Katy Perry Brings John Mayer Home for the Holidays





By Jessica Simpson

It looks like things between Katy Perry and John Mayer are turning serious! Though the two have only been dating for a few months, they reportedly spent Christmas together, according to <u>People</u>. "They're happy together and with her family for the holidays," said a source. "John really likes getting to know Katy's family better."

When is it time to introduce your partner to your parents?

Cupid's Advice:

Taking that next step in your relationship and introducing your mate to your family can be intimidating. Here are some signs that it's time to take the plunge:

1. It's sure to be long-term: If you have made plans with your partner months away, it's probably a good idea to introduce

them to those who are important to you.

- 2. You're past the lust stage: If that shiny glimmer you get at the beginning of a relationship has dissipated and you still want to be with your partner, consider taking the next step.
- 3. Comfort level: If you don't feel comfortable around your new mate yet, then don't introduce them to your family. That being said, if you've never felt more comfortable around someone, your family is sure to feel the same way.

What are some other signs it's time to introduce your partner to your family? Share your ideas below.

Queen Elizabeth II Invites Kate Middleton's Parents to Join the Royal Christmas





By Nicole Weintraub

Queen Elizabeth II is breaking with tradition by inviting Kate Middleton's parents to the royal Christmas gathering at Sandringham Estate, according to <u>UsMagazine.com</u>. Prior to now, only royals have been invited to attend. However, the queen is hoping that by extending the invitation to the pregnant Duchess's family, it will encourage her to attend as well if she feels up to it. Recently, Middleton had been hospitalized for severe morning sickness. Since being released from the hospital, she has been taking it easy with husband Prince William by her side, taking it day by day. Middleton will decide the evening before of the morning of if she will attend the holiday nuptials based on her health.

What are some ways to involve your in-laws in your relationship?

Cupid's Advice:

We've all heard the dreaded rumors regarding the in-laws. Though, believe it or not having a good relationship with your partner's family can strengthen your own relationship. Cupid has some advice:

1. Invite them over: Nothing will bring you closer with your in-laws than inviting them over for dinner. The more time you

spend with them, the stronger your relationship with them will become.

- **2. Ask them to babysit:** If you have kids, ask them to babysit for them. This will give them a chance to be more involved in your lives as well as your kids' lives.
- **3. Call them:** If your in-laws live far away and you don't get to see them too often, give them a call every now and then. Just by showing them that you are thinking of them will mean the world to them and your partner for showing an effort.

How do you involve your in-laws in your relationship? Share your stories with us in the comments below!

Kristen Stewart Apologizes for Making People Angry





By Jennifer Ross

For the second time, Kristen Stewart is publicly apologizing. This time, however, her apology is addressed to the world. Several months after publicly apologizing over her cheating scandal, the Twilight star tells *Newsweek*, "I apologize to everyone for making them so angry. It was not my intention." Although she has been the most hated and loved topic of interest since her infidelity with her Snow White and the Huntsman director Rupert Sanders, Stewarts says, "It's not a terrible thing if you're either loved or hated." Even so, her main concern, besides reconciliation with boyfriend Rob Patterson, is working on her talent. "I don't care [about people's opinions]...It doesn't keep me from doing my s—."

What are some of the main repercussions of cheating?

Cupid's Advice:

In a relationship, the discovery of infidelity can greatly damage and destroy the bond between you and your partner. It definitely destroys your perception of each other. The work required to reconcile is often so difficult that many relationships never recover. So if you are thinking about cheating, here are some of the consequences you may deal with afterwards:

- 1. Broken trust: Trust is at the very foundation of your relationship. Without it, one of you will constantly live wondering if you will ever stop having to prove yourself; while the other will live in fear, worrying about the next possible infidelity.
- 2. Loss of respect: Once caught cheating, to lose respect from your partner means you are no longer viewed in the same loving way. Although your partner may stay with you, he/she will never love you like before and not see you as an equal anymore.
- 3. Constant memory: Even if your mate wants to forgive you,

he/she may never forget. This means that in times of conflict, the memory of cheating may surface repeatedly, forcing you to relive your punishment. This creates an emotional prison term with no parole for both of you.

What were the repercussions of cheating in your relationship? Comment below.

Gwen Stefani Says Raising Kids with Gavin Rossdale Is the 'Ultimate Collaboration'





By Jennifer Ross

With her long list of accomplishments, Gwen Stefani claims her biggest moment is having a family with husband Gavin Rossdale. The couple just celebrated their 10-year anniversary, a huge

accomplishment in the music industry. In an interview with Vogue, published in the January 2013 issue, the $No\ Doubt$ lead singer describes her lasting marriage as, "It's pride. You feel proud. There are just so many rewards that come with it… It's like these wars that go on and then you kind of get through to the other side, and it's like, 'Wow.'" The glue to their marriage — their two children, sons Kingston James McGregor, $6\frac{1}{2}$, and Zuma Nesta Rock, 4. "Having kids takes the whole relationship to another place. It is the ultimate collaboration." From success at work to at home, Stafani, 43, sometimes can't believe anyone can be this lucky in life. Every day I'm like, 'Really? Are you serious? Thank you, God. This is too good.'"

How does raising children bring you closer together as a couple?

Cupid's Advice:

It may seem like adding a child into your relationship will deplete everything your and your partner cherish — your love, money and time. On the contrary, children bring the lessons of unity and unconditional love for someone else. Have doubts about this? Here are a few ways children will bring closeness:

- 1. More than two: As a couple, you two will have a loving bond for each other. However, when children are added, your relationship literally transitions into something more significant and even greater than before. It transitions into a family.
- 2. Common life goal: Although you and your mate definitely love each other, it's nothing compared to the love you two will feel for your children. Even better, the ability to share that common goal of loving and nurturing your children is what will bring you two even closer as a couple.
- 3. Symbiosis: Because raising children requires so much more

than just love, you and your partner will immediately learn to cooperate with each other simply to get through the daily stresses of a family. Working together repeatedly is what teaches you both to live in harmony and togetherness.

How did raising children bring you and your partner closer together? Tell us below.

Nicole Richie and Joel Madden Celebrate Second Wedding Anniversary





By Nicole Weintraub

Nicole Richie and husband Joel Madden celebrated their 2nd wedding anniversary, according to <u>UsMagazine.com</u>. The couple has two children together, daughter Harlow who is four and son

Sparrow who is three years old. The two wed in December of 2010 after four years of dating one another. Richie revealed that the two of them were complete opposites when they first met, though they could not be happier now. Madden, who plays for band Good Charlotte, opened up about his family, saying, "I feel like the luckiest man alive to have my wife [Richie] and kids...Hope everyone out there finds this kind of love."

What are some special ways to celebrate your anniversary?

Cupid's Advice:

Anniversaries can get monotonous and routine after several years, though here are some different ways to celebrate them:

- 1. Take a class: Instead of doing the routine and traditional anniversary dinner and gift exchange, take a class together. Try a kickboxing class or a baking class; just do something different that you can do together.
- 2. Cook for each other: Have your partner make dinner for the two of you or make dinner for you and your partner. Instead of going out for dinner, have a nice evening in with food cooked by you.
- **3. Start a tradition:** Do something original and start a tradition that the two of you can do every time you celebrate an anniversary. For example, write each other little love notes or start a memory box.

How would you celebrate your anniversary in a special way? Share your ideas with us in the comments below!

Bradley Cooper Brings Zoe Saldana to 'Silver Linings Playbook' Party





By Nic Baird

Acting couple Bradley Cooper and Zoe Saldana posed for photos at a candle-lit dinner Friday to celebrate the film *Silver Linings Playbook*, according to *People*. Stars Robert De Niro, Diane Keaton, Mel Gibson, and Jane Fonda also attended The Weinstein Company's event at the Chateau Marmont. Cooper and Saldana met on the set of *The Worlds* in 2011, but split after three months of dating. Since September, they've been spotted together giving their romance another shot.

How do you know when to make your relationship public?

Cupid's Advice:

Don't feel pressure to spread the word of your romance, but eventually if someone is important to you they should become an obvious part of your life. It's hard to decide when exactly to update that Facebook profile. Rather than worry about it, here are some signs to take things public:

- 1. Comfort: You and your partner could still be testing the water. Make sure you each feel comfortable and have some clarity about your relationship before telling the world. Wait until you know how to talk to each other.
- 2. Commitment: A few dates is a good start, but if you're going to be with someone publicly then you should know that you're both invested. Considering what you're both looking for in a relationship, could making things public add extra pressure? A decent stretch of dates will make it easier to tell friends and familly about your special someone.
- **3. Future:** Be aware of the stresses your relationship could encounter. If distance, responsibilities or baggage from previous relationships are going to threaten this new one, then you have to be careful. Don't jump the gun before you've straightened out whether or not there's a future as a couple.

When do you think you should make your relationship public? Share your experiences below!

Kyra Sedgwick Opens Up About Why She Loves Husband Kevin Bacon





By Nic Baird

The Closer's Kyra Sedgwick has a lot of praise for her husband, actor Kevin Bacon, People reports. "He is so honorable. He is so ethically true. He has high moral standards, and he doesn't lie and he doesn't cheat," she said in the January issue of Good Housekeeping. "I find that sexy!" The couple married in 1988, and Sedgwick said he still makes her feel like the most beautiful woman in the room. The two are also parents to Travis, 23, and Sosie, 20, who have now left the nest. "There's a lot more walking around the house naked," Sedgwick said.

What are some ways to keep the spark alive in your marriage?

Cupid's Advice:

As your love matures, the comfort of your marriage can push out some of the past passion. Don't let this make you too anxious. Instead, encourage your significant other towards these strategies for keeping the spark alive. Most of all, be excited at having found love in your life. Cupid has some advice:

1. Spontaneity: Be ready to suggest ideas to your partner, and be open to their suggestions. Keeping things lively means leading a full life with your partner. If one of you has an

idea for an activity, pursue it. It will either be a learning experience you can talk about or a rewarding moment of fun.

- 2. Dates: It is easy to be lazy, and stop courting your spouse. You two could probably find a lot of enjoyment in each others' company at home, but creating new experiences will keep the marriage fresh. Plan romantic evenings and go out and do something active with your partner. Spending a night away somewhere is a great idea, because it lets you change the scenery and focus on your significant other.
- 3. Desire: It's important both to let your partner know you find them attractive, and to be attractive for your partner. This means more than expected levels of hygiene and personal grooming, but also each of you should at least pretend to be naively unaware of your natural appeal. Dress up for dates, and show effort in your appearance.

What are some strategies you've found to keep the passion? Share your experiences below!

Lindsay Lohan Swipes Max George's Sweatshirt Post-Hookup





By Nic Baird

Lindsay Lohan tweeted a photo of *The Wanted* singer Max George's sweatshirt directly to him with the caption "missing something?" on Dec. 8, *UsMagazine.com* reports. The redheaded actress could have taken it when she saw George last week following his band's concert in Philadelphia. The pair checked into a Boston hotel the next evening. George refers to his new friend as "fun" and "a good girl." He's also impressed by her stamina. "She can party nearly as hard as we can."

How do you know whether you can trust a potential partner?

Cupid's Advice:

For your own sanity of mind it's important to trust your partner. Sometimes we can leap to conclusions, and we fall to the mercy of our own insecurity or past experiences. However, your partner should make an effort to earn your trust. Your relationship needs to find time to discuss trust when these aspects make you uncomfortable:

1. Values: It's important to be aware of your partner's priorities. Are they the type who can enjoy a monogamous relationship? Even if you're just casually dating, you should make sure you're both on the same page. At the very least, any relationship should have honesty and trust.

- 2. Transparency: As you grow closer, it's natural that you'll learn more about your partner's life. Eventually you should have a good idea of how your significant other spends their day. If you're often surprised by your partner's actions, then you should question how much you know. For your own dignity you shouldn't invade your partner's privacy, but if they should not be resistant to communicating, and dispelling your doubts.
- 3. Respect: No matter how you've tailored your relationship dynamic, it should include respect. When you feel your significant other's respect, trust comes more easily. Your partner should treat you well in public, and consider your feelings when acting.

What lets you know you can trust your partner? Share your experiences below!

Gwen Stefani Suprises Fans with a Performance at Gavin Rossdale's Concert





By Nicole Weintraub

Audience members were given a treat when Gwen Stefani made a surprise appearance at husband Gavin Rossdale's concert, according to <u>People</u>. The couple fell in love while touring with their respective bands back in the 90's and have not performed together for the past ten years. Rossdale was performing with his band Bush when his wife joined him on stage during his solo opening of their song "Glycerine". Audience members went nuts during the number and once the song ended, the pair shared a kiss before Stefani exited the stage. Bush stayed on the stage to finish their set while Stefani waited for her hubby to end his shift. Gwen happened to be around and the couple thought it would be fun according to a source since "they hadn't done it in at least a decade".

How can music make your relationship stronger?

Cupid's Advice:

While not many of us are musicians, or dating musicians, music can still be a vital part of a relationship. Here are some ways music can strengthen a relationship:

1. Your song: Every couple has a song; it's a given. During a wedding, the couple has a song that they dance to. Every time your song is played, you automatically think of your partner.

- 2. It sets the mood: The right song playing in the car at the end of a first date can lead into a goodnight kiss. Music sets the mood for the activity whether it is a fist pumping club song or a soft melody.
- **3. Deeper meaning:** Listen to the actual lyrics to a song and you might be able to find one that tells the story of your relationship with your partner. Music can help explain feelings that we cannot share.

How does music play a part in your relationship? Share your ideas with us in the comments below.

Prince William Comments on Kate's Morning Sickness





By Nicole Weintraub

Prince William recently made an appearance without his wife

Kate Middleton, but offered some comments regarding her morning sickness, according to <u>People</u>. The prior week Middleton had been in the hospital for nearly four days suffering from extreme morning sickness. Though, William joked lightheartedly "they shouldn't call it morning sickness, as it's a day and all-night sickness." Middleton has been taking it easy and resting following her release from the hospital. William was supposed to make an appearance at the British Military Tournament at Earl's Court Sunday in London, but cancelled in order to spend the day with his wife instead. A spokesperson for the couple also announced that they would not be informing the media on Middleton's health check ups or her status on the pregnancy due to privacy concerns. The couple is scheduled to make an appearance together on December 12 to attend the royal premiere of *The Hobbit* in London.

How do you make your partner feel better when he/she is sick?

Cupid's Advice:

Taking care of your partner while he/she is sick goes along with the commitment of being in a relationship. Here are some tips on how to make them feel better:

- 1. Stick around: If you had plans to go out with your friends, reschedule so that you can stay inside and spend time with your partner. Watch the game at home instead of going to the bar to watch it with your friends.
- 2. Bring the soup: While home made chicken soup is always a personal favorite; some of us are not culinary experts. If the kitchen is not your place, just order in some food for the two of you.
- **3. Order a movie:** Have a lazy movie date night inside since your partner cannot go out. Instead of bringing them to the movies, bring the movies to them.

How would you make your partner feel better when sick? Share your ideas with us in the comments below!

Jessica Biel Reveals the Upside to Being Married to Justin Timberlake





By Nicole Weintraub

Jessica Biel opens up and tells all about how wonderful married life is to Justin Timberlake, according to <u>People</u>. The former 7th Heaven actress recently tied the knot with singer Justin Timberlake after dating for several years. Biel recently revealed that the best part about being married is getting to call Timberlake her husband. She enjoys having a partner through her adventures such as swimming in the nude. Another aspect of married life that has Biel ecstatic is being

able to take advantage of her new husband's culinary skills which he picked up from his southern grandmother. Regardless of how happy she is being married to Timberlake, Biel opens up and spills the secret that the best part is over. "Honeymooning is the best thing about being a newlywed. I wish I could honeymoon forever."

What are some of the advantages to being married?

Cupid's Advice:

Transitioning from being single to engaged to married is a big step to take. Some couples choose not to marry, though here are some perks to tying the knot:

- 1. Legally bound: It is often times easier to have children within a marriage due to legal issues. If something were to happen to you, all of your financial assets would automatically go to your partner. The saying what's mine is yours and what's yours is mine comes into play here.
- 2. Commitment: Marriage is the ultimate commitment that two people can make to one another. While serious relationships have commitment as well, marriage has finality to it in which you know you want to spend the rest of your life with this person.
- **3. Deeper connection:** Being married automatically brings to people closer together through sharing their possessions to experiencing a wedding and life together.

What are some benefits to marriage? What are some disadvantages to marriage? Share your opinions with us in the comments below!

Miranda Lambert Says Blake Shelton Loves to Decorate for Christmas





By Jennifer Ross

Country music stars Blake Shelton and Miranda Lambert are definitely into having a very merry Christmas time. It not only is a holiday they love to celebrate, it is their "light at the end of the tunnel." In the Dec. 3 issue, Lambert tells <code>USMagazine.com</code>, "We can stop rushing around and just be together." Going back to his childhood days, Shelton loves "to decorate" for the holidays and choose "food out of magazines" for his 29 year-old bride to make. Also, Shelton, 36, asked his talented singing wife to accompany him in a duet on "Home" for his <code>NBC</code> special, <code>Blake Shelton's Not So Family Christmas</code>. Without hesitation, Lambert was more than willing to contribute. "I'm glad to be a part of it. I loved watching him sing with Reba McEntire and Kelly Clarkson. He was so comfortable with the biggest divas on the planet!"

What do you do if your partner isn't a fan of the holidays?

Cupid's Advice:

The holidays are wonderful opportunities to be with friends and family, creating memories. However, your holiday fun can be dampened when your partner doesn't see the joy in it. That shouldn't discourage you from celebrating them anyways. To help keep the holiday spirit alive, here are a few ways to leave the coals out of your relationship's stocking:

- 1. Understand why: There may be an underlying issue as to why your mate isn't a fan. Is it social awkwardness? Childhood issues surrounding holidays? Maybe he/she doesn't like your family? Whatever it is, be understanding to their reasons; together, you just may come up with a solution.
- 2. Start off simple: If your partner is not accustomed to making such a fuss over the holidays due to his/her childhood, start off small. Instead of a Christmas party for thirty, have a holiday dinner for six maximum. The stress and complications of holidays may be what deters him/her.
- **3. Plan anyways:** While you cannot force holidays on your partner, you can continue on with your plans regardless of his/her involvement. After all, your mate is not required to attend the party. That shouldn't stop you from having your fun and enjoying what you love.

How did you handle your partner not being a fan of the holidays? Tell us below.

Find Out What Khloe Kardashian Won't Be Getting Lamar Odom for Christmas





By Nic Baird

As the holiday season approaches, The Kardashians are still searching for Lamar Odom's gift, <u>People</u> reports. The Clippers' Forward and Khloé Kardashian's husband can't figure out electronics, according to his wife. "Kourtney asked, 'Would Lamar like an iPad mini for Christmas?' I said, 'Absolutely not!' He would have no idea what to do with [it]," Khloé Kardashian said. Odom has managed to figure out Skype video calling so he can stay connected with his wife. "I have to walk him through it on the phone and it takes forever."

How do you come up with romantic ideas for holiday gifts?

Cupid's Advice:

As the season approaches, those with a significant other are

no doubt fretting over gift ideas. There is an obvious expectation of thoughtfulness, no matter how serious you are as a couple. This doesn't mean you're obligated to stress! Just take a breath, use a moment to brainstorm, look over these tips, and you'll have your holiday shopping list in no time:

- 1. Date or vacation gifts: One thing you should be able to count on is that your significant other enjoys your company. A great gift you can give your partner is organizing a romantic date for the occasion. The holidays are more a time to spend with loved ones rather than touring malls. Think about the classic options, like sleigh rides, fireplaces, and hot chocolate.
- 2. Make something yourself: Knitting a scarf, writing a song, painting their room, or building a table show sincere effort and romance from the time it took you. Draw from your interests or talents, but don't be afraid to try something new. The internet is full of guides and tutorials for learning unique gift creation skills.
- 3. Revisit relationship memories: Sometimes you can get by purely on the thoughtfulness of the gift itself. This means that it has to have a strong connection to things you've learned about your partner. If they like making soup, buy them a pot. As long as the gift conveys that you've listened to their interests and you recognize their needs. Another way to go is by choosing a gift that reminds you of a significant moment in your relationship that you shared.

What romantic holiday gifts have you given or received? Share your experiences below!

Hope Solo's Husband Jerramy Stevens Is Arrested for Violating Probation





By Michelle Danzig

Hope Solo's husband and former NFL tight end Jerramy Stevens, 33, was arrested for violating probation on Wednesday, according to <u>UsMagazine.com</u>. The arrest is the result of domestic abuse charges earlier this month. Stevens allegedly assaulted Solo, 31, during an altercation on November 12. Oddly enough, Stevens and the two-time women's soccer gold medalist were married the very next day. After being released and the charged being dropped, a warrant was issued for his arrest for violating probation from a marijuana possession arrest back in October of 2010. Solo spoke out about the incident for the first time on Tuesday saying, "I'm happy. I'm happily married. We never stand for domestic violence. I've never been hit in my life. It's unfortunate, and that's what the media can do." Stevens is currently in jail without a set

bond.

How do you deal if your partner has a run-in with the law?

Cupid's Advice:

Whether is be a past or present incident, a run-in with the law is never pretty. It can happen to anyone from a minor traffic violation to a felony. There are plenty of ways to handle the situation whether it was a prior offense or a current issue. Here are some tips to dealing with a law-breaking partner:

- 1. Do not get arrested too: if your significant other is having a run-in with the law, and you are present, be calm. Do not interfere in any way. Politely ask the officer where your partner is being taken and for any other information you may need to know about the arrest.
- 2. Don't judge them for past offenses: Not everyone who goes to jail or gets arrested is a bad person. Sometimes people make mistakes and unfortunately, jail is sometimes a consequence. Ask them to be open and honest about the situation. This way, you are enlightened about any topics that might concern you and your future (i.e.probation).
- 3. Try to avoid any future occurrences: As was mentioned earlier, it isn't difficult to end up arrested. If you and your significant other have a clean record, why not work together to keep it that way. If either of you finds yourself in risky territory, it doesn't hurt to say something. Take precautionary measures, for example, when drinking. If your partner has had too much to drink, do not let him/her drive.

Has your partner had a run-in with the law? Tell us how you handled it below.

Ashton Kutcher and Mila Kunis Enjoy Romantic Thanksgiving Weekend in Rome





By Nic Baird

Mila Kunis and Ashton Kutcher found themselves in Rome this Thanksgiving, <u>UsMagazine.com</u> reports. The two recent lovers, also former co-stars of *That '70s Show*, have been staying in the Italian capital as Kunis films *The Third Man* Orson Welles remake with Liam Neeson and James Franco. This didn't stop them from taking a night out on the town for an intimate meal at Chechino, Friday. And besides their romantic stroll to take in the sights last week, the two enjoyed a three-course feast with the film's director, Paul Haggis.

How do you know when it's time to go on vacation with a new beau?

Cupid's Advice:

Everyone fantasizes about a lavish and exotic vacation with a date, but be cautious not to elope without your partner's full commitment. Follow these tips to see if you two are ready for a romantic vacation:

- 1. Familiarity: You can plan much of your vacation ahead of time, such as scheduled activities, and where you're going to stay. However, a lot can change when you get there, and any type of travel involves a certain degree of spontaneity. It is very important that you know your partner well enough to make decisions you'll both enjoy. Besides knowing your date's threshold for excitement, being familiar with their interests lets you find adventures better suited for your relationship. Being able to rely and trust your partner is also crucial as you need those qualities in a travelling companion.
- 2. Comfort: Going on vacation means spending time together constantly, so make sure your relationship is prepared for that. If there's always a day's space between seeing each, you have to wonder what non-stop dating is like with your partner. If you're just getting to know each, make sure you two won't be too nervous to fully enjoy yourselves.
- 3. Excitement: Before you start booking resorts, make sure your partner not only agreed on the vacation, but that they're excited about it. You don't want your date to go into this half-heartedly. There's lots of preperations, and you shouldn't have to do them alone. A couple's getaway won't be romantic if one of you leaves your heart at home.

When did your relationship take its first couples' vacation? Share your experiences below!

Kristen Stewart and Rob Pattinson Land in NYC After London Thanksgiving





By Nic Baird

The vampire lovers, or Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson, returned to New York this Friday after spending Thanksgiving in London with the actor's family, <u>UsMagazine.com</u> reports. The star-crossed couple enjoyed the holiday with the blessing and company of Pattinson's sisters, Lizzy and Victoria. Though the siblings were publicly disgusted with Stewart's transgressions, they have since forgiven her and are on good terms, according to a source for <u>HollywoodLife.com</u>. Before returning to JFK airport from their holiday, the <u>Twilight</u> twosome flew to London, Madrid, and Berlin in the last few weeks to promote <u>Breaking Dawn: Part 2</u>, their final scheduled film opposite each other.

How do you know when to let your family in on your relationship?

Cupid's Advice:

Before telling mom and dad you have a plus one for family dinner, make sure the time is right. The fact is, all relationships are different. Cupid has some guidelines:

- 1. Time: The second date is not the time to meet the parents. Allow space to get to know each other. Any relationship, no matter how fast you want to flash cook it, needs time. How much exactly? It depends how you spend it, but arbitrarily, one month at least.
- 2. Commitment: Your family wants to meet the dates you are serious about. Don't bring home everyone who catches your interest. It also puts your romance at risk by adding external pressures. And your family can't be expected to juggle your personal life along with you. You don't have to discuss commitment with your partner, but make a judgement call on how certain you can be about the future of your relationship before introducing them.
- 3. Mutual interest: This just means you should ask your partner if they'd be comfortable meeting your family. Ideally, they'll want to make a good impression, and if this is the case then they'll probably be a bit nervous. Be careful not to force your date into situations unwillingly.

When is it time bring your relationship to the family? Share your experiences below.

Pro Matchmaker Says Kristen

Stewart and Rob Pattinson Will Marry in a Year





By Jennifer Ross

Millionaire Matchmaker Patti Stanger knows a good love match when she sees one and she sees one in Hollywood couple Kristen Stewart and Rob Pattinson. Recently, at an Usmagazine.com Music Party, Stanger told Hollyscoop.com, "I love the fact that [Robert Pattinson] let [Kristen Stewart] apologize and that she owned up to her mistake. Let's see if they can heal each other and if they can get married in the next year and a half." Although most of America thought their love fiasco may have been a publicity stunt for the Twilight Saga movie, Stanger actually saw a heartbroken Pattinson and a remorseful Stewart. "I think it's for real because I really think he had a broken heart, I think he really cried his eyes out and I think she really regretted what she did." When it comes to cheating, Stanger believes in forgiveness. "She's human and they're young. We make mistakes like that and nobody calls them out. They make mistakes and it's like the end of the

world."

What are some signs that you've found the person you're going to marry?

Cupid's Advice:

How can you tell if your partner is "the one?" Ultimately, that is a big question you will have to answer on your own. However, that doesn't mean there aren't clues to guide you. Of all the many possible reasons to doubt a relationship, here are three conclusive signs that you are on the road to marriage:

- 1. Comfortable: A relationship should not be a painful chore and neither should hanging out with your partner. A lazy day with your soul mate should be like a cozy pair of pajamas very comfortable and relaxing. This is the type of person you will want by your side when you grow old.
- 2. "We" terms: As you live in a world of individuality, being in a relationship with "the one" puts everything in a different perspective. Your days of thinking in terms of "me, my and I" evolve into "we, ours, and us." You can naturally think of you two as a unit.
- 3. Protection: A sign that you are with your future spouse is that not only do you two protect each other from harm, but you also protect each other from the ability to let your individuality decline. Many relationships become so intertwined that each person loses their own sense of self. If not protected, this will only cause havoc and pain between you.

How did you know you had found the right person to marry? Share with us below.

Rose McGowan Reveals Her Biggest Dating No-No





By Nicole Weintraub

The former *Charmed* star, Rose McGowan, reveals that her biggest turn off is a sloppy kisser, according to *People*. "Don't be sloppy!" the actress announced. She likes her man to be slightly aggressive with his kissing, but she doesn't want to swallow his tongue. McGowan has been linked to Marilyn Manson and was formerly engaged to Robert Rodriguez. On her former television show, *Charmed*, the star had to lock lips with several different actors without evening knowing their names. Afterwards, she would never see them again, so this kissing expert has some experience in the smooching department. As far as learning how to kiss, unfortunately, McGowan believes that "you just either know how to do it or you don't".

What are three dating deal breakers?

Cupid's Advice:

While messy kissing might be Rose McGowan's deal breaker, here are a few of our own that make a date go from fabulous to icky:

- 1. Poor hygiene: Regardless of how attractive someone may be, if your date shows up with mismatched clothes and a body odor that brings tears to your eyes, run for the hills. Bad breath, stinky body odor, disheveled clothing and dirty fingernails are just gross.
- 2. Egocentric: If your date does nothing but talk about themselves the entire time, it's time to look elsewhere. A relationship involves two people and if this person can have a relationship without you, that's not attractive.
- 3. Poor manners: While it's nice to have a gentleman who opens the door for you and pays for your dinner, it's not mandatory. Though, if he insults you or makes you pay for him all of the time, kick him to the curb.

What are your dating no-nos? Share your stories with us in the comments below!

Kelly Clarkson Compares Her Relationship to a Cheesy Love

Song





By Nic Baird

The original American Idol, Kelly Clarkson, "completely fell in love" with talent rep boyfriend, Brandon Blackstock, reports YourTango.com. After eight months of dating, her priorities have shifted from her career to her "best accomplishment", her relationship with Blackstock, Clarkson said. "I just didn't think it would happen. It's like one of those cheesy love songs that didn't exist, but it does, so that's cool." Clarkson promises to still write breakup tracks, despite being in relationship bliss.

What are some ways that not looking for a relationship can help you find one?

Cupid's Advice:

Whenever you lose your keys, phone or favorite sweater, you can drive yourself crazy with a frantic search. The irony is that when you stop looking, the elusive item pops up. Don't lose your head looking for love, because dialing down your

quest for affection will get you better results. Cupid has some tips:

- 1. Comfortable: If you're fretting about relationships, and eyeing each potential suitor like a piece of meat, you're going to create tension. Both genders don't like to feel pressure at the start of a courtship. By lowering this urge to jump on opportunities, you project confidence and the other sex will feel more relaxed in your presence.
- 2. Independent: Another way you can project confidence outside a relationship, is by focusing on yourself and all your non-romantic interests. Don't change yourself because you think it will help you lure a mate. Change yourself because it will make you the person you want to be, and reflect the person you are presently. Someone who is happy on their own is attractive. Someone who needs a relationship to latch onto so they can pull themselves out of depression is terrifying.
- 3. Personalized matches: You could follow your crush around and pretend to be interested in the same things. And if they're not too weirded out, you could look forward to a lifetime of Frisbee golf, or lectures on the philosophy of science fiction. But, if you truly want to find your soul mate, pursue your own interests. Chase your own goals, do your own activities, and you'll find the people you meet to be better matches. Synergy!

How have you got your mind of the relationship hunt? Share your experiences below!

Lea Michele Serves Boyfriend Cory Monteith Raw Eggs





By Nicole Weintraub

Glee stars Cory Monteith and Lea Michele enjoy breakfast together, though Michele served him raw eggs once, according to <u>UsMagazine.com</u>. Though she is not very skilled in the kitchen, <u>Michele</u> thoroughly enjoys cooking and hopes to have her own cooking show one day in the near future. Though, she worries about her sailor mouth since she curses left and right. In one of her recent culinary endeavors, she served up her own creation, but the eggs wound up being undercooked. "It wasn't very good, but he was a very good sport," Michele explained.

How do you make a homemade meal served at home romantic?

Cupid's Advice:

Don't want to go out for a fancy dinner at a romantic restaurant? Here are some tips to make a homemade meal

romantic:

- 1. Set the mood: Set the scene with candles, dim lighting and a nice bottle of champagne or wine. Put some music on in the background and there you go. You have created your own little private seating area in a restaurant.
- 2. It's homemade: The fact that you have slaved in the kitchen, creating a homemade meal for your partner is romantic alone. Even if you are not a culinary artist, it shows that you care for your partner and took the time out for them.
- **3. Cook together:** A great way to make a fun date out of a homemade meal is to cook it together. Experiment in the kitchen with one another and just throw something together.

Do you make romantic homemade meals for your partner? Share your experiences with us in the comments below!

Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel Lend a Hand Post-Hurricane Sandy





By Nic Baird

Singer Justin Timberlake and actress Jessica Biel spent Saturday helping the victims of Hurricane Sandy in Queens, New York, <u>People</u> reported. After recently returning from their honeymoon, the newlyweds spent hours handing out relief backpacks and blankets. The neighborhood, Far Rockaway, was heavily damaged by flood water and local residents were grateful for the group's help as some still wait for heat and electricity.

What are some ways to give back as a couple after a natural disaster?

Cupid's Advice:

A natural disaster is a cause everyone can get behind. People like you have lost their homes, security, and other essentials in the wake of Hurricane Sandy. If this was you and your partner, you'd welcome any help in your time of need! Show the humanity of your relationship by lending your hands:

1. Understand the crisis: What happened? Figure out the effects of this disaster, and who's been affected. Learn the stories of the ground zero victims. Find out how it happened, and what emergency services are doing. Pay attentions to the actions of politicians and where their priorities are in this

national dilemma. Most importantly ask yourself, what do people need?

- 2. Relate to the victims: These are people like you. Nobody brought a natural disaster upon themselves, except maybe the citizens of Sodom and Gomorrah. Try to understand how you would feel if your life was stripped away. As a couple, remember your pity isn't worth anything to the victims, only your help. Approach the situation as your duty, not your charity.
- 3. Be proactive: After you've spent time to understand this sudden calamity, move your sympathies out of that well-informed head. Bring your feelings of altruism to the broken streets and wounded families. Talk to those in charge of relief efforts and tell them how the disaster makes you feel, and how you want to pitch in. Discuss with your partner which organization is a right fit for you. You can find a list of many of the groups helping with Hurricane Sandy at www.treehugger.com.

How have you and your partner reacted to Hurricane Sandy or other natural disasters? Share your experiences below!

Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel Return After Honeymoon





By Nicole Weintraub

Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel are back from their honeymoon, reports <u>People</u>. The duo spent their time honeymooning in Africa, though they are now back in the states. Biel caught up with some gal pals in New York City at the Little Cupcake Bakeshop. The star "looked so happy" and showed off her ring to her friends. She enjoyed spending time with her close friends, catching up on each other's lives and definitely sharing some juicy tidbits about her recent marriage to Timberlake. The pair has also been spotted working together to help out the victims of the most recent hurricane. Though they're not honeymooning anymore, the pair is certainly working together and is taking on the role of blissful newlyweds.

What are some ways to keep the honeymoon phase going once the honeymoon ends?

Cupid's Advice:

The honeymoon's over! Here are some tips on how to extend that happy honeymoon phase even after the vacation period is over:

1. Spend time together: Remember that just because the honeymoon itself is over does not mean that the relationship simmers down. Date night is a must in a successful marriage.

Set aside time just for your significant other.

- 2. Live separate lives: Be careful not to spend every waking moment with one another or else you are going to wear yourselves out. Do your own thing but be sure to make your partner a part of it in someway.
- **3. Communicate:** Communication is key. If you feel that you are not as happy as you were on the honeymoon, you need to be honest with your partner. Together, the two of you can work to recapture that happiness.

What are some ways you keep the honeymoon phase alive? Share your stories with us.

President Obama and Michelle Obama Embrace with News of Re-Election





By Jennifer Ross

It's official! President Obama and his family will not need to move out of the White House. On Tuesday night, after Americans ran to the polls to vote, news reports confirmed the President, 51, as the winner after gaining the electoral vote of Ohio. By Wednesday morning, the official tally was in — President Obama with 303 and Republican nominee Mitt Romney with 206. Soon after winning Ohio, the President tweeted to celebrate, including a photograph of him hugging First Lady. When giving thanks for support, the president tweeted, "We're all in this together. That's how we campaigned, and that's who we are. Thank you. -bo."

How do you congratulate your partner after an accomplishment?

Cupid's Advice:

All successes, big and little, should be celebrated, especially when it involves someone you love. Whether your partner has received a hard-earned promotion, lost weight, graduated or published a book, this is the time to do something special and show that you care. Need a little help? Check out these ideas:

1. Party time: A party is a great way to celebrate your mate's success. Gather all the loved ones and friends together.

Decorate the place up nice and include your partner's favorite foods. Don't forget to write a wonderful speech, showing how proud you are for their success and how much you care.

- 2. A token: When there isn't time for a party, a little token of appreciation can be given to your mate. You can give a personalized briefcase or pen for a job promotion or take them shopping for new clothes due to weight loss. Whatever the occasion is, there's always an appropriate item to give.
- 3. Announcement: If you are so proud that you want the world to know, why not announce your loved one's success to everyone. You can rent a billboard in your area, have a radio DJ broadcast it in the morning or light up the great news on a teleprompter at a sport's area. Make sure your partner receives the message loud and clear you are proud of him/her.

How did you congratulate your partner after an accomplishment? Tell us below.

Jay-Z and Beyonce Raise Money and Awareness for the Presidential Race





By Jennifer Ross

Support for the Presidential couple continues from Hip-Hop's royal couple. During President Barack Obama's re-election campaign, Jay-Z and Beyonce continued to show support through raising money and awareness. This past September, the pair raised \$4 million for the President's re-election campaign by hosting an event at Jay-Z's 40/40 Club in New York City. The event was limited to 100 guests, each paying \$40,000 to attend. Also, Jay-Z performed at POTUS' Ohio rally for the final efforts to promote awareness, a day before the official election. When Jay-Z spoke to MTV News regarding his reasons to support the President, he stated, "I support Barack because I gotta respect that sort of vision. I gotta respect a man who is the first black President ever."

What do you do if you and your partner don't hold the same political beliefs?

Cupid's Advice:

When it comes to politics, many people fall in love with a partner that happens to have different beliefs. It's something that may have been noticed on the first few dates but never taken seriously until later — perhaps around election time. And even though the differences can transform a robust debate into an all-out fight, it also has the potential to bring a

couple closer. Here are a few ways to help any relationship stay on the same side, regardless of opposing views:

- 1. Respect each others' views: Whether one of you is prochoice and the other is pro-life, never disrespect each other by ridiculing or dismissing each other's beliefs. Instead, stick to unbiased facts that are provable. Your issue is with the topic and not your partner, so keep the harsh comments out of your relationship. The key is to focus on who you are speaking to and not the topic.
- 2. Don't try to change his/her views: When you and your mate are in a heated debate, don't make it a battle of who will change their views. Rather, use your listening skills and allow each other to have separate convictions. This gives you and your partner the opportunity to learn something about each other than could bring closeness to the relationship.
- 3. Agree to disagree: In the event that the political topic in question is too strong a subject for either of you to see the other's point of view, bridge the gap by agreeing to disagree. Remind yourselves that your love isn't solely based on that one topic. It is based on many other wonderful characteristics. By learning to accept your partner this way, you also learn to love the good and bad in him/her.

How do you and your partner maintain your relationship when you both have different political beliefs? Comment below.