

Elizabeth Banks Says Motherhood Won't Stop Her From Acting



Actress Elizabeth Banks admits she's not balancing her career and being a new mom to 5-month-old son Felix very well, but she doesn't plan to slow down anytime soon, according to [People](#). "I'm not really a break-taker," Banks, 37, said with a laugh on Saturday while promoting her latest flick, *Our Idiot Brother*. "I'll just keep on going, and then we'll see. You do it. You push through just like any other working mom."

How do you balance your career with parenthood?

Cupid's Advice:

Time management is essential when it comes to having a career as well as a family. Here are three ways to manage:

1. Family always comes first: You definitely need money to survive and furthermore to take care of your family, but never get so emerged in it that you don't have time for your loved ones. Especially with a career where you're constantly in the bright lights, it may be very hard to make extra time for family. It's something that you must do, however, or your family may very well fall apart.

2. Always carry your planner: A personal calendar is sometimes the best thing to keep by your side when you have a busy life. If not in your purse, on your phone. Mark down every little thing that you have to do daily, and check things off as you complete them. Be sure to jot "family time" down as you fill your agenda up.

3. The little things: You don't always have to be at every practice or every game. Sometimes it's the little things that make all the difference. Take your kids for ice cream on your lunch break rather than catching up on your assignments. Play a game with them. Let them know that you work hard, but it's all for them.

How do you balance your career with parenthood? Share in a comment below.

Christina Applegate Says It's Been Rough to Work Post-Baby



Christina Applegate's new sitcom on NBC, *Up All Night*, mirrors that of her own life these days. The show centers around a couple with a new baby trying to balance parenting with their careers. Being a new mom herself, Applegate gave her thoughts on the topic to [People](#). "It's a really hard thing to do because you miss them. But I'm doing well," said the 39 year old new mother, admitting that its "been so rough" since giving birth to her daughter Sadie Grace. Though her career is important to her, Applegate admits, "Parenthood just changed me in the sense that nothing really matters but [Sadie]. None of it really matters. The importance I placed on things prior to this moment, they don't matter anymore. All that matters is I get to go in there in the morning and see her face. She smiles at me and my life is better."

How do you know when it's time to go back to work after having a baby?

Cupids Advice:

1. Evaluate: Giving birth doesn't mean that you have to throw away all other dreams and goals when it comes to your career. Weigh the pros and cons of staying home and make an educated decision when deciding whether or not to go back to work.

2. Think about your happiness: Realize that being a stay-at-home mom may not be for you. While some women are natural housewives, giving up the career you worked so hard for may cause resentment toward your child or spouse.

3. Finances: Be realistic. Babies are expensive. If you can't afford to take years off to stay at home with your child, then don't do it. You'll be doing your baby a favor by having the money to give him or her a secure life.

How did you know you were ready to head back to work after giving birth? Share your experiences with a comment below.

Alexis Knapp Gives Her Baby Ryan Phillippe's Last Name





Evidence is piling up! Alexis Knapp's baby girl just turned one month old, and the name of the child, born July 1st, is Kailani Merizalde Phillippe Knapp. Her middle name is the same as her mom's. Philippe's last name is included on her birth certificate, suggesting the actor is most likely the father. That said, the father section on the certificate is left blank. According to [People](#), Phillippe was in the waiting room at the time of the delivery.

What are some ways to compromise with your partner on a baby name?

Cupid's Pulse:

One of the first sources of disagreements between you and your partner may be your first baby's name. It's okay to have disagreements in a relationship, but it's important to approach them in the right way. Cupid has some ideas on how to come to an agreement about your newborn child's name:

1. Pick a theme: Your partner loves the name Joseph. You

adore the name Adam. If you're having trouble agreeing on a baby name, try coming up with a theme that you both like. For example, you may find that both of you want a long name or a religious name. Once you've found a mutual theme, you can begin to narrow down your choices.

2. Use pen and paper: You may find it helpful for you and your spouse to write down all the names you would be willing to consider for your child and then share them with each other. Chances are that you will find common ground.

3. Combine: If you're both set on a name, why not be creative and combine the two? If they go well together, one can be the first name and the other can be the middle.

Do you have any advice on how to agree on a baby name? Don't be shy! Share your thoughts below.

Oliver Martinez Spends Time with Halle Berry's Daughter





Though actress Halle Berry was nowhere in sight, she allowed her beau Oliver Martinez to have his very own bonding time with her 3 -year old daughter, Nahla, according to UsMagazine.com. Nahla is actually the daughter of Berry's ex-husband, Gabriel Aubrey. However, one would never guess with the way little Nahla and Martinez got along. Their bonding time consisted of swinging across the sand and innocent little laughs and giggles amongst the scenery of a picturesque Malibu beach. It's safe to say that the two enjoyed each others' company.

How do you know when to trust your new partner with you child?

Cupid's Advice:

Many mothers have a difficult time letting their little ones leave their sight. So, how do you know whether or not your partner is trustworthy enough for your child? He or she might be just right for you, but not right for the care of your baby. Cupid has some advice:

1. If your partner has children: Observe how well your other

half treats his or her kids. This may be your determining factor when it comes to allowing him or her to spend time with yours.

2. Kid-friendly: Does your beau even like children? This may simply be a direct question you can ask, or you can observe him come in contact with children and how he reacts.

3. Responsibility overall: Look for tiny clues as to whether your partner ranks high on the responsibility scale. If not, you know your answer. When it comes to kids, being responsible is key.

Have some extra tips to add to add? Share your comments below.

Fantasia Announces Her Pregnancy On Stage





After struggling through depression, a suicide attempt, and a relationship on the rocks, former *American Idol* star Fantasia Barrino has much to look forward to after all. According to [People](#), on Sunday, Barrino announced that she's expecting. She blazoned the good news for the first time during a charity concert in Jacksonville, Fla: "And I share this with you because I can relate to you. And for a while, I walked around figuring out what they will say and what will they think about me. But now I tell you, I don't live my life for folk." Barrino made no mention of the father, but we know that she was seeing Antwaun Cook and that their affair was associated with Cook's divorce from wife Paula Cook.

What are some ways to make a bang with your pregnancy announcement?

Cupid's Advice:

Not all of us may have the opportunity to make the big announcement after a live performance on stage. But that doesn't mean your pregnancy news can't make a bang. Cupid has some creative ideas:

1. Throw a party: Invite your friends and family to a casual party without informing them about the reason behind it. At some point, propose a toast and then break the news. A gathering with all the people that matter in your life is a great occasion to celebrate.

2. At a sports game: If your partner, friends, and family are into football, why not take them to a local game and have the announcer make a public announcement? That'll certainly stir up some commotion.

3. In the news: If you're going for high impact, but a want to tone down the drama, create your own announcement with paper and pen, then insert it in between the pages of the daily newspaper. When your friends and family flip through the pages, they'll be surprised to find your story.

Can you think of creative ways to announce the arrival of a baby? Share your ideas below.

Grey's Anatomy Star Sarah Drew Is Expecting Her First Child





Sarah Drew, who plays Dr. April Kepner on ABC's hit television hospital drama, *Grey's Anatomy*, is expecting her first child with husband, Peter Lanfer. Dr. McSteamy's co-star is thrilled to be starting a family of her own. She follows many of her other co-stars who are already parents, like Eric Dane, Ellen Pompeo and Chyler Leigh. According to [People](#), Drew is the second of the show's stars to have recently announced she is expecting. Less than a month ago, Dane announced that he is expecting another child with wife Rebecca Gayheart.

How do you rationalize being behind all of your peers when it comes to having kids?

Cupid's Advice:

Sometimes it can be tough to watch all of your friends get married and have kids before you. You're happy for them, but you're jealous at the same time. Here are some benefits to the situation:

1. Learn from their experience: Perhaps one of the best things about being behind your peers when it comes to having kids is

that you can learn from their mistakes. Keep a journal or make a list on your computer of things to keep in mind based on the things your friends go through. You'll look like a pro when it's your turn!

2. More time for freedom: Once you have a family, there's no doubt that it ties you down to some extent. Most people view this as a good thing and not a sacrifice, but why not live it up while you still can?

3. It's just not time: The easiest way to rationalize not having kids yet is that it's simply not time for you to do so. If your not in a relationship where you're both ready to make that type of commitment, then it's for the best that you wait for that to happen.

What are some other positives about being behind your friends when it comes to having kids? Share your thoughts below.

Maya Rudolph and Paul Thomas Welcome a Son





Bridesmaids star Maya Rudolph and husband, director Paul Thomas Anderson, welcomed a baby boy into the world July 3rd, according to [People](#). Rudolph kept the sex of her baby unknown until the day she popped. She said, “The exciting part is not knowing who’s coming, you have to wait nine months for a surprise, but then it’s a good payoff because it really is a surprise.” The newborn, Jake, is home with his older sisters, Pearl and Lucille. The family is doing great, according to Rudolph’s rep. You can check Rudolph out in her new role in *Up All Night*, which premieres this fall on NBC.

What are the advantages of keeping the sex of your unborn baby unknown?

Cupid’s Advice:

Having a baby is always exciting, but a big decision every parent has to make is whether or not to find out the sex of the baby prior to the delivery. Cupid has some advantages to keeping the sex of your unborn baby unknown:

1. It’s a surprise: Take a tip from Maya Rudolph and Paul Thomas Anderson. Who doesn’t like a good surprise? Not

knowing the sex of your unborn baby creates a sense of excitement and suspense prior to the big day, which makes the whole experience even more memorable.

2. No expectations: By not knowing the sex of the unborn baby, you won't know what to expect and therefore won't be planning out the child's entire future before he or she arrives. Having an open mind will allow you to see the baby in an unbiased way.

3. Keep your family and friends anxious: Keeping the sex a secret won't just make you anxious about the big day, but also your family and friends. What's better than seeing or hearing their reactions when you say 'It's a boy' or 'It's a girl'?

What advantages do you feel there are to not knowing the sex of your unborn baby? Share your thoughts below!

Ivanka Trump and Husband Welcome a Daughter





How exciting! Ivanka Trump and Jared Kushner are embarking on parenthood. The married couple welcomed their first child, a baby girl, on Sunday, and they're currently making adjustments to venture into parenting. Trump told [People](#), "We have our work cut out for us to ensure that our daughter is grounded and not spoiled."

What are some ways to change your lifestyle for the arrival of a first child?

Cupid's Advice:

So you're expecting your first baby, and you're both excited and scared. Cupid has some tips on adjustments you can make in preparation for the big day:

1. Read the lit: It's a good idea to do some research prior to the arrival of your child. There are plenty of guides to parenting out there. Go to your local bookstore and choose from a variety of books that will help you understand the changes you will experience as you are expecting.

2. Do the shopping: Before your newborn arrives, you're going

to have to stock up on infant clothes, toys, cradles, carriages, diapers, etc. You're also going to want to get the room or nursery set up. So make a baby check-list and starting ticking off items well in advance.

3. Take some time off: Surely you've been running around trying to get things ready for the day you'll be a parent. Well, don't forget to dedicate some time to yourself. Allow yourself to relax by reading a book, going for a jog or getting a manicure. It's important to not get too stressed out before your child's arrival.

Got any advice on preparing for motherhood and fatherhood? Share your experiences below.

'Teen Mom' Star Farrah Abraham Thinks About Giving Up Modeling for Daughter





It looks like *Teen Mom* star Farrah Abraham is learning exactly what it's like to be a parent to her 2-year-old daughter Sophia. Abraham, who recently went under the knife for a breast augmentation to aid in her modeling career, is now having second thoughts on her career choice, according to UsMagazine.com. In a preview clip airing Tuesday, Abraham said that she's nervous about leaving Sophia when she has to go away for photo shoots. When her mom Debra asked her about how she felt on her most recent trip, she said, "I was really sad but I kept it professional; I definitely think it's hard being in modeling and being a mom."

What are some sacrifices you need to make when you have a child?

Cupid's Advice:

Every parent has to make some sacrifices when it comes to raising their child, and some sacrifices hurt more than others. Cupid has a few sacrifices you may need to prepare to make when you have a child:

1. Dream career: If your fantasy career involves a lot of traveling or late hours, it may not be the best career path

for you if children come into the picture. You don't want your child to feel alone or neglected, so unless there's absolutely no way to cut back at work, your best bet is to choose a different profession, or at least a position with more flexibility.

2. Not as much 'Me' time: Before having children, you may have been used to going to your morning yoga session, then stopping by the cafe for a cappuccino, then meeting up with the girls.

When you have kids, this isn't your everyday reality. Yes, you can most certainly schedule some 'me' time, and most moms do, but there's no longer 'me' time ... all the time.

3. Financial freedom: Once you have a child, money is a very important issue. You can most likely no longer buy a pair of shoes on a whim, and you must consider bills and expenses that a child brings.

What are some sacrifices you made when you had a child? Share your stories below.

Victoria and David Beckham Welcome a Baby Daughter





It's a girl! David and Victoria Beckham welcomed Harper Seven Beckham Sunday morning in Los Angeles. UsMagazine.com reports that Baby Harper is the first girl for the soccer star and his bride. Her numerical name refers back to David Beckham's jersey number when he played for Manchester United in England. David Beckham also explained that the trio of boys helped pitch some ideas for their sister's name. "Romeo was like, 'What about Justine Beiber Beckham?'" he said.

How do you make your children feel involved in a new sibling's life?

Cupid's Advice:

It's difficult for children when their new siblings come home, as they typically feel that the spotlight shifts away from them. Here are some suggestions to help your children share the spotlight:

- 1. Note:** Have your children, if possible and not past their bedtime, at the hospital present and meet their new sibling as soon as possible. This helps your children feel special because they were part of the delivery process.

2. Naming: Similar to Romeo Beckham, have your children help pick names for their future sibling, which will give them a sense of pride if you pick (or seriously consider) their suggestions.

3. Nurture: Whether it's doing chores around the house or teaching them how to change diapers, your kids will do well and feel a part of their brother or sister's life if you let them become involved.

How did your children become involved in their new sibling's life? Share your experience below.

Jewel and Ty Murray Welcome a Baby Boy





Looks like Jewel will be singing lullabies to her new baby boy, Kase Townes Murray. Jewel, the co-host of Bravo's new hit show 'Platinum Hit' found out she was pregnant the first day of filming for the show, according to [People](#). The singer was overjoyed when she found out she was expecting a child with Ty Murray, because she was having troubles conceiving. Unfortunately, she was involved in an accident where she was hit by a fire truck back in March while 5 months pregnant. Luckily, she and her unborn child were unharmed and the rest of her pregnancy was easy sailing!

How do you deal with pregnancy side effects at work?

Cupid's Advice:

Being a career woman and a new mom is definitely a lot to handle, and when you throw in some side effects from the pregnancy, forget about it! Cupid has some tips on how to deal with pregnancy side effects at work:

- 1. Focus on work:** Don't let the side effects of your pregnancy get to you. If you're distracted by your work, it will help to forget your upset stomach (and other aches/pains).

2. Try some different techniques: If you feel like you're dealing with a lot of side effects from your pregnancy at work, try to do some simple relaxation or breathing techniques to keep your mind off of the symptoms.

3. Embrace them: Yes, maybe having morning sickness or undeniable cravings can be rough at work, but embrace them and accept that it's all part of motherhood. It will be a lot easier to cope with them if you're willing to acknowledge that it's all worth it in the long-run.

What are some ways you deal with pregnancy side effects at work? Share your thoughts below!

Kate Hudson and Matthew Bellamy Have a Baby Boy





Kate Hudson is a mom for the second time! [People](#) reports that the actress and her fiancé Matthew Bellamy welcomed a baby boy on Saturday in Los Angeles. Hudson has a 7 1/2-year-old son, Ryder Russell, with her ex-husband, Chris Robinson. This is Bellamy's first child. The pair has yet to name their newborn son.

What are some differences when raising a boy versus a girl?

Cupid's Advice:

There are many differences between raising a boy and a girl. Girls tend to cling more to their mother while boys are more around their father. You notice these differences as they grow, but here are three that might surprise you:

1. Movements: According to research, girls learn to walk and talk before boys. Once they are past preschool, boys are stronger and better at athletics, while girls excel at school.

2. Emotional: Boys might appear to be less emotional compared to girls, but one study reveals that they are in fact more emotional than their female counterparts.

3. Motor skills: According to Parenting.com, girls learn how to use kitchen utensils, toys, and how to write neatly sooner than a boy does.

Do you think it's easier to raise a girl or a boy? Let us know in a comment below!

Nick Lachey and Vanessa Minnillo Want Kids Soon



It seems that Nick Lachey is another one of the celebrity hunks who would now like to be a dad. Lachey, who is in a relationship with Vanessa Minnillo, is looking forward to

having children, one of the reasons being that his age is beginning to show no mercy. "I'll be 38 this year, so it's one of those things that I'm certainly behind the eight-ball on," he told [People](#). Not only is a baby on his mind, but a wedding is as well. The ceremony, which will be a taped TLC special, will be a very special start to Lachey's dream of having a loving family.

What are the benefits of having children later in life?

Cupid's Advice:

Some people wait a very long time before having children, whereas others choose to have them early on. Cupid has some thoughts on why having children later in life may be a good thing:

1. Stability: If you wait a while to have a child, you will allow yourself to have grown economically, mentally and emotionally. You won't have to deal with the extra moodiness that comes with being a teen and the financial struggles that come with first jobs.

2. Youth: By putting off having children, you'll be giving yourself a chance to experience and enjoy your youth without having to sacrifice for someone else. You'll avoid "growing up too fast." Being young only lasts for a short time, so enjoy it while you can.

3. Fit as ever: Saving a baby for later keeps your figure in shape while you're young. We all know the hassle of staying fit. Why not have nice bodies last while they still can?

Did you have a child later in life? Share your experience below.

Salma Hayek's Husband Is Baby Daddy to Linda Evangelista's Son



Surprise, surprise! It turns out that Salma Hayek's husband François-Henri Pinault is the father of Linda Evangelista's son Augustin James. The allegation, filed by Evangelista, has been confirmed and, according to a [People](#) insider, "All that's left is for a magistrate to go over the father's filings and make a determination of support, which will last until the child is 21." The court papers were filed in New York, where the law demands that 17 percent of a father's earnings go

toward child support. The businessman's salary in 2010 was \$5.4 million, so it doesn't take a math wiz to figure out that it's a generous amount of kaching.

How do you bond with your partner's children from a previous relationship?

Cupid's Advice:

Being in a relationship with someone who already has children can be tricky. It takes a lot of patience to establish a relationship with the child in question and determine exactly what role it is that you play in his or her life. Cupid has some advice.

1. Be patient: Don't hold your breath as you wait for the child to roll out the welcome carpet. It'll take a while before he or she will accept your presence. Time is key.

2. Be nice: Be friendly and playful with the child. Don't be bossy, and don't try to discipline because it isn't your place. You want to be more of a friend than a parent, or you may be met with resentment.

3. Be understanding: While it's tough for you to figure out your place in the relationship with your partner's child, it's even more distressing for the young one. You should let the kid know that it's okay if he or she dislikes you. Being open about it will help gain the child's trust.

How do you relate to your partner's child? Share your ideas.

Ryan Phillippe Hangs With Pregnant Ex-Girlfriend



Let the rumors continue! Ryan Phillippe was spotted at a coffee shop in Los Angeles with pregnant ex-girlfriend Alexis Knapp. One inside source told UsMagazine.com that Phillippe, the alleged father, plans on taking a paternity test. "He doesn't know if he's the father. If it's his, he'll take responsibility." Could it be that Phillippe's third child is on its way?

What are some reasons to continue to associate with an ex?

Cupid's Advice:

It may be that your ex is the last person you're thinking

about paying a visit to after a split, but that's not always the case. Clearly, Phillippe and Knapp think it's okay to spend time with your exes. Here's a few reasons why some ex-couples might choose to keep bonds:

1. Do it for the kids: If your ex is the father or mother of your child, you're probably going to be seeing him or her on a fairly regular basis. It's important for both parents to be up-to-date on their children's lives.

2. Keep the friendship: If you and your ex started off as friends before dating, you may want to maintain that original relationship. Friendship is something you can always fall back on for support.

3. Keep the friends circle: When you're in a relationship with someone, you share so much with your partner, including your friends, that don't just die off along with the relationship. It may take some time to readjust your role in your circle, but it'll all pay off in the end.

What are some reasons to keep seeing your ex? Share your comments.

Actress Nia Long Talks Surprise Pregnancy





When forty-year-old Nia Long visited the doctor to receive a yellow fever shot in preparation for a movie she was slated to film in Ghana, she was shocked and pleased by the news of her pregnancy. “I almost fainted. It was the best moment and the sweetest surprise ever,” she told UsMagazine.com. Long’s first child is her 10-year-old son, Massai Jr., who she had with ex-boyfriend Massai Z. Dorsey. This will be her first child with NBA player Ime Oduka.

How do plan for an unexpected pregnancy?

Cupid’s Advice:

An unexpected pregnancy doesn’t have to be scary. A child is the greatest gift a couple can receive. Here are some ways to prepare for that surprise bundle of joy coming your way:

- 1. Focus:** While it may be scary, you have to put everything else on the back burner and focus on your baby. There is plenty of time left in your life to accomplish your goals. Reprioritize your life in order to give your future child the best life possible.

2. Support: You can't do this without support. Tell your family and the father-to-be as soon as possible. These people can guide you down the road ahead and help you plan for those unexpected roadblocks.

3. Take care of yourself: Make sure you're eating right and taking care of your (and your baby's) body. Realize that everything that you do while pregnant affects your child.

How did you deal with your unplanned pregnancy? Share your experiences with a comment below.

Kellie Pickler Says She's In No Rush To Have Children





Kelly Pickler, who has been married to Kyle Jacobs since New Year's, isn't in any hurry to have children. "I don't know what's gotten into these kids where they feel like they have got to have a baby because their friend has one or whatever," said Pickler, according to [People](#). The 25-year-old star realizes that she and her partner are in a stable relationship and that being a parent is a big responsibility. At the moment, the couple simply aren't ready to take that next step.

How do you handle the pressure of having children right after you get married?

Cupid's Advice:

Being a parent is probably one of the most demanding jobs out there and can be especially tough if you're a newlywed. Cupid has some tips of how to lessen the pressure:

1. Be patient: Yes, parenting can be very stressful, but refrain from that urge to take your anger out on your partner. Remind yourself that you can complete that seemingly never-ending list of tasks, as long as you take everything step-by-

step.

2. Keep up the romance: Having a baby means being more responsible, but it surely doesn't mean you have to be serious all the time. Keep those rosy-colored glasses out and sustain your romantic life by continuing to go on dates with your partner and having fun as a couple.

3. Relax: Don't be afraid to indulge in some alone time and do whatever makes you feel good, whether that's reading your favorite magazine, taking a bubble bath or taking a yoga class. It's important that you take the time to regain your energy if you want to be at the top of your game.

What are some things you can do as a newlywed parent to ward off the pressure? Share your comments below.

Melissa Rycroft Says Date Night Is Weird Post-Baby





5 months after having baby Ava, Melissa Rycroft and hubby Tye Strickland still feel 'weird' having date nights without their little bundle of joy. Rycroft told UsMagazine.com that, "It's weird that we're having a date night out and we don't have our daughter with us." When spotted at the HTC EVO 3D launch party in West Hollywood, the two said that they know their daughter is in really good hands. According to Rycroft, if you and your significant other are able to survive a newborn, you're able to survive pretty much anything!

How can you make date night special after you have a baby?

Cupid's Advice:

Life is definitely different after bringing a newborn baby into the world. It affects your marriage in many ways, one of them being your dating life. Cupid has some tips on how you can make date night special even after you have a baby:

1. Include your child: Having a child is a new step in both you and your significant other's lives, so why not embrace this change by including your child on date night? Maybe the

night won't be as romantic, but it sure will be fun going out with your little angel and experiencing the world as they see it.

2. Embrace parenthood: Instead of going to dinner and a movie, why not check out some places you would like to bring your baby, like a park, zoo or aquarium.

3. Reminisce: Head out for a romantic night on the town and relive your newlywed days by appreciating the love and passion the two of you have for each other. Just because there's a new baby in your lives doesn't mean you have to forget who you are as husband and wife.

What tips do you have on how to make date night special after having a baby? Share your thoughts below!

Lamar Odom Says Khloe Kardashian Has Maternal Instincts





It's usually Mommy's maternal clock that ticks at a certain age, but that's not the case with Khloe Kardashian and NBA star husband, Lamar Odom. This time, it's Daddy who's itching for a baby. Odom believes Kardashian would make a great mother to their potential child, and he should know; he's her test drive! "She takes care of me, and I'm a pretty big baby," the 31 year-old Lakers star told [People](#). Aside from Odom, however, Kardashian has had a bit of child mothering experience in the past. "It's her natural instinct," said Odom. "She used to take care of her two younger sisters. She's gonna be great. I can't wait until the day when we can share that moment when she gives birth to our child."

How do you know if your partner is cut out to be a parent?

Cupid's Advice:

Sometimes, when caught up in love, we think our partners are perfect for everything, even parenting. But how can you tell if your mate will be a phenomenal parent? Cupid has some quick tips:

1. Surrounding relationships: Chances are that how your partner treats you, his or her siblings, and his or her parents is an almost accurate representation of how your partner will treat your child. Keep an eye out for these things.

2. Responsibility, responsibility, responsibility: Make sure that before you make any baby plans, you see a consistent sense of responsibility coming from almost all of your partner's actions. It's by far the most important quality for a potential parent to possess.

3. Is money a sticky situation?: If your partner is always carelessly spending money, or is the opposite and is severely frugal, take that into account when you're thinking about having kids. Children need stable incomes.

What are some potential parenting traits you look out for in your partner? Share your ideas below.

Natalie Portman and Benjamin Millepied Welcome A Son





Academy Award-winning actress Natalie Portman and fiancé Benjamin Millepied have welcomed a baby boy to the world, reports [People](#). Portman and Millepied met on the set of *Black Swan*, where Millepied was working as a choreographer. The pair confirmed their engagement and announced Portman's pregnancy in December.

How do you prepare for a son over a daughter?

Cupid's Advice:

Once you find out the gender of your baby, the real prep-work begins. Here are a few ways to prepare for a son:

1. Prepare the baby's room: When you find out the gender of your baby, prepare his room appropriately. Feel free to finally break away from a gender-neutral color scheme and migrate towards shades of blue, green, and brown. Seeing the completed room will take a large burden off of your shoulders.

2. Inform relatives: Keep your friends and family up-to-date. Many of them, especially the ones planning the baby shower, will need (almost) as much time as you do to prepare.

3. Brainstorm: The gender of a baby is always unpredictable. If you were hoping for a daughter to play dress-up with, then you have some readjusting to do. Come up with other activities and buy toys that your son could enjoy.

Do you have experience in preparing for a baby boy? Feel free to share advice below!

Lily Allen Is Married and Pregnant



Lily Allen has a lot of reasons to be happy. Last weekend she married boyfriend Sam Cooper and announced she's pregnant,

reports [People](#). The 26-year-old singer walked down the aisle at St. James the Great Church in Gloucestershire, England, wearing a gown by French designer Delphine Manivet. The designer said the dress was made especially for Allen. “For me, and for her too, when you’re pregnant you want to show that, but also be respectful, so the dress was perfect for her for that moment.”

How do you make your wedding pregnant-friendly?

Cupid’s Advice:

If you’re pregnant and getting married, some of the details of your wedding might have to be changed. Cupid has some tips on how to adjust your wedding when you’re expecting:

- 1. The dress:** Your wedding gown may have to be altered depending on how far along you are.
- 2. The drinks:** During the reception, when others are drinking, try having some orange juice or soda instead.
- 3. The party:** Make sure not to over-exert yourself when you’re pregnant. If you need a break or want to leave the party early, people will understand.

Any other tips on how to adjust a wedding for a pregnant bride? Share your comments below.

Bethenny Frankel Is Scheduling Baby Making Time



Mother of one, entrepreneur and reality TV star Bethenny Frankel wants to add even more to her plate: baby number two. The former *Real Housewives* star said she's so busy that she and her husband actually have to schedule time to make a baby. "We want to have another child, but we're going to have to start trying," Frankel told [RadarOnline](#). "We talk about having two children, definitely. But I'm 40, like, we need to get on the bandwagon."

How do you prepare to have a child?

Cupid's Advice:

Nothing can fully prepare you for parenthood until the baby actually comes, but Cupid has some tips on how to make the transition easier:

1. Read books: There are lots of great resources out there,

like *What To Expect When You're Expecting*. Do some research before your bundle of joy arrives.

2. Ask for advice: Talk to friends and family who have children to see what their biggest surprises were when their first child was born.

3. Babysit: If you have any young nieces, nephews or cousins that you can spend time with, becoming comfortable with them will help make you more used to having a little one around.

What did you do to get ready for your first child? Share your comments below.

Piers Morgan and Wife Are Expecting First Child Together





This just in: CNN anchor Piers Morgan and his wife Celia Walden are expecting their first child together, according to UsMagazine.com. “It’s the best news ever,” said a source close to the couple. Walden, a British columnist, is approximately four months along, according to the U.K.’s Daily Mail. For the *America’s Got Talent* judge, this will be child number four, as he has three sons from his first marriage.

How does your lifestyle change when you have your first child?

Cupid’s Advice:

Your child’s needs must come first, and it can be difficult to navigate the changes that come as a result of that. Here are some suggestions:

- 1. Tone it down:** Some things you’re used to doing may not be fit to do around a child, so everything you and your partner do is going to have to come into question.
- 2. Lack of sleep:** Children require a lot of attention and you’re going to have to sacrifice a lot of precious hours of sleep early on.

3. Home improvement: The room that was going to become your work-out room is going to have to become your baby's bedroom. Deal with it!

How did your lifestyle change when you had kids? Share your experiences below.

Fergie and Josh Duhamel Are Ready to Start a Family



Black Eyed Peas singer Fergie has babies on the mind, reports [People](#). When asked about starting a family with her husband Josh Duhamel, the singer replied, " Oh yeah, of course. Not

right this second. [I'm] not pregnant, for the record. But, yeah." Fergie, who is taking a break from the Black Eyed Peas as her bandmates work on solo projects, is glad to be "getting more of that personal time. Josh and I have gotten to spend a lot more time together this year than other years, which is great."

How do you know it's time to start building a family with your partner?

Cupid's Advice:

Starting a family is one of the biggest changes your life will ever face. Here are a few ways to determine if you're ready:

1. Your marriage is in a good place: Make sure that you and your husband are absolutely comfortable together and that your marriage is happy and stable before bringing a baby into the world.

2. Financial stability: Children are expensive. Before having a child, make sure your bank accounts are able to handle the burden. Being financially stable will save you from much frustration down the line.

3. Your feelings: Analyze your own feelings on the subject. If you don't feel 100 percent ready to start a family, then don't. You need to be completely sure of your decision before you commit to such a life-changing experience.

When did you know you were ready to start a family? Feel free to comment below.