

Weekly Round-Up: All the Necessities for Back to School



By

[Jessica DeRubbo](#)

It's officially time to pack up your beach chair, put away your swimsuit, and hand in your badge at your cushy summer job. Now, pack up your car and hit the road en route to college. There's no doubt you're excited to see friends you haven't seen all summer, but starting new classes and hitting the books can sometimes be a drag. Well, it just might be a bit more tolerable and exciting with the following brand new products in your bag, ready to be pulled out at any time.

Cupid has some must-have high demand items for back to university this year. Check out our product reviews!

FUJIFILM's INSTAX Mini 70

What better way to capture all of your college experiences than by getting photos immediately with the latest model to join the "instax mini" series of instant cameras? [FUJIFILM's INSTAX Mini 70](#) produces credit card-sized photos instantly, so you never have to wait to share beautiful, sharp images with family and friends. The camera offers very unique features, like a selfie mode, which automatically adjusts settings for perfect selfies using the self-facing selfie mirror. The best part is, you can decorate your dorm room with wall art instantaneously, without having to waste any time. Plus, the INSTAX Mini 70 is a great size to have in your backpack or in your purse on campus. It's easy and fun to use, so consider checking it out, and share an original!



FUJIFILM Instax Mini 70

Palmer's Cocoa Butter Formula FlipBalms

Take a page from your celebrity crushes, and include [Palmer's Cocoa Butter Formula FlipBalm](#) this school year. Palmer's, a brand beloved by celebrities and consumers alike, has three sweet FlipBalm varieties (Juicy Watermelon, Creamy Coconut, and Ripe Mango), all three of which showcase moisturization benefits and natural ingredients. They're full of pure Cocoa Butter, raw Shea Butter and Vitamin E. Plus, they couldn't be easier to apply! They feature a revolutionary "flip to open" packaging design, making it easy to apply with just one hand, easily flipping open and closed for mess-free application. Best of all, this lip balm has been clinically proven to moisturize for over 8 hours. During your back to school shopping, be sure to stop at Target, Kmart, Five Below or [Palmers.com](#) to purchase your cool new FlipBalm.



Palmer's Cocoa Butter Formula
FlipBalm

Simply Sensitive Summer's Eve® Cleansing Cloths

You may know Summer's Eve as a leader in feminine hygiene products, and they have now developed Cleansing Cloths that provide an easy and discreet way to feel confidently fresh. The gentle formulas won't irritate sensitive skin and are hypoallergenic and alcohol-free. We've all had those "not so fresh" moments, whether you're sprinting to class through the courtyard, working out at the rec, or even if it's "that time of the month." [Simply Sensitive Summer's Eve Cleaning Clothes](#) are perfect to toss in your purse, gym bag, or pocket whenever you're on the go. They're lightly fragranced and quickly wipe away odor-causing bacteria. They come in a variety of scents to stay fresh throughout all life's special moments.

GreenPan Mini Ceramic Non-Stick Square Egg Pan

Let's face it: you don't have time to vigorously scrub off stuck egg remnants on a pan when you're already late for class. That's where [GreenPan Mini Ceramic Non-Stick Square Egg Pan](#) comes into play. The GreenPan Square Egg Pan is perfect for all of your breakfast and brunch needs. It's coated with Thermolon ceramic non-stick, perfect for frying results, easy cleaning and using less oil. Plus, the pan provides quick and even heating and heavy gauge construction for reliable cooking

results. Also, don't worry about burning yourself, because the product has a stay-cool non-slip handle with a silicone sleeve. This cutie is the perfect addition to your new kitchen on sorority row!

Zebra Pen Assortment

It may not be very exciting taking notes in class every day, but you can totally spice it up with [Zebra's Pen Assortment](#). The pens are Sarasa Gel pens featuring Rapid Dry Ink. Why rapid dry, you ask? No smudging! We are featuring three pens. One is the Z-Grip Plus Ballpoint pen, which features a very smooth low-viscosity ballpoint ink. The second is the H-301 Steel Highlighter, which is part of the Steel line of products. Finally, the third is the F-301 BCA, which is particularly special because the pink barrel on it is aimed at Breast Cancer Awareness. It's a steel ballpoint pen with black ink.

Going back to college for the first semester of the new year may seem daunting, but you can ease your worries if you have the above products with you on your journey. Good luck!

Good For You and Good For The Planet Products





By

[Nicole Caico](#)

Too many products on the market utilize harsh chemicals, which are not good for your health or for the environment. Luckily all-natural products are gaining popularity, because good for you and good for the planet should be the same thing.

Show your body, and the environment some love with these all natural products.

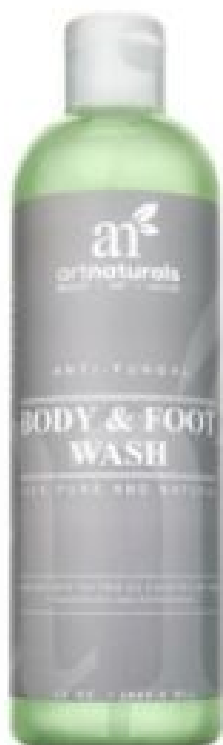


Doubling as your soap and loofa, Pura Naturals brings you their line of [Soap Infused Active Sponges](#) in citrus zest, peppermint volcano, and unscented 3-packs (\$8.99). Each plant-based sponge is all natural, and biodegradable. The sponges also repel water which makes them mold-repellent and travel friendly.

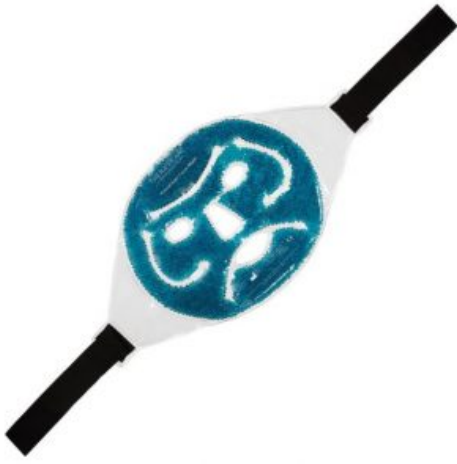


There are plenty of body lotions out there, but not many like this one. Surya Brazil sells their [Amazonia Preciosa Leg & Foot Lotion](#) to give you a one of a kind, all-natural, hydrating experience (\$34). The lotion is vegan and cruelty-

free. With natural oils, aloe, shea butter, and more Surya Brazil promises “intense revitalizing action” from this lotion.



For a fungi-fighting clean, Art Naturals offers their [Antifungal Soap with Tea Tree Oil](#) for body and feet (\$18). This wash is kind to delicate skin while alleviating itchiness associated with common conditions, like athlete's foot and psoriasis. Like other all-natural products, its ingredients are refreshingly easy to read.



Face masks are great for relaxation, and even better when they're reusable. The [TheraPearl Face Mask](#) (\$19.99) is an oversized round mask with openings for eyes, nose and mouth. With a fully adjustable Velcro strap, and the choice of heating or chilling it is extremely versatile. Heat it to open clogged sinuses, chill it to soothe tender skin, or make it a part of your facial routine.



You've never had a cleansing wipe so natural. Pre- or post-sweat, [EmerginC Scientific Organics Facial Cleansing Wipes](#) (\$19) 100% natural wipes are ideal for cleansing and removing makeup, packaged for use while at-home or on-the-go. The wipes are made from a sustainable, biodegradable, non-woven wood fiber, and are formulated with organic aloe vera, a proprietary fruit extract blend, witch hazel extract, lacto-fermented radish root and honeysuckle.



Can't skip a day without washing your hair? Now you can. [Farmaesthetics Powdered Silk Dry Shampoo](#) (\$30) all-natural herbal dry shampoo absorbs oil, lifts roots and freshens hair to extend time in-between washes. Made of just silk powder, cornstarch, lavender buds, and sea salt.

Stay natural this summer with these awesome products!

Last Picks on Summer Beauty Products





By

[Nicole Caico](#)

The summer is winding down, but there is no reason not to make the most of what's left. If the summer products you stocked up on in June are running low right about now, there are still some great products to help you get through the rest of the summer.

You won't want to miss out on these pivotal summer products!



For Lips: Nothing says summer better than a bright, bold lip. The Black Up Cosmetics [Neon Kiss Lip Sets](#) (\$29) includes three bold shades, as well as jumbo lip pencil and pencil sharpener. It's great for everyday wear or date night makeup.



For Eyes: Another summer makeup essential? Anything waterproof. Black Up Cosmetics [Waterproof Smoky Kohl Pencil](#) (\$19) comes in 10 waterproof shades, to help you maintain your summer eye look in the harshest of humidity or on the beach.



For Face: Summer is almost over, but there are plenty more hot days to come. Outsmart your climate and keep your face looking matte and flawless with Black Up Cosmetics [Anti-Shine Loose Powder](#) (\$32), which comes in five different shades. Mattifying powder is one of the best summer beauty tricks.



For Skin: The scent of coconut is a signature summer smell. To keep your skin from peeling or drying out after long days in the sun, there is [Fruit Fusion Coconut Water Energizing Body Lotion](#) (\$9.99). The added perk of the product is that, like all Shea Moisture products, it is organic and not tested on

animals.



For Skin: Summer clothes mean showing skin, skin, and more skin. When moisturizing alone doesn't do enough, get baby soft skin with [Shea Moisture's Superfruit Complex Hand & Body Scrub](#) (\$9.99). This organic exfoliating scrub will give you shiny, smooth, summer legs.



For Body: Whoever said water isn't a summer beauty product was way off. Keeping yourself hydrated will benefit your body and

keep your skin glowing from the inside out. Looking to help yourself and the planet? [Just Water](#) retails for \$0.99 in most stores and is one of the most sustainable water bottle designs on the market. Calvin Harris, Will Smith, Jada Pinkett Smith, and their son Jaden Smith are some celebs who back the company.

Get rid of the summer blues, and get ready to use some of these great products!

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Rushing into Marriage



By

Shannon Seibert

When you enter a serious relationship, there are only two ways things can go: You land a ring on your finger, or you eventually breakup. Thoughts of marriage and the big “I dos” become more and more present as your relationship continues, and you begin to wonder where it’s even going. But what happens when you breeze into marriage too quickly? We’ve pulled together these five articles from our partners to show you why you should enjoy your relationship as it is and not scramble to the altar:

1. When the time comes, you want to enjoy the experience: Some couples rush into marriage so quickly that they’re really just focused on reaching the next milestone. When you spend most of your relationship anticipating the next big step, you forget about the great moments in between. For example, if you’re worried about getting pregnant early on in your marriage, you miss out on enjoying the time you have alone together – like Kim Kardashian and Kanye West, who had baby North before they were married. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

2. Sex is for fun: At this point in your life, you’re young, and you’re able to experience things that you won’t be able to once you enter the world of marriage and motherhood. Sex can be more than two people in a bedroom trying not to wake the kids. It can be an adventure, a surprise, a bonding experience. You can establish intimacy that eventually can lead you towards getting engaged and eventually married. (GalTime.com)

3. You don’t have to stress about getting engaged: The pressure of being engaged can come from many different people: your parents, your significant other, and even society can make you feel like you need to bolt to the nearest church. Once you accept that it’s up to you and your partner – and no one else – you’ll be able to calmly approach marriage when the time comes. (YourTango.com)

4. You can appreciate the relationship for what it is: With

big decisions, time is your best friend. When taking the future into consideration, think of how he makes you feel now, the way he treats you, how much you've grown together. If you feel like the relationship has peaked or that it's near its end, you should cut ties and walk away without a complete loss. (YourTango.com)

5. You have time to prepare financially: Marriage and kids can be more money than glamour. With house payments, car payments, extraneous bills, and family needs, you may feel like you're barely hanging on. Waiting to tie the knot will give you time to formulate a feasible living budget that will fit the lifestyle you anticipate. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

Why did you wait to get married? Share your thoughts in the comments below!

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Dating a Co-worker





By

Shannon Seibert

In-office dating is risky. On the outside, it looks like a wild thrill ride that involves a lot of stolen glances, secret flirting, and sneaking around. Truth be told, your co-worker is still a person with dating potential. We've snagged these five articles from our partners to show you the most important points about dating in the workplace:

1. Despite the warnings, it *can* work out: Relationships are tough as it is, and when you factor in the stress of the workplace, things can get pretty intense. An in-office romance can challenge people to test boundaries that they haven't before, but by pushing these limits, couples can also live their fairytale. Ginnifer Goodwin found her love story on the set of *Once Upon a Time*, where she literally fell for Prince Charming, played by Josh Dallas. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

2. Secrecy can lead to hotter sex: Keeping secrets can be fun! Subtle touches and hidden jokes within conversation create sexual tension unlike any other. The forbidden fruit always

seems to be the ripest, so go ahead and pick it. Plus, it's an added bonus when you catch him checking you out in the break room; it gives you something to look forward to when you clock out at the day's end. (YourTango.com)

3. There are a new set of rules: The dating game becomes a little more complicated when it comes to courting a colleague. For the sake of being professional around your boss and for the courtesy of others, keep public displays of affection to a minimum. They can hinder your work as well as jeopardize your position at the office. You'll have direct contact on a daily basis, so just remember to toe the line from nine to five. (GalTime.com)

4. It may become big news: In the office, all personal relationships are hot gossip. When you really start to fall for a co-worker, people will know just by looking at you. Some industries are more accepting of colleagues seeing each other romantically. Actors date other actors all of the time! In fact, Katie Holmes is allegedly dating her co-star in *The Giver*, Alexander Skarsgard. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

5. It can lead to a serious connection: Colleagues tend to develop strong bonds due to the common ground of their work. You understand the day-to-day grind, and you run in the same circles. This allows two people to know each other in more ways than ones. The way he deals with being stressed, flustered, or successful demonstrates a lot about his character. Seeing these sides of each other can lead to greater intimacy and understanding of one another. (GalTime.com)

We'd love to hear your in-office dating stories! Share with us in the comments below.

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Dating as a Single Parent



By

Shannon Seibert

When you're dating as a single parent, each date seems to be the equivalent of a job interview. *Will he get along with my kids? Does he mind me having kids? Does he even like kids?* All of these questions are rational worries that every single mother faces in the dating game. We've pulled these five articles from our partners to help you play your cards right and find a love that's worth it:

1. Realize that it's okay to be dating: Single mothers often fear their children's reactions when they start dating. They don't want their kids to get attached to someone who may only

be temporary or, even worse, hate someone who they want to be permanent. Relax and remember that this is about your happiness too. Soon, you'll find a man who will make you eternally happy like Savannah Brinson and her star-studded hubby LeBron James. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

2. Consider online dating: Online dating is very convenient for single parents. It allows you to create a profile that will highlight all of your expectations for a mate. You'll be able to state whether or not you've been previously married, that you have children, and if you're looking for a long-term meaningful relationship. This will also allow you to check out your matches' profiles to see whether or not he'd be a good fit for you and your family. (GalTime.com)

3. Make it fun: Finding love as a single mother is hard enough, so you might as well not add to the pressure. Stay light on your feet and be prepared for anything. Though it may feel like a job interview, it's important to not treat it like one. You'll find out more about your partner by interacting with them in atypical environments, so feel free to be spontaneous with him. (YourTango.com)

4. Combining families is a wonderful thing: Dating someone else who has children can also work to your advantage. You both will understand that introductions may be delayed until you feel comfortable with one another and that your children are your first priorities. Guy Ritchie and fiancée Jacqui Ainsley are welcoming their third child together, making Ritchie a father of five. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

5. If you're looking for long-term love, tell him: By being up front about what you want, you put the ball in his court. Establishing this desire early on in the relationship is a confident move that he'll either admire or run from. His reaction will show you what kind of man he is or the kind of man he *could* be. Be patient and understand each other's needs from the get-go. (GalTime.com)

What's your best tip for dating as a single parent? Share in the comments below!

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: First Date Ideas



By

Shannon Seibert

First dates are both nerve-racking and exhilarating. You want to impress the new person you're seeing while feeling them out to see if there is potential for something more. Unfortunately, the typical nice dinner can get old after a while, so we've pulled these five articles from our partners

to help you pick out a fun idea for your next first date:

1. Go to the beach and have picnic: Picnics have an intimate setting without being super serious. The casual atmosphere with a scenic view will give you and your new guy a chance to catch a glimpse of nature's paradise while bonding over homemade sandwiches. You can take long walks along the water and even plan for future outdoor activities. (GalTime.com)

2. Go to a ball game: America's favorite pastime can set the scene for your first date together. Whether it's a local team or a professional one, the competition will liven up your day. He'll feel in his element, and you'll be able to be comfortable with him cheering on your favorite team. (YourTango.com)

3. Go on a double date: Double dates are the magical answer to any first date nerves. You'll have two extra people to act as a buffer just in case you can't find anything interesting to say. Plus, double dates allow you to split into teams for something like a flirty game of laser tag with women versus men. Then, you can celebrate your victory over a group trip for ice cream. (GalTime.com)

4. Go to the fair: The fairgrounds are a great place for fun and for feelings to grow. You can really get to know someone during an aggressive bumper cars match or while chatting over gooey cotton candy. The playful atmosphere will encourage easy conversation and allow you to be yourself. Kourtney Kardashian and her beau Scott Disick enjoyed time together at the fair this past week with their son Mason. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

5. Go see a romantic comedy together: Yes, it's a typical movie date, but you can put a twist on it by sneaking in your favorite snacks. Make a game out of making weird candy-snack combinations and see who can come up with the best movie treat, such as M&Ms and popcorn. The comedy will have the two of you laughing all night, and you won't have to worry about

awkward silences. (YourTango.com)

What's your favorite first date idea? Tell us in the comments below!

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Why You Argue with Your Man



By

Shannon Seibert

Couples don't seek out arguments, but they are bound to arise from time to time. Many different factors come into play during a fight, and a healthy relationship is all about being

able to handle them in the best way possible. We've pulled together five articles from our partners to explain why you and your love may be arguing:

1. You're hearing what you want to hear: Sure, you're hearing them speak, but that doesn't necessarily mean that you're listening. You have to consider the emotions behind the words. For instance, your man may be saying that his boss is unfair, but what he's *really* saying is that he wants to feel like his work is appreciated. So pay attention and be the shoulder he can lean on. (GalTime.com)

2. You're using the wrong tone of voice: What you say and how you say it go hand in hand. Your tone of voice can add a multitude of connotations to a single phrase. Couples tend to misinterpret the different tones in the heat of the moment, but then they fail to talk about it. Open communication with your love is one of five important steps to a strong relationship. (YourTango.com)

3. You're asking already answered questions: Nothing is worse than asking a question that's already been answered, so sometimes, it's best to refrain from asking questions at all. If he's upset about something and you can't quite understand what he's saying, let him finish telling you what's wrong. Or just take a cue from Kanye West, who supports his wife Kim Kardashian in everything she does, including throwing their baby an over-the-top birthday party. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

4. You're avoiding the root of the problem: He's probably not picking a fight about dirty dishes just because he despises your lack of care for clean cutlery. There's usually a deeply-rooted problem in disagreements that a lot of couples fail to address. Try finding the source of the problem before the tension becomes unbearable. (GalTime.com)

5. You're having the same unresolved arguments: You're going to keep fighting about the issue until you come to a

conclusion. As a couple, you need to sit down and discuss what's really going on. Make sure you're on the same page at the conclusion of the discussion so it won't happen again. (YourTango.com)

How do you handle arguments with your man? Share your stories with us in the comments below!

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: 5 Men You'll Meet Before Mr. Right



By

Shannon Seibert

To get to Mr. Right, you have to go through all of the Mr. Wrongs. There are many types of men that women will encounter on their journey to find The One. The struggle is training the brain to differentiate between the good and the bad. Check out these five articles from our partners that will clarify why each type of man below is *not* who you're looking for:

1. Mr. High School Sweetheart: Ah, your first love. He'll always have a special place in your heart. One mistake women make is thinking that there is only one kind of love out there and latching on tight to their first boyfriend. With this guy, you'll realize all of your good memories are in the past, and it's getting harder to connect as you get older. You're too familiar with each other – and where is the excitement in that? (GalTime.com)

2. Mr. Bad Boy: There is nothing sexier than the stereotypical bad boy. The problem is, women want a bad boy who is good for her and her alone. He doesn't play by the rules, though, and no matter how much he may care for you, it's all about him. Yes, the motorcycle and the "don't care" attitude may be alluring, but you are above his silly games. Stay away from Mr. Bad Boy, and go for someone with a more royal quality. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

3. Mr. Good Guy Friend: He's probably one of the nicest men you'll ever meet. He'll show up with soup when you're sick; he'll rub your feet when they're sore; and he'll go with you to all of the awkward family gatherings that require a date. The truth about Mr. Good Guy Friend is he's trapped in the friend-zone, and there's no way out. (GalTime.com)

4. Mr. Baggage: Women have a maternal tendency that isn't easily turned off. So when a sad puppy comes along and needs taking care of, we are the first to the rescue him. Don't let Mr. Baggage fool you. His "commitment issues" and the fact

that he has been “really hurt” isn’t cute. You don’t need to be in charge of a charity case while you’re on a mission to find love. Guys like Marc Anthony, who openly have self esteem issues, are the men you want to avoid. (YourTango.com)

5. Mr. Not Right Now: He may also be called Mr. Excuses. When he’s with you, he’s so in the moment, and the world seems to revolve around you and him. But the next day he is MIA and ignoring your texts. What gives? Mr. Not Right Now is weighing out his options, and you are not a Plan B kind of woman. He needs to take a cue from Eli Manning, who tries to spend every moment he can with his family, the top priority in his life. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

Have you ever had a run-in with one of these men? Share your story with us in the comments below!

Cupid’s Weekly Round-Up: Your Ideal Man





By

Shannon Seibert

Women are constantly consumed by the search for the elusive Ideal Man. But who is he, really? For some, he's tall, dark, and handsome. For others, he's a sensitive blonde who is passionate about nature. But how far will these characteristics really take your relationship? We've pulled these five articles from our partners to reveal what qualities your dream man should possess, no matter what:

1. He's someone worth bragging about: Okay, so your mother isn't exactly impressed by your latest prospects. Chances are, if they aren't measuring up to Mom's standards, they aren't worth your time. The Ideal Man is someone who you'll be proud to bring home and show off to your friends and family. For example, Kendra Wilkinson-Baskett brags about her man Hank Baskett and his amazing parenting skills for their two children. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

2. He'll leave the past in the past: Jealousy is a monster that we all wish to keep at bay. The Ideal Man will not talk poorly of his past, nor of yours, but use it as a learning

experience. Not speaking ill of an ex reflects wonderfully on his personality and character. He will be comfortable in his own skin and will reassure you that his past will not become his present. (YourTango.com)

3. He'll make you feel comfortably uncomfortable: You'll not only feel right, but you'll feel protected. The Ideal Man will allow you to be fully yourself, and he'll also push you into uncharted territories. He won't be afraid to challenge you or disagree with you. After all, in a strong relationship, you need that type of mental stimulation. (GalTime.com)

4. He'll be the most intoxicating drug: Passionate, all-consuming love is something that every woman wants. And if you look hard enough, it's not a lofty goal. The Ideal Man should not only be compatible with you physically but emotionally as well. Don't underestimate the power of love and what it can do to a person, for your perfect love is like your own brand of heroin. (GalTime.com)

5. He'll affirm why it didn't work out with anyone else: Past heartbreaks may have hurt, but they also served as guidance to get you where you are today. The Ideal Man will have the arms that will feel like home. He'll be the answer to any question you ever had, and you'll be the solution to all of his problems. It will click, just like that. (YourTango.com)

What is your Ideal Man like? Tell us in the comments below!

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up:

Being Your Own Person in a Couple



By

Shannon Seibert

A growing misconception about relationships is that the partnership defines who you are as a person. First and foremost, you have to do what is best for *you* and be your own person. This doesn't mean you love your sweetheart any less; it just means that you know who you are individually. It takes two strong halves to equal a united whole, so we have pulled together these five articles from our partners to make your relationship stronger than ever:

1. Don't marry your self-esteem to your man: Basing your happiness off of the circumstances of your relationship is

just a ticking time bomb heading for the inevitable explosion. If you're in a foul mood the entire day because you and your man are disagreeing over where to put the new couch, there may be a deeper problem. A woman who creates her own happiness is beautiful, and a woman who shares her happiness with someone she loves is even more beautiful. (YourTango.com)

2. Establish your independence: Much like our favorite independent woman Kourtney Kardashian, you can be in a strong, loving relationship while holding your own. Kardashian is a spokesperson, model, and partner in numerous businesses apart from her man, but she still has the utmost love and respect for him. They are even expecting baby number three! (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

3. Focus on yourself: Sure, we all know that inner beauty is just as important as outer beauty...but sometimes, we just want to feel pretty. Take some time to focus on your skincare and haircare rituals with these beauty tips from actress Amanda Seyfried. (GalTime.com)

4. Have outside interests: What is the point in coming home to tell your honey about your day when you spent the entire day doing everything together? Having separate interests is actually liberating in a relationship. It gives you an outlet to be your own person without having to take someone else's opinions into consideration. So embrace your passion! (YourTango.com)

5. Don't wait on the approval from your loved ones: Your friends and family are important to the decisions you make, but you can't give them the reigns and just ride their opinion wave. If you're happy in your relationship, don't let your pals and relatives make you feel otherwise. Be confident in your feelings and learn to trust yourself. (GalTime.com)

How do you stay true to yourself when you're in a relationship? Share with us in the comments below.

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Defining Your Relationship



By

Shannon Seibert

Lately, it is becoming seemingly more difficult to define a relationship than it is to find one. The two of you have been hanging out for a couple of weeks, and you send each other flirty “I want to see you” text messages when you’re apart, but you don’t want to seem too pushy for a commitment. We’ve pulled together these five articles from our partners to help you figure out your next step:

1. Talking about it can help: Opening up a can of worms can be scary at first, but it's always better than wondering about those "what if?" scenarios. If you're really starting to develop feelings for him, you need to let him know. Look him in the eyes, remain calm, and be confident with each word you speak. A stimulating conversation could be just what the two of you need in order to progress in the right direction. (GalTime.com)

2. A strong friendship is a great foundation: One of our biggest fears when we start to have feelings for someone is that we'll be trapped being "just friends." For some couples, the unforeseen future stemmed from this stage. For example, newlyweds Kim Kardashian and Kanye West began a slow and steady friendship, and now, they are happily married with a beautiful daughter. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

3. "Hooking up" is not an exact science: Casual relationships have become increasingly popular in recent years, therefore changing the rules of the dating game. We start out thinking that the idea of a no-strings-attached encounter is the perfect temporary solution until we figure things out, but eventually, it becomes one powerfully-enticing cocktail that will leave you with a nasty love hangover. (YourTango.com)

4. Sometimes, the wait is worth it: When it comes to mixing the mental and physical elements of relationships, things can get a little hairy. How far is too far? The answer to that, of course, is wherever you're comfortable. Never let a man dictate the happiness of your relationship or allow him to make you feel like you have to measure up to his expectations. (GalTime.com)

5. Don't rely on subtle hints: Men aren't exactly rocket scientists. We want to believe in the fairy tale we read about in Nicholas Sparks novels, but this is the real world, and sometimes, in the real world, women need to be their own heroes. Here are 50 ways to say what is weighing on your heart

– without even opening your mouth. (YourTango.com)

How do you know how to define your relationship? Tell us in the comments below!

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Being a Better Parent



By Shannon Seibert

Being a parent is the hardest job out there. There isn't a rule book that gives explicit instructions, and there isn't a

how-to guide for every experience your child will go through. It's tough, but it's a blessing. With that thought in mind, we've pulled together five articles from our partners to instill confidence in your parenting skills:

1. There is no such thing as perfect: If there were a dictionary for parenting vocabulary, the word "perfect" wouldn't be found on a single page. Don't stress about being the perfect role model who always makes the right decisions and says the right things. One important lesson for children to learn is that it's okay to make mistakes. Rosie Pope embraces this idea and calls herself "a work in progress!" (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

2. Yelling doesn't always work: They pull your hair, bring dirt into the house, and rub mysterious substances all over your pristine white walls, and you wonder how you'll get through the day without a meltdown. Patience is a virtue that kids enjoy to test. Instead of yelling at your children when they begin pushing your buttons, here are three things to try to avoid raising your voice. (GalTime.com)

3. A strong relationship is positive encouragement: Kids learn by example. By having a loving relationship with your significant other, it will stimulate positive life-learning for your children. Avoid having major confrontations in front of your children. In turn, your kids will be more likely to have caring relationships of their own as they grow older. (YourTango.com)

4. Teach your kids to love learning: Education is such a beautiful gift to give to a child. Inspire your kids to want to learn more about the world. Read books aloud, help with their homework, and teach them to ask questions. But don't allow them to rely on you as their only resource. Encourage them to acquire knowledge independently, making the information more meaningful. (GalTime.com)

5. A healthy lifestyle can bring the family together: It can be difficult to get your children to munch on carrots instead of chips. Get creative in the kitchen and get your family moving with group exercise to form lasting bonds with each other. Pull ideas from these tips to work on healthier living. (YourTango.com)

Have any tips for being a more confident parent? Tell us in the comments below!

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Date While You're Married





By

Shannon Seibert

You heard right: Date while you're married – your significant other, that is! In this day and age, it's too easy to fall prey to life's whirlwind and neglect your marriage. Keep your love alive by capturing your partner's attention using all of your old tricks with a new flavor. We've gathered these five articles from our partners to help you and your man fall even deeper in love with each other:

1. Flatter with flirting: Recharge the passion between you and your honey with something as simple as batting your eyelashes. The silent power of seduction never waivers. Stolen glances, a lingering touch on the arm, or flirty banter work just as well as they did when you first started dating. Your man will feel even more confident about your marriage when you remind him of your passion. (YourTango.com)

2. Have secrets: It's not good to have secrets from each other, but secrets you have together will only improve your love. Having parts of your marriage that you don't broadcast

to the public will allow you two to bond over something that is yours and yours alone. Take a look at how the limelight impacted the Cassidy family, one of the families featured on Lifetime's *Preachers' Daughters*. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

3. Be lovers again: It can be difficult to make "us" time when you have children together. After having kids, a lot of couples struggle with igniting chemistry in the bedroom. It's especially easy for new parents – who have had their world uprooted by a being no bigger than a shoebox – to get distracted by life's miracles and forget about the miracle that is their love. Check out this article for tips on how to keep the fire burning. (YourTango.com)

4. Don't let distance get in the way: With new technologies, long-distance dating is even possible for married couples. If you or your man have a a job requiring a lot of travel, don't panic! Your hubby can still be involved in your marriage when he's away. The distance can even strengthen your marriage by focusing on the feelings you have for one another when you're separated and when you're together. (GalTime.com)

5. Learn something new: Marriage has taken the both of you out of the dating game for a while, but that doesn't mean that you can't engage in a little learning. Reel in your husband's undivided attention with these modern dating tips from a man's perspective and try them out with your love. (GalTime.com)

How do you keep the love alive after marriage? Tell us in the comments below!

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Surviving a Breakup



By

Shannon Seibert

We all know that breakups are painful. Whether you're the one breaking someone's heart or the one being dumped, the situation is inevitably unpleasant. Instead of vacationing on the island of Splitsville surrounded by an emotion ocean, keep your heartbreak clean and classy. Here are five articles from our partners to help you survive the breakup blues:

1. Don't be "that girl": As tough as it may be to face your partner, indirect breakups are never the answer. If you are the one breaking it off, it's best to be respectable and ladylike. Check out these people who made the mistake of using

social media to do their dirty work. (YourTango.com)

2. If he cuts you off, cut him out: There is nothing worse than going on Facebook and seeing your ex with new arm candy after a recent split. To help the moving on process, clean up your social media. Take down your old pictures, unfriend or unfollow him, and stop checking in on him every day. Lucky for you, in this day and age, there's an app for that. (YourTango.com)

3. Keep yourself busy: Wallowing in unreciprocated emotions isn't a positive way of moving forward. Try taking on new tasks or a new hobby. For example, yoga is a great way to cleanse a broken heart while getting into better shape. Take a look at this article, which shows that even Ivanka Trump's young daughter Arabella can do it. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

4. Don't text him: Texting is an easy way to get yourself into trouble. If you ever wonder if you should reach out to him after you say your goodbyes, the answer is always no. Use this texting guide to avoid uncomfortable situations. (GalTime.com)

5. Ex is for example: Use this breakup as a learning opportunity for yourself and figure out what you *don't* want in a relationship. Stop dating the wrong guys and find someone who you see in your future. (GalTime.com)

What have you done to survive a tough breakup? Tell us in the comments below!

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What have you done to survive a tough breakup? Tell us in the comments below!

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Trends in Relationships



By

Maria Darbenzio

We all know that trends come and go. This idea holds true for the dating world too. What you're used to now may not have been the same during the time of your grandparents, and it'll certainly change again when your grandchildren are dating. Still, some things remain classic. We pulled these five articles from our partners to keep you up-to-date on relationship trends:

- 1. Open relationships:** Although most people believe in monogamy, there seems to be a rise in couples who practice an open relationship. Some even think it's a way to keep their marriage from ending in divorce. Experts have used the recent split of Gwyneth Paltrow and Chris Martin as an example. Take a look at this article to find out more. (YourTango.com)
- 2. Dating through the ages:** It's no secret that the rules of

dating change as you get older. Looking for love in your teens is radically different than dating in your 30s. Check out this video that explains how age impacts the way people view relationships. (GalTime.com)

3. Baby before marriage: It seems like more and more couples are having children before marriage. Much like Ashton Kutcher and Mila Kunis, the sequence of love seem to have been altered with the current generation. Although plenty of couples continue to marry first, as long as both parents take the responsibility that comes with a child, this alternative approach doesn't seem as harmful to relationships as some may think. (GalTime.com)

4. Going green: Loving the Earth shouldn't be designated to just one day, and Raphael Sbarge feels the same way. As becoming Earth conscious gains popularity, so do the combined efforts of partners looking to lessen their ecological footprint. Whether it's buying cloth diapers for your child, supporting local farmers, or composting for your garden, this is one topic that deserves to stay in fashion. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

5. Timeless classics: Not everything needs to change with the time. A simple 'I love you' can say more than one would think. *Breaking Bad* star Aaron Paul knows how to brighten his wife's life – and how to make us fall more in love with him! Check out how he makes Lauren feel like a queen each day. (YourTango.com)

What are some other trends and/or timeless classics when it comes to relationships? Share in the comments below!

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Preparing for Parenthood



By

Maria Darbenzio

Spring has always been known as a time for new beginnings. If you and your partner are expecting a baby, it's best to be prepared in every sense of the word. Whether this is your first or fourth child, it helps to read up on pregnancy and parenting. We pulled together five articles from our partners to help you on the journey ahead:

1. Go green: Earth day is right around the corner, and these celebrity moms are doing everything they can to do their part. Whether it's eating organic or purchasing recycled goods, every little bit can help protect Mother Nature, so why not

get your children started young? Simple choices, such as cloth diapering, can go a long way. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

2. Stay active: Being the healthiest you can be can be incredibly important to both you and your unborn child. While you won't be able to go hard at the gym anymore, that doesn't mean you have to give up your workout altogether. Check out this set of pregnancy friendly exercise moves to keep you active and moving. (GalTime.com)

3. Break from routine: When it comes to raising a family, it's easy to get comfortable and find yourself in the same routine. In order to become a better parent – or person in general – sometimes, you need to break from that routine and walk a different path. This can include anything from physical activities to expressing unique ideas and opinions. If you're confident in yourself, your children will grow up with you as a role model and structure themselves in the same way. (YourTango.com)

4. Sleep train your infant: It's no secret that the first few months are going to be full of sleepless nights, but at four months, the baby is developmentally ready to be put on a schedule. That means sleeping peacefully through the night for both you and your little one. What parent doesn't want that? Take a look at this article to find out more! (GalTime.com)

5. Live your dreams: Some people put a lot of focus into becoming a parent. Comedian Mike Myers was no different. In the previous years, he stated that fatherhood was something he always dreamed of. His wife has made that possible for him – not once, but twice. The couple welcomed a son in 2011 and a daughter earlier this week. (YourTango.com)

In what ways did you prepare for a baby? Let us know in the comments below!

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Documenting Your Love Story



By

Maria Darbenzio

It's always nice to sit down and talk about how much your love has blossomed since you first met. Since spring is in full bloom, this is the perfect time to take a look back at your relationship. You and your partner can even create a special book to write down and document the moments you've most enjoyed with each other. We've pulled together these five articles from our partners to give ideas on which memories to highlight:

1. Saying hello: Every couple has a unique story about how they first laid eyes on each other. Don't let that story fade from memory! Write it down as your own little love story so you can tell it with ease to your children and grandchildren someday. (YourTango.com)

2. Getting married: It's time to mark down the day you took your relationship to the next stage: happily ever after. Continue your love story by adding pictures and special memories from the magical day you tied the knot. Attach little trinkets to the pages such as dried flowers or confetti to add an even more personal touch. (GalTime.com)

3. Picking out your first pet: There comes a time in almost every relationship where you become the parents of a cute little animal. Whether it's is a puppy or a kitten, your first pet together is just as special as a child. Pets, much like children, need lots of love and affection, so this can be a good opportunity to see how your partner will be as a possible parent. They'll also be there to snuggle on days when your sweetie needs to work late. (GalTime.com)

4. Having children: Having children together is a big step in a relationship whether you chose to go through pregnancy or adopt. These little bundles of joy will be your beckon of hope in the darkest of storms, so they deserve a special place in the documenting of your love story. Read how this family became advocates for adoption and how parenting has changed their relationship for the better. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

5. Learning lessons: Each relationship has their fair share of lessons that have been learned over the years. Writing these down can also give you something to look back on if your children ever look to you for relationship advice as they get older. Take some time to read through some of these love lessons and jot down a few of your own. (YourTango.com)

What special moments would you want to share in your personal

love story? Share in the comments below!

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Building a Strong Bond



By

Maria Darbenzio

When it comes to love, it's important that you have a close bond with your significant other. This truth holds for more than just romantic relationships but for friends and family as well. Take a few minutes to browse through these helpful articles from our partners to give you ways to improve your connections:

1. Enjoy the sunshine: When it comes to children, whether they're your biological kids, step-children, or nieces and nephews, it's important to hang out with them. Let them know how much they mean to you by taking the time out of your busy schedule to get outside and play. Trista Sutter recently shared how her and her children will be having fun this summer. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

2. Show appreciation: You may get so caught up in day-to-day events that you don't stop and show your loved ones how much you appreciate them. This idea shouldn't be applied only to your romantic partner! It's important to show your gratitude for everyone, especially your friends who have stuck by your side through thick and thin. Check out some of these quotes about friendship to get the gears turning. (YourTango.com)

3. Be confident: Confidence is key – and that goes for both you and your man. When your beau sees that you're feeling strong and sure of yourself, it'll put him at ease...which is a great step towards building a better bond. If your sweetie is lacking in the confidence department, help them build it back up. For more qualities that form deeper connections, read through this article. (YourTango.com)

4. Be yourself: It's easy to forget who you truly are, especially when you're at the office. Workplace relationships are just as important as the one between you and your partner. In order to create an enjoyable environment, remember to stay true to yourself and never pretend to be someone else. For other ways to improve your interactions with your co-workers, check out these suggestions. (GalTime.com)

5. Find the right one: When it comes to dating, it's tempting to create an elaborate list of things you want in a partner. Time after time, you find yourself saying, "He's not my type," but do you really know what you're "type" is? Take the time to forge a connection with someone *before* writing them off completely. This approach will prevent you from serial dating

and help you find exactly what you're looking for.
(GalTime.com)

How do you create stronger bonds in your relationships? Let us know in the comments below.

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Love Is In the Air



By

Maria Darbenzio

Warmer weather is upon us, and as the flowers begin to bloom, so does romance. Take this time to focus on incorporating new

and interesting things into your relationship. It can be as extravagant as a new vacation spot or as simple as showing support for a good cause. We pulled together these five articles from our partners to help give you some ideas:

1. Break away from reality: You don't have to be a college student to go on spring break. You and your partner deserve a vacay just as much as anyone else! There are plenty of romantic getaway spots that are perfect for kick-starting this spring with your sweetheart. (GalTime.com)

2. Inspire your love: Turn your typical movie night into a time to take notes and make a list of ways you can spice up your love life with the help of the classics. For instance, if you're a fan of *Dirty Dancing*, try incorporating some of those dance moves into your night – a simple yet fun way to add some excitement to your at-home date. (YourTango.com)

3. Get involved: Once it warms up, there are tons of options for walks and events that raise money for various organizations. Pick a cause that both you and your partner want to support and do it together. Not only will it give you a chance to bond, but you'll feel good about making a difference. For inspiration, check out how Bobbi Brown Cosmetics is giving back to the community. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

4. Control those allergies: No one wants to sniff and sneeze their way through a date. This spring, take control of your allergies and don't give them a chance to ruin the memories that you and your honey want to make. Take a look at how you can kiss those itchy eyes goodbye! (GalTime.com)

5. Express your love: As you're spring cleaning your house, leave little notes around for your partner, letting them know how much you love them. Don't live with your sweetheart? No problem! Sneak something sweet into their wallet or briefcase to make them smile when they find it during the day. Here's a

list of other ways to share your love. (YourTango.com)

How are you going to get in the springtime spirit? Tell us in the comments below!

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Fixing Your Relationship



By

Maria Darbenzio

Every couple goes through trying times. It's how you handle these situations that can make or break a relationship. The next time you and your honey hit a rough patch, take a look at

these five articles from our partners to help get you back on course:

1. Know your feelings: Are you beginning to feel unsure about your true emotions? Before trying to mend your relationship, take time to think if that's really what you want to do, if you see your partner in your future. To help distinguish between love, lust, and infatuation, read this great article. (YourTango.com)

2. Communicate: Nothing will be accomplished if you don't talk about your issues. Communication is easily one of the most important aspects of a healthy and thriving partnership. This idea holds true not only for romantic relationships but for friendships and family relations as well. Check out some of these talking points to get things moving in the right direction. (YourTango.com)

3. Don't push him away: It's tempting to want to "fix" your significant other and mold them into who you think they should be. What you might not realize, though, is that you're actually hurting your relationship more than helping it. Appreciate your partner for who they are. (GalTime.com)

4. Recognize your bad habits: We all have annoying habits, and some of those behaviors may cause your beau to see you in a bad light. Being obsessive or too needy can instantly set off a red flag for him. Tone it down! Check out this article to see what other actions might make your guy want to run. (GalTime.com)

5. Plan a date night: We all know that having an established date night can strengthen your relationship – so start planning! Set up a routine and stick to it. If you're both free on Thursday nights, use that time to watch movies or go out for a nice dinner. If you're married with a children, hire a babysitter for the night and hit the town. Take a second to read how former *Entertainment Tonight* host Julie Moran looks

forward to date night. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

What are some ways to fix your relationship? Tell us in the comments below!

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Building a Bucket List



By

Maria Darbenzio

If you haven't already, now is the time to build a bucket list. Not only is it a great opportunity to write down your hopes and dreams, but it can also be a good tool to help

couples bond. Check out these five articles from our partners for some inspiration:

1. Travel: Why stay in your hometown when there are unlimited possibilities beyond your backyard? Make a list of places that you've always wanted to visit and refer back to it when you need a break from your everyday routine. It can be to a fishing hole that's 20 minutes down the road or a city adventure on the other side of the country. Check out this article to help fulfill your wanderlust. (YourTango.com)

2. Try something new: If you've always wanted to be a vegetarian (even if only for a week or two), try suggesting that your partner do it with you. You can support each other and help one another through the tough spots (like that Sunday morning craving for bacon). Who knows, maybe you'll even decide that this lifestyle works for you. After all, there are many benefits to leading a vegetarian life. (YourTango.com)

3. Change it up: Everyone wants to change something about themselves at one point or another, and it doesn't have to be drastic to make a noticeable difference. Start off small and switch your hair color! Check out these latest celebrity hair color trends for ideas. (GalTime.com)

4. Grow a garden: Gardens are a great way to dive into a new hobby and enjoy healthier, fresher foods. Planting can be an awesome bonding experience for couples or, if you have children, for families. Everyone can help plant seeds and watch the plants spring up from the dirt. For tips on growing your own delicious foods, look no further than this post. (GalTime.com)

5. Get inspired with a celebrity bucket list: Heidi Klum tries to live her bucket list each and every day, and she's always adding activities to it that she can do with her kids. Want to know how she does it? Click through to read what she had to say! (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

Tell us what's on your bucket list in the comments below!

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Preparing for Spring Weather



By

Maria Darbenzio

Whether you're getting married, spending time with your family, or just enjoying nights on the town, we're sure that you're looking forward to the warmer weather just as much as we are. With that thought in mind, we put together these awesome articles from our partners to help you with springtime planning:

1. Outdoor dining: As the snow melts and the chill in the air begins to fade, cafes and restaurants everywhere are starting to open their patios. Eating a nice meal in the sunshine is the perfect way to usher in the much-needed break from winter. Try some of these awesome makeup looks as you get ready to kiss the cold goodbye. (YourTango.com)

2. Picnic in the park: If restaurant patio dining isn't your thing and you want a more intimate setting, take a trip to your local park and set up a picnic for two. Whether you're married, seeing someone serious, or going on a first date, this is a great way to soak up some fresh air and show your partner how much you appreciate spending time together. For added romance, you can even slip a cute little poem into your basket. (YourTango.com)

3. Family bonding: After being cooped up in your house all winter, it's time to get outside and enjoy nature! Try to plan activities that are fun for the whole family so you can just focus on being happy while staying active. For some ideas, take a look at these great family time suggestions. (GalTime.com)

4. Green wedding: If you're set to wed in the next few months, think of all the floral possibilities that this season brings. Use flowers that are available in your area to keep them looking as fresh as possible throughout your big day. For other ideas on how to go green for your wedding, check out these great ideas. (GalTime.com)

5. Family travels: It's always fun to take a vacation with your loved ones. No matter where you decide to go, being with your family is the most important part. American skeleton racer Noelle Pikus-Pace and her husband and kids recently spent some time in Sochi for the Winter Olympics. Find out more about their trip here! (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

What are your plans for this spring? Tell us in the comments

below!