](#), founder and relationship expert Suzanne Oshima talks to [relationship author](#) Tinzley Bradford about how to stop settling for men who don't deserve you. Here, Bradford shares three signs that you're with the wrong man.

Relationship Author Reveals How to Stop Settling in Dating Advice Video

1. You're unhappy: "If you're constantly unhappy with how you're being treated, you're settling," Bradford shares. "Love and a healthy relationship does not create confusion or make you feel unhappy, unstable, or even uncertain." You should be in a relationship with someone who brings out the best in you and makes you feel good about yourself.

Related Link: [Dating Advice Video: The Questions You Should Be Asking Him](#)

2. Your relationship isn't reciprocal: "It takes two to tango, baby!" Bradford exclaims. If you're always giving but never

getting enough back, you're settling. You deserve a man who loves you just as much as you love him. "He's got to be doing his part in your relationship," the relationship author adds.

Related Link: [Dating Advice: How to Fall in Love with Dating](#)

3. You feel guilty for being you: "If you're in a relationship with a guy who's competing against you, belittling your dreams, and not being excited about your success, you don't need to be with that person" she shares. You should never be with someone who makes you feel guilty for wanting to shine.

For more dating advice videos and additional information about the Single in Stilettos shows, click [here](#).

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Dating Advice Q&A: Should I Remain Friends with My Ex Online?





Question from Sonya M.: Facebook is the official/unofficial way of announcing a relationship. Is it too vindictive to unfriend an ex, or is that the right move when you enter a new relationship?

Social media is a fun way to share your relationship with friends and family, but if that relationship ends, the waters can get a little murky. Let our [relationship experts](#) help by offering their best [dating advice](#) for using social media in the *right* way! Learn valuable dating tips from matchmaker Suzanne Oshima and relationship author Robert Manni. Here, they answer your question about whether or not you should unfriend your ex after a break-up. Check out their dating advice below!

Dating Advice for Unfriending Your Ex on Facebook

[Suzanne K. Oshima, Matchmaker](#): When it comes to dating after a break-up or divorce, it's important to know that removing all traces of your ex on social media isn't about being vindictive – it's about moving on.

This is the last step at the end of your relationship, so now is the time for some “spring cleaning.” Daily reminders of him

won't allow you to move forward with your love life, so remember the saying "out of sight, out of mind." This will remove any temptation to cyber snoop or check in on what he's doing and who he's dating. All in all, if you continue to stay connected, then you're holding on – and this can hold you back from moving forward into another relationship.

Related Link: [Dating Advice Q&A: How Can You Tell Red Flags From Online Dating?](#)

[Robert Manni, Guy's Guy](#): Even though people have become too reliant on social media as their main form of communication, announcing a new relationship on Facebook can feel great and be validating. It's a nice way of putting something out there about yourself that you feel good about for the people you enjoying sharing with.

On the other hand, if you no longer have an offline connection with an ex and do not feel comfortable posting about your new relationship for them to see, it's perfectly acceptable to unfriend them. However, if you remain on good terms and they're cool, there is no harm in staying connected with an ex on Facebook.

There are no strict rules or protocol about this. Listen to your inner compass and do what feels best for *you*. Good luck.

For more dating advice and to find out more about our dating and technology gurus, click [here](#).

If you have any questions you would like answered by our relationship experts, please e-mail them to cupid@cupidspulse.com.

Dating Advice Video: How to Get Men to Pursue You Like Crazy



By [Whitney Johnson](#)

On this week's Single in Stilettos [dating advice video](#), founder and [relationship expert](#) Suzanne Oshima talks to relationship strategist and coach Cyndi Olin about three ways to get men to pursue you like crazy. Listen to their expert dating advice in the video above!

Relationship Experts Discuss How to Get Men to Pursue You in Dating Advice Video

1. Smile: With this piece of expert dating advice, Olin reminds us of the saying, "Your presence is a present." Walk

out the door, be present in your body, and smile – and you can attract men like crazy. Eye contact and compliments pair well with a smile. “That’s like a ‘come over’ signal,” she explains. “90 percent of the time, a man will approach you and at least start talking to you. It’s all about your energy.”

Related Link: [Dating Advice Video: Beware of These Relationships](#)

2. Engage with them: “There’s a lot of advice out there, including to let a man lead,” Olin shares. “While I believe that, men are confused when it comes to modern dating.” Men are often very careful as a way to ensure that they’re respecting you. Have a belief deep down in your soul that men are good people, and make an effort to get to know them. Remember: Your vibe attracts your tribe.

Related Link: [Dating Advice Video: What Men Want You to Know](#)

3. Let go: After you smile and engage with them, let them be the one to pursue you, to call you more. “You’re not pursuing. You’re a friendly receptor of light,” Olin says. “You want him to pursue you, and he’s looking for permission to do that.”

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Expert Dating Advice: Tips

for Romance That's Just Around the Corner When You've Been Around the Block



By [Amy Osmond Cook, Ph.D.](#)

For many of us, a lost opportunity at love or the end of a long-term relationship can sometimes make us feel like a second chance just isn't in the cards. And when Valentine's Day is focused on romantic dinners for two or coupled walks on the beach, it can be a painful reminder of what we lack.

Let's face it. There's no substitute for young love, but that doesn't mean we can't enjoy being loved again later in life, especially for seniors. "Fortunately, in some ways, there has never been a better time for women over 60 to be in the dating world," says [Margaret Manning](#). "The rise of divorce among 'silver splitters' means there are more single older men – and there might be more great guys out there than you might expect at first glance, especially if you give them a chance."

Expert Dating Advice for Older Adults

Related Link: [Relationship Advice: Keys to Growing a Business When the Marriage is Over](#)

A loving and caring companionship is a good thing, but it's also important to recognize that it's different for older adults. If you find yourself ready to take a shot at love again, here are three pieces of [expert dating advice](#) for making this experience feel as good as if it was new.

1. Instead of going for red hot, opt for a slow burn: Daters who are 50 and older tend to be less impulsive. And AARP writer [Ken Solin](#) says that's a good thing: "By now, we've collected enough life experience to know better than to fall for the first person we meet," said Solin. "We understand what works for us and what doesn't." For older adults, the belief that a fulfilling relationship is out there waiting for us still holds true. The difference is that we are willing to wait for the right person to come along.

2. Bring the [Sex-C](#) back: Instead of relying on intercourse to be the foundation for your budding relationship, a growing community is coming forward with conversations about intimacy challenges. [Laura Brashier](#), founder of RomanceOnly.com, helped ignite this conversation when she pioneered a site designed for people whose physical and emotional challenges prevent them from engaging in intercourse. "While these people are unable to have intercourse, they still crave intimacy but are unable to open up about it," says Brashier. "I've discovered that people facing difficulties with sexual intercourse still want to show love and be loved in return."

Sharing intimate moments with someone you love is an essential part of a growing relationship, but for older adults, that doesn't always require intercourse. Instead, a loving couple

can explore other ways to share pleasure and develop a personal connection. It can be as simple as spending a whole day together erranding, participating in common interests, sharing meals, and everything in between – and then parting ways at sunset.

Related Link: [Expert Dating Advice: 4 Reasons Going Outside Your Comfort Zone Is a Good Idea](#)

3. Expect respect: At this stage of life, older adults know what they want and what they deserve in a relationship. Yes, we want romance and attention, but we also need respect. “We all need respect, especially from those who are closest and most intimately connected with us,” says [Peter Gray, PhD](#). “It seems to me that women, even more than men, have suffered when love directed toward them is not accompanied by respect.” It’s helpful to discover common interests, but a caring partner will also respect differing hobbies or career choices. For instance, if your partner cannot understand why you would pursue teaching as a career or insists that you give up bowling league to spend more time at the theater, these may be signs that your new squeeze is a drip. “A lack of respect is unacceptable under any circumstances, but it’s especially intolerable on a first encounter because it’s unlikely to improve with time,” says Solin.

Love certainly has its share of unpredictable twists, but there has never been an easier time to navigate those turns. For instance, with online dating sites catering to older adults and those facing struggles with intimacy, the ability to connect is offering new hope to older adults every day. By using a strategy that includes things like patience, honest communication about intimacy – and, above all, respect – you’re on the right track to finding new love again.

For more information about and articles by our relationship expert Dr. Amy Osmond Cook, click [here](#).

Relationship Advice: How to Stay Confident in a Long-Term Relationship



By [David Wygant](#)

In order to feel confident in a long-term relationship, you need to be in the *right* long-term relationship for you. If you're not safe and you don't feel like you're being heard, then you're in the wrong partnership. There's no way in the world you will ever thrive in a relationship where you feel judged and evaluated at all times. For me – and I've been in many long-term relationships – the ones that I always felt most confident in were the relationships where I was actually seen for who I am. If a woman is trying to change you, if she's trying to make you into someone you're not, you're never going to feel confident.

Long-Term Relationship Advice from Relationship Expert David Wygant

Related Link: [Expert Relationship Advice: How Can I Change My Dating Tactics for the New Year?](#)

Long-term relationships are some of the most beautiful things you can ever experience, but the only way to have a successful one is to truly communicate who you are. As a [relationship expert](#), I believe that the beginning of a relationship is when you have the opportunity to be who you are and expose yourself. If you're going to give her a false version of yourself, then her expectations are going to run rampant. And when her expectations run rampant, you're not going to have a successful long-term relationship. That's the biggest mistake most people make.

Most people make this mistake because, over and over again, they think they need to misrepresent themselves to "get" the relationship. To me, I expose it all – *everything*. I reveal all my fears and insecurities because I'm looking for a real relationship, a long-term relationship where I'm able to grow.

A strong long-term relationship is a relationship that's a mirror. You literally reflect each other each and every day. By doing so, you will show each other exactly what you need to learn. A great relationship will reflect that right back at you. The best relationships are when you grow and when you get out of your own story and are able to create new stories together.

Related Link: [Dating Advice for Dealing With the Break-Up Blues](#)

So my best [relationship advice](#) for feeling confident is to be ready to express yourself. If you're not able to talk about who you are and what you want, then you're not in the right

long-term relationship. Now, I can sit here and write another 25 pages on this topic, but the reality is, in life, we need to keep things more simple. And the simple dating advice that I can give you today is that you need to communicate all your needs, your wants, and your desires at the start of a partnership to be fully accepted and heard. Once you do, you'll feel confident in your long-term relationship.

David Wygant is an internationally-renowned dating and relationship expert, author of the book Naked, and speaker. Through his boot camps, personal coaching, and his [website](#), his love advice has transformed the relationships and love of hundreds of thousands of people from every corner of the globe.

For more expert relationship advice from David, click [here](#).

Expert Relationship Advice: Two Things That Make a Man Fall in Love & Commit





By [Whitney Johnson](#)

On this week's Single in Stilettos [dating advice video](#), founder and [relationship expert](#) Suzanne Oshima talks to love and dating coach Jaki Sabourin about two things that make a man fall in love and commit to a relationship. Watch the video above for their best expert relationship advice!

Expert Relationship Advice to Make a Man Fall in Love & Commit

First, it's important to note that it's not really "things" that make a man fall in love and commit. "They're traits – traits that you can develop in yourself," Sabourin explains.

Related Link: [Expert Relationship Advice: How to Emotionally Connect with a Man](#)

1. The first trait is your high-value status: "It's your job to present and project and create this perception that you have a high value," the dating coach says. "And how you do that is to accept yourself." Don't turn over your significance to a man – your personal value needs to come from within. She adds, "Of course, any man who is looking for a woman to spend his life with wants a woman who has a high regard for

herself.”

2. The second trait is vulnerability: You need to balance your strong sense of self-worth with vulnerability to avoid coming across as too masculine, aloof, or conceited. “You have to create a space of openness with a man so he can come in,” Sabourin says. “Vulnerability is really about sharing things about yourself, not being afraid to show who you really are.” Tell him things that will inspire him to take care of you.

Related Link: [Relationship Advice: How to Get Men to Fall Into Your Lap](#)

What about a woman who thinks being vulnerable will make her appear weak? “Ladies, look at that, because that tells me you’re protecting your heart and you have a defense up,” Sabourin shares. “When you have a defense up, it’s like a wall, a fence, that keeps the love and relationship you want out.” There’s so much power in vulnerability: It shows that you love and accept yourself, that you’ve been hurt but that you’re open to something new.

For more dating advice videos and additional information about the Single in Stilettos shows, click [here](#).

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10 Valentine’s Day Date Ideas Inspired by Celebrity Couples



By Lori Zaslow and Jenn Zucker
for [Project Soulmate](#)

February is right around the corner, and we all know what that means: Yes, Valentine's Day is almost here, the one day of year when couples get to celebrate their love and singles get to eat Ben and Jerry's guilt-free. This day is really magical. It's when romance can finally express itself, and those in a relationship can really show their gratitude for one another.

However, the day doesn't get cut much slack, mostly because a lot of people don't know what to do to celebrate. That's where expert matchmakers Lori Zaslow and Jennifer Zucker can help! They are at the helm of the luxury matchmaking company Project Soulmate, and with their combined expertise, they know how to craft a [date idea](#) that's fit for any type of relationship.

This year, with their expert relationship advice, we have crafted 10 date ideas inspired by [celebrity couples](#). These duos all have one thing in common: their strong bond with their soulmate. By taking inspiration from their love lives,

we hope you can find a date that will bring you and your partner even closer together.

Related Link: [New Year, New You! Expert Relationship Advice to Revamp Your Love Life](#)

Look to Your Favorite Celebrity Couples for Valentine's Day Inspiration

1. Beyoncé and Jay-Z: This Valentine's Day, we want you and your partner to spend it *Crazy in Love*. We want you to forget all of your *99 Problems* and put your *Love on Top*. Yes, those puns mean what you think they do: a Valentine's date idea inspired by the iconic duo Beyoncé and Jay-Z. This celebrity couple has been together for over 15 years. They've written dozens of songs together and now have three beautiful children – who wouldn't want to spend a day emulating them?

Why not go to a concert for Valentine's Day? It doesn't have to be a big one; it could be a small band that you and your loved one both enjoy. Singing and listening to music with your partner on such a romantic day is sure to hit some right notes. Or, if you want something more low-key, a karaoke bar could be great. Enjoying music together is perfect for couples who already have a passion for the industry –and obviously, a shared musical interest has served Beyoncé and Jay-Z well.

2. Victoria and David Beckham: When you think of inspirational celebrity couples, who comes to mind? If it's not Victoria and David Beckham, then you've had a lapse in memory because no couple is more #goals than them! These two are the textbook definition of class, and we heard that, if you look up "posh" in the dictionary, you'll find a picture of the two of them surrounded by their four children. We're joking, of course, but this celebrity couple is the inspiration for our next

Valentine's Day date idea: a swanky dinner.

Going to a posh, new restaurant with your significant other is a classic idea and a tried-and-true Valentine's Day date. So throw in a David Beckham-twist, and head to a sports game or bar before the two of you dress up for your five-star meal. It may be a fun way to release some nerves before your dinner plans.

3. Kristen Bell and Dax Shepard: Two of the most underrated people in Hollywood also happen to be happily married and have a relationship that shows that shared humor is a blessing. [Kristen Bell](#) and Dax Shepard have proven that a love for comedy leads to the purest of partnerships and makes for some great laughs that help you and your loved one grow even closer. Taking inspiration from these two, go to a comedy club or an underground stand-up night. Take your partner to a place where you both can laugh and enjoy a fun time that's bound to be memorable.

Related Link: [Celebrity Couple News: Kristen Bell and Dax Shepard Rent a Roller Skating Rink for Date Night](#)

4. Rose Leslie and Kit Harington: You and your partner have a solid relationship, and you guys aren't the going out type. The two of you have no plans for Valentine's Day, except that Chinese takeout you want to order, and you're not really sure what to watch. Take a cue from stars Rose Leslie and Kit Harington, who fell in love while on set together for *Game of Thrones*. Find shows and films where the couples are married in real life, and watch their romance blossom on-screen, all the while knowing that they're still in love off-camera. Start by rewatching (or watching for the first time!) those early episodes of *GoT* where Jon and Ygritte fall in love, and don't miss the true magic that is being filmed between these two soulmates!

5. Rita Wilson and Tom Hanks: Another date night idea that

doesn't involve going out and dealing with the madness that is Valentine's Day takes inspiration from power couple Rita Wilson and Tom Hanks. These two have been happily married for almost 30 years and have two sons together, but as a couple, they're probably best-known for their ability to keep to themselves. They've managed to stay under the radar when it comes to paparazzi, and that's because they're both as down-to-earth as celebrities can get. They prove that you don't have to be glitz and glam to enjoy being with your loved one.

Take inspiration from them and stay home and make dinner together. Spend a low-key night bonding with each other and with your family rather than making a big scene. Their love has proven that it's not about *what* you do; it's about who you do it with.

6. Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew Broderick: Valentine's Day doesn't strictly mean that you and your partner have to spend time alone together. It's a day about love, but it doesn't have to be spent isolated from your closest friends. This Valentine's Day, take inspiration from Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew Broderick and host a group dinner at home. This celebrity couple is known for their incredible group of friends; they know how to be loving with their spouse while also maintaining a healthy social life. So why not have a Valentine's Day dinner party and avoid the hassle of making plans at a fully-booked restaurant? Afterwards, you all can play cute couple games and end the night on a fun note.

Related Link: [Expert Relationship Advice: The Stages of Soulmates](#)

7. Mila Kunis and Ashton Kutcher: [Mila Kunis](#) shared that her first kiss ever was on the set of *That 70's Show* with her future husband Ashton Kutcher. If that isn't one of the cutest stories ever, we don't know what is! The two of them have two children together and are always pictured smiling ear-to-ear at basketball and baseball games together.

That's why our next date idea was easy: Take your loved one to a sporting event. Watching sports together makes for some great moments – from the pre-game tailgate to the first minutes after a big win, a game is bound to make the two of you feel closer. Plus, this celebrity couple seems to really enjoy watching the game together, so if it works for them, it can't hurt to try it with your significant other.

8. Jada Pinkett-Smith and Will Smith: The next inspiration for a Valentine's Day date idea comes from a famous couple that exemplifies trendy. Jada Pinkett-Smith and Will Smith have been together for nearly 21 years and have two children who have both thrived in the artsy-alternative community. This is a family of trendsetters and artists, so a date inspired by them needs to be on the same thread.

That's why we suggest that you and your soulmate go to a modern art exhibit or a jazz club – something that stimulates your minds but is visually or musically pleasing too. Afterwards, go to a cute little place for dinner for a well-rounded date. You can talk about the art or performance during your meal, so you don't have to worry about any awkward silences!

9. Sarah Michelle Gellar and Freddie Prinze Jr.: From *She's All That* to *Cruel Intentions*, Sarah Michelle Gellar and Freddie Prinze Jr. ruled the silver screen of 90's romances, and now, they have championed a new field: long-term celebrity relationships. They have been married for almost 16 years and have two children together, and there has never been a rumor of them getting a celebrity divorce or threatening to split.

A great date idea for the couple who loves a little bit of 90's romance is a night out at a retro theatre watching old rom-coms. Snack on some buttery popcorn and soda for a throwback Valentine's Day date night!

Related Link: [Celebrity News: Find Out Details About Meghan](#)

[Markle's Upcoming Bachelorette Party](#)

10. Meghan Markle and Prince Harry: We couldn't end this list without including the celebrity couple whose engagement has dominated headlines for the past month or so. Yes, we're talking about the much anticipated royal wedding of Meghan Markle and Prince Harry. Taking inspiration from this couple, we decided that the best date idea would be to get fancy and take your loved one to high tea. Enjoy the cute little hors d'oeuvres and classy tea rituals before heading to a spa for some much-needed rest and relaxation. End the day with a bath bomb or a bubble bath from Lush's collection of rose-scented goodies, and enjoy some romantic tub time as a couple.

For more [expert relationship advice](#) from Project Soulmate, check out their [website](#).

Dating Advice Video: Why Smart, Successful Women Can Fail at Love





By [Whitney Johnson](#)

On this week's Single in Stilettos [dating advice video](#), founder and relationship expert Suzanne Oshima talks to [relationship author](#) Duana Welch about why smart, successful women can fail at love. "I was in grad school getting a doctorate in the social sciences, and I realized that I was pretty good at that, but I really wasn't good at love," Welch shares. "I knew there was something that I was doing wrong – because the common denominator in all of my relationships was *me*." Here, she shares three reasons why succeeding at love is hard for so many women.

Relationship Author Duana Welch Is Interviewed in Dating Advice Video

1. The things women do to succeed at work don't work in the world of dating: At work, women are told to put themselves forward, pursue what they want, and lead their co-workers, but in a relationship, those qualities are often unrewarded. "Research shows that women who routinely pursue men are seen as low-status and not good wife material," Welch explains. "I hate that!"

"If I liked a man...I was kind of shoving myself down his

throat,” the relationship author adds of her own dating mishaps. “Of course, I didn’t see it that way. There’s never been a perfume called Desperation, and there never will be. But in the world of work, that stuff works.”

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2. Some men hold a woman’s success against her: There was a study done where researchers put up two identical dating profiles. One emphasized the woman being young and beautiful, while the other focused on her being an educated, high-powered attorney. Unfortunately, it’s no surprise that the first profile got a lot more hits. “One reason is because men respond to youth and beauty, but it’s also because men are intimidated by women who have achieved more than they have,” Welch explains.

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3. We have a confirmation bias: In other words, we see what we want to see. “You fall in bed and fall in love, and then you find out the dealbreakers,” Welch shares. Instead, spare yourself the pain and take early action to determine your must-haves and dealbreakers. Then, you’ll be able to make a more informed decisions about your emotions.

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Expert Dating Advice: What's Blocking Me From Finding Love?



By [Whitney Johnson](#)

On this week's Single in Stilettos [dating advice video](#), founder Suzanne Oshima talks to [relationship expert](#) Iris Benrubi about what may be blocking you from finding love.

Relationship Expert Iris Benrubi Shares Her Best Dating Advice

1. You don't understand your attachment strategy: "It comes from your childhood when you were totally dependent on your parents. You had to decide, Can I depend on them or not?" Benrubi explains. For instance, if you had a parent who was inconsistent, you may have developed an anxious attachment

strategy, meaning you're always gauging how close someone is and tend to chase after men. Or if you had a parent who just disappeared, you most likely developed an avoidant attachment style and tend to keep others at a distance. "You need to recognize what you bring to relationships and what you need to do move away from harmful attachment strategies," the relationship expert adds.

Benrubi also encourages you to learn how to manage your anxiety – whether it's with meditation, affirmations, breathing, or yoga. If you can't do it on your own, reach out to a professional for help.

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2. You move inwards after a break-up: It's so tempting to want to keep your heart safe and say, "I don't need a man." "Underneath that, the reality is that we need to be connected to another person romantically," Benrubi says. We're actually biologically wired to *need* people in our life, so don't let the fear of getting hurt again hold you back from a relationship. "Of course, we can all survive on our own, but we really want to be with that right person," Oshima adds.

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3. You don't know your own worth "In order to get into a relationship with a good man, we need to get really clear on our value," Benrubi shares. If you've been in a partnership with someone who puts you down or had a childhood where you were dismissed or felt invisible, you may try to earn a man's love. "When you're in that 'earn energy,' he's up here, and you're down here. You're always dog paddling and trying to figure out what you need to do next," she explains. "It's exhausting." If you want a man who respects you, you have to respect yourself first.

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the *Single in Stilettos* shows, click [here](#).

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Checklist for Dating from Different Decades: Get Love Advice from 'The Bachelor' Star Arie Luyendyk, Jr.



By [Megan Weks](#)

There is a bit of a buzz going on about the age gap between some of the contestants and the leading man on season 22 of *The Bachelor*. Is it really a big deal? After all, significant age differences are often common in [celebrity relationships](#). A

notable one is Mary-Kate Olsen and French businessman Olivier Sarkozy, who is seventeen years older than the fashion designer. Celebrity couple Hugh Jackman and Deborra-lee Furness also seem to be handling the test of time: She is thirteen years his senior, and they have been married for nearly two decades.

Love Advice from *Bachelor* Star Arie Luyendyk Jr.

What should we look out for if we are dating someone from a different decade? Since Arie Luyendyk Jr. seems well-prepared to qualify the candidates on *The Bachelor*, we might be able to get some great [love advice](#) from his experiences. He has self-proclaimed “baby fever” and is therefore seeking a match who is ready to tie the knot and start a family.

Related Link: [Celebrity News: ‘Bachelor’ Star Arie Luyendyk Jr. Justifies First Impression Rose Pick](#)

A good relationship starts with good intentions – which means, if both people know what they want out of life and have similar values, there is a much better chance for success, regardless of a difference in age. Luyendyk knows what he wants, which will make it easier for him to see if the intentions of the women he meets match his own. When people do not have clarity on what they want out of life, they can easily veer away from one another on the path to self-discovery.

Regarding his decision-making process with regard to age, according to *The Hollywood Reporter*, Luyendyk said, “I only really addressed that if I felt it was an issue – if there was some immaturity or if I questioned whether they were really ready for marriage. It’s more about readiness and about being able to take that next step.”

Realize that, if you choose a mate from a different decade, there will be things you don't have in common. My husband, who is ten years older than me, has different musical interests and grew up knowing different movies and shows. However, since I had an older sibling and am a person who likes all the arts, we find similarities among our tastes. This difference could become frustrating, however, for those who cannot connect through the arts because inevitably, you'll be spending time listening to music and watching movies and shows together. Therefore, it's ideal to be able to find some common ground in media that you can enjoy together.

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Another thing to look out for: Either you or your partner will be aging at what seems like a faster rate. Your partner may be reaching the next stage of life – middle age or elderly – before you. This difference might start to be more noticeable for you if you're the younger half. You'll want to be sure you have enough of a soul connection that this situation won't matter to you.

Overall, if your goals, values, and soul connection are intact, then age truly is just a number.

For more information about dating expert Megan Weks, visit her website at www.meganweks.com. For more relationship advice articles from Megan, click [here](#).