

What We Can Learn from “the Work” Celeb Couples Do



By Jane Greer, Ph.D.

for Galttime.com

When Ben Affleck accepted the Oscar for best picture on Sunday night, he thanked wife Jennifer Garner saying marriage is hard work, but it is the best kind of work. One area that takes great effort in a relationship is finding the balance between each person's needs and desires. Say football is your thing. It always has been, ever since you were a little kid watching at home with your dad. So it is impossible for you to understand why your new partner has no interest in it. You want to go to games together, talk about plays, and plan weekends around the tailgate parties. But she says no. What do you do?

There is no question that one of the pleasures of being in a

relationship is sharing the things you love with the one you love. If pizza is your thing – well, then by all means, it would be convenient if the person you're dating had similar feelings about it. If that were the case, you could be together and have your favorite food at the same time. But it doesn't always work that way. In reality, two different people often have two different sets of tastes. So how can you preserve your own pleasures, hobbies and space to do what you love while being in a serious relationship? And is there a way to include your significant other but not force feed them?

This is where a “thank you” portion can be useful. You remember when you were a child and your mother wanted you to eat the peas, right? They looked awful but you had to have a few to appease her, so you took a small “thank you” portion. In other words, you took a taste. Before you suggest this, though, acknowledge to your partner that you understand and accept this is not their cup of tea. But sometimes, when it's a play-off game or something special is going on, you would really like to have their company. Be clear that you know it is a sacrifice of sorts, but you would really love it if they watched just this one game with you. Not the whole season, just this one game; a “thank you” portion.

In that way you can share your passions and interests to some extent, while respecting your partner's interests at the same time. The key is to encourage them to be open and try to appreciate what it is that you find so fascinating. Who knows, she might actually become a football fan. Sharing pleasures, and being open to each other, simply helps to turn the wheels for more mutual passion together.

Expert Love Advice: Single Traits to Lose so You Can Move Forward in a Relationship



By Courtney Allen

Relationships are described as many things, but “easy” most definitely isn’t one of them. Two A.M. bickering, checking messages on phones/social media, and cases of jealousy are just a small part of what makes relationships so complicated. And these relationship problems tend to be a tough transition, especially if you are adjusted to the “single life.” But relationships are partnerships. Both individuals must have their hearts and minds in the same place in order for the relationship to last. If you just can’t seem to progress in your relationship, you should consider leaving these single habits behind:

1. Wanting the next best thing: Keep your eye on the prize that's already in front of you. We all know what it's like to want what you can't have whether it's *High School Musical's* hottie Zac Efron or your brother's blue-eyed best friend. Once you're in a relationship, other options may seem better. Stick with your honey and you will benefit in the long run.

2. Party animal: Get your priorities in order. There is no need to go to snazzy clubs and bars every weekend with your single friends. Not only are you sending out the wrong message to the single people you run into, but to your love as well.

3. Selfishness: Be considerate of what's important to your significant other. It's not just your feelings you have to worry about now, it's theirs too. Do some of the things you don't want to do and the same will be done for you. Remember, you two are a team.

4. Flirtiness: Boundaries need to be set between you and members of the opposite sex. Don't be too friendly; some may take your kindness for interest in them. Always be aware of body language, the things you say, the way you say them.

5. Late night texting: Avoid texting the opposite sex after 11 o'clock. Indeed, there may be nothing going on but it tends to look suspicious. Anything you have to say can most likely wait until morning. Don't give your sweetie anything to worry about.

What are some single traits to leave behind to better your relationship? Share your thoughts with us!

Date Idea: Throw a Classic Movie Night



By Sarah Ribeiro

This weekend, get to know your partner better by exploring each other's tastes in movies. Your beau might have a film close to their hearts that you never knew about. Pick out your favorite classic films and spend the weekend cuddling on the couch, sharing your film preferences with each other.

Start off your movie night by creating a real movie atmosphere. Dim the lights and bring out all your movie snacks. Load up beforehand on candy bars, pretzels and nachos to munch on. Split up "cooking" duties with your sweetheart: one of you can pop some corn on the stove, while the other works on homemade slushies.

To set up the night, start by writing down each of your top ten favorite films on individual pieces of paper. Be sure to

have one film for each genre, separating the flicks into horror, comedy, action, chick flick, rom-com, foreign, musical, western, sci-fi and indie. Mix things up and go for older movies – either from the golden Hollywood era or from your childhood. That way, you can start a conversation about what makes those films important to you, getting a better feel for each other's interests. After writing down your list, both you and your honey can throw your personal ten into a hat, and pick out a couple slips to make the decision-making process easier. After all, no one wants to fight over a movie on date night.

If you need help picking out a movie or just want ideas for great movies to add to your list, check some online “best of” lists. The American Film Institute has posted “The 100 Greatest American Movies of All Time”, and *Time Out* has posted both “The Top 50 Movies to Watch As a Family” and “The Top 50 Sports Films of All Time” as a reference. Then, the two of you can find movies you both agree on – or even watch some all-time favorites that you've never seen before.

After your hours of movie watching, get yourself ready for your next movie date – and this time, head to the theaters. Peruse the internet for movie trailers and figure out which films just may be your newest favorites.

Have an idea for a weekend date? Share it in the comments below.

Relationship Advice: How to

Succeed In The Quest To Find Mr. or Mrs. Right



By Michelle Rebecca

Although things like a successful career, possessions and status are a few ways for a person to gauge success, it's important not to overlook the power of strong relationships. The support of family can help someone feel empowered during hard times, but the joy of finding a loyal significant other often makes a person feel truly complete. Knowing when you've found the right person is sometimes as hard as the search itself. Read on for a few tips.

Communication Is Key

It's crucial to talk things over with your partner, whether things are going smoothly or you've hit a rough patch. Earlier this year, a Huffington Post article mentioned that text messages are the most popular form of communication in the

United Kingdom. Regardless of how you and your partner stay in touch, make sure to do it regularly. If someone you're with seems hesitant to speak up when something's wrong or prefers to avoid tough conversations altogether, that's a red flag.

Related: [Fishing for Mr. Right – Types of Guys to Throw Back](#)

A Relationship Built Upon Equality

Although you and your partner might not always agree on everything, strive for a sense of equality. When you treat each other with fairness, it's easier to work through disagreements and reach common ground. If your partner frequently likes to discourage you or dominate conversations, put a stop to it. Relationships thrive when each party has the opportunity to speak their views and feel valued.

Related: [Is that You, Mr. Right?](#)

Do You Trust Each Other?

If your relationship doesn't include trust, that's a huge weakness. Sometimes people have trouble trusting their partner, but only because of something that's happened in the past. If you've gone through a previous traumatic event, it's important to bring that up earlier rather than later.

When you start to feel suspicious about something, resist the urge to search through your partner's phone records or inbox, and speak to them directly instead. By hunting for evidence, you'll place a strain on your relationship.

Know When It's Time To Move On

No matter how long you've been with someone, it's essential to recognize when it's time to end the relationship. Things can get more complicated if you have children with your spouse. If you need to know how to get divorced or just get clarity about whether to remain with a person, experts can help. Aim for an outside perspective, if possible.

Often people focus on all the good qualities of their partner and become blind to any faults. No one is perfect, but if the person you're with is degrading, prone to ridiculing you, or simply not willing to invest in the relationship, those are clear signs that it might be time to end things.

Being in love with someone who loves you back is thrilling. Use the characteristics mentioned above to help you determine whether a current relationship is worthwhile and to know what to look for in a potential mate.

Michelle is an aspiring writer with a passion for blogging. She enjoys writing about a vast variety of topics and loves that blogging gives her the opportunity to publicly voice her thoughts and share advice with an unlimited audience.

Relationship Advice on Why Relationship Deal Breakers Hurt You





by Terri Trespicio

for GalTime.com

You've got dealbreakers. We all do. But what should be just a few hard-and-fast, values-driven rules about who you will and will not associate with, let alone date, has gotten a little out of hand. Curly hair? Dealbreaker. Have kids? Dealbreaker. Don't have kids? Dealbreaker. Glasses, a few credits shy of a bachelors degree, a previous marriage? Dealbreaker. Seriously?

Dealbreakers masquerade as conviction, but also handily counter your fear of rejection (*I reject you first*). They also make you feel in control in an area where you feel greatly out of control. If you spend a ton of time worrying about what you WON'T do or refuse to meet, well, you're busy putting limits on your learning and your loving.

How do you know your dealbreakers are running amok? Ask yourself this: Does a new one rear its head every time you meet someone you could potentially date, maybe someone who has an interest in you? Do you find yourself bragging about who you would not, could not, will not ever consider? Your white-knuckled grip on your dealbreakers makes you seem smart and tough, but really, it's you being judgy and scared and anything but open. It's easy to have rules. It's not easy to

take risks.

What astonishes me is that the people with 101 dealbreaker clauses are the *same* ones who bemoan the loss of romance and spontaneity in dating. Where do you think that spontaneity comes from? Being open to things that surprise you.

How many times have you heard someone say that, “Well, Hank didn’t seem like the kinda guy I’d fall in love with, but here we are 10 years later!” Or, “Sally wasn’t really my type, but I was drawn to her and couldn’t explain why.” I know why: Because neither love nor chemistry keeps a to-do or a to-don’t list. But you do.

Keep Dealbreakers in Check

It’s worth saying that there ARE such things as real dealbreakers, but for them to matter, they have to stand for something. I’m not saying you should throw all caution to the wind and date willy nilly. I know: You have goals. Maybe you want to be married, have kids, or get out of Delaware. OK, fine. But again, are you a romcom screenwriter or are you a real person in real life? You’re not casting a role; you’re looking for a person with whom you can connect and share. And if you’re ruling everyone out because of what you THINK that person would do, when you have no way of knowing, you’re part of the problem.

There are pretty straightforward dealbreakers: Someone who beats, abuses, mistreats you or anyone else in his or her life. Someone who hates gay people or any other race or creed besides his own. Someone who has unaddressed substance abuse problems (note I didn’t say who *ever* had substance abuse problems). But anything short of a strong value-centered issue, I think you’re crazy to rule out. You just don’t know. So don’t pretend you do.

Choose a Wild Card

So when I coach people who are looking to start up or ramp up their dating lives, I tell them to consider at least ONE wild card. This means anyone you might not perhaps usually consider. Maybe he's under 6'0 or an artist or divorced. Or maybe she's a curvy blonde lawyer with a kid when you'd only dated tall, rail-thin brunettes.

I didn't say you have to build a life together—but you can meet for a drink.

And despite what you may think about divorced people with kids, you could fall head over heels for one. I did. For years I dated a divorced dad—and wouldn't change that for the world. I learned things that I take with me into relationships with single and divorced men alike. (More on why men with baggage are well worth exploring.) I'm continually challenging my own dealbreakers, and if you were smart, you'd do the same.

For instance, if you'd told me a few years ago I'd be dating a young musician from Bushwick who sleeps on an air mattress and doesn't own a toaster, I might have rolled my eyes and said "yeah no thanks." And for a moment that would make me seem all world-weary and wise. But what I have instead is someone who excites and intrigues me, someone who is bite-your-fist sexy and incredibly fun and fulfilling to spend time with.

Take that, dealbreaker.

Hofstra University Publishing

Panel Event



Earlier this spring, on Wednesday, March 6, 2013, CupidsPulse.com Executive Editor and Founder [Lori Bizzoco](#) participated in the Publishing Panel Event at Hofstra University. The esteemed group of panelists also included Joy Betran, head recruiter of Simon and Schuster; Karen Bonnet, children's author and marketing manager; Linda Frank, young adult author; Sonia Lynaugh, recruiter at Penguin Group; Dina Santorelli, freelance writer and author; Samantha Swank, publishing studies major and intern; and Becca Worthington, Association of American Publishers. The panelists were from diverse publishing backgrounds, making the event ideal for English and publishing majors. Following the presentations, students praised the panelists for the knowledge as well as the overall experience.

The Most Health-Conscious Celebrity Couples



By [Andrea Surujnauth](#)

[Celebrities](#) are always expected to look great. Some spend hours and hours exercising, while others follow crazy diets like Kourtney Kardashian's ghee gulping every morning or [Jennifer Anniston](#) eating only baby food. However, being health-conscious doesn't necessarily mean drinking weird green mixtures or fitting in two or three workouts each day. It means eating healthy, exercising regularly and staying away from eccentric diets that starve your body of much-needed nutrients. So which celebrity [couples](#) are truly the most health-conscious duos in Hollywood?

1. Jada Pinkett Smith and Will Smith: Jada, a yoga advocate, has introduced her fitness regime to her family: she often does yoga with her loving [hubby](#) and even with their children.

As she recently told WomensHealthMag.com, “I used to push a lot of iron. I’ve been in the gym for like 15 years now, and I’m just not motivated by it anymore. So I do a lot of outside sports. On my Christmas vacation, I did a lot of cross-country skiing, and I like to hike. I usually do my yoga at home in the evenings for about an hour. Sometimes I go to a class, but with my schedule, it’s really difficult for me – and my kids like to join me. We do a lot of yoga together.” See? It really is possible to keep up with a busy career, stay in shape *and* spend time with your family!

2. Fergie and Josh Duhamel: This cute couple is often photographed getting fit together. They go running or hiking and even do push-ups while out on the trail. According to Health.com, Fergie lost 13 pounds in 2009, proving that working out with your man can really make a difference! Follow in this couple’s footsteps by grabbing your [beau](#) and working up a sweat outdoors.

Related Link: [Celebrity Nutritionist and Trainer Jackie Keller Says, “Those Who Exercise With Support From Their Partners Do Better Overall”](#)

3. Jessica Biel and Justin Timberlake: These two hotties do some serious strength training and have no problem showing off their hard work and rock-hard bodies. They were recently photographed running [together](#) near their apartment in New York City.

4. Michelle and Barack Obama: The First Lady has a serious passion for staying healthy and exercising; she even gets up at 4:30 am to fit a workout into her busy schedule. Her husband is also a fan of going to the gym, but he wasn’t always very health-conscious, as he used to be a smoker. Michelle, being the wonderful [wife](#) that she is, made a deal with him: he could only run for president if he quit smoking. Great job, Mrs. Obama!

5. Hilaria and Alec Baldwin: Hilaria, a yoga instructor for Yoga Vida in New York City, has already put her new husband on a diet and encouraged him to get fit. Baldwin has called her a “good influence.”

Related Link: [Celebrity Trainer Gunnar Peterson Discusses Relationships, Health and His 8-Week Gunnar Challenge](#)

6. Camila Alves and Matthew McConaughey: It’s no secret that McConaughey is a big fan of the beach. However, this beach hottie doesn’t spend his time relaxing in the sun. He runs up and down the beach, only taking breaks to do some push-ups or hold a few yoga poses. He also accompanies his gorgeous wife to the gym, who told [Star Magazine UK](#), “I need somebody to exercise with me, and I don’t like going to the gym at all.” Alves also mentioned that she sticks to a healthy diet by cooking her [family’s](#) food; that way, she knows exactly what she’s eating.

7. Beyonce and Jay-Z: Can it get any sweeter than this couple? Beyonce went on a partially vegan and plant-based diet while she was [pregnant](#) with daughter, Blue Ivy, and being a considerate husband, Jay-Z decided to go on the diet with her. The two continued to diet together after Bey, who gained 57 pounds during her pregnancy, gave birth.

How do you stay healthy with your significant other? Comment below and let us know!

Returning to the Dating World



By Matthew and Orna

Walters

On a recent episode of Bravo's *The Millionaire Matchmaker*, we coached Denise Richards' father Irv as he re-entered the [dating world](#), five years after the passing of his wife. Irv was concerned about whom he might bring into his family and was obviously a little nervous about [dating again](#). We helped him to get clarity on what he was looking for and what to avoid.

Starting to date again after the end of a long relationship can be a daunting task. We have successfully assisted numerous [singles](#) in our relationship coaching practice, and we're here to help you get over the hump and get back into the game while having fun and learning about yourself.

When you're looking to go back into the [dating world](#), it is important to know what you desire. Are you looking for a long-term relationship? Perhaps, you're hoping to get married. Or are you just looking to get your feet wet again? Maybe you're

just curious to see what it's like out there. Maybe you are just looking to have a good time. Once you define what your desired outcome is, you can set a clear intention that will act as a compass to navigate your journey.

Related: [Dating After Divorce: How Soon Is Too Soon?](#)

The most important thing to remember about dating, that most people overlook, is that it is PRACTICE! When you set your mind to this and understand that it is just practice, how does this change your [relationship](#) with you?

We often say that hope is the first thing that comes into a relationship, and is often the last thing to go. To take the pressure off and to utilize dating as a great tool for personal growth we have a process we call: Date To Discoverâ„¢.

Related: [How to Get Back in the Dating Scene After a Divorce](#)

Rather than placing emphasis on the other person, wondering if they are the right fit for you – turn your attention inward. Start paying attention to your inner dialogue – “What am I saying to myself about myself?” Do you have a negative inner dialogue in response to dating? Or are you saying positive things about yourself and your prospects? Your attitude towards dating will largely determine your results.

Being aware of your inner dialogue will give you the opportunity to make adjustments. For example, if you find that you can easily speak your feelings to someone you're not attracted to, but find it difficult to do so when there is an attraction, then this is an opportunity to spend some time practicing being emotionally authentic under all circumstances.

When there is a [desire for love](#), most people look for it outside of themselves, yet it must be INSIDE of us in order for it to be mirrored back to us. Ultimately, you cannot say

or do the “wrong” thing with the “right person.” So, whether you are looking to date casually, or wish to connect with the love of your life, the best approach is to be true to yourself, not twisting into a pretzel to get love. That way when you are in a committed relationship you’ll know that person loves you for who you truly are, inside and out.

[Orna and Matthew Walters](#), today’s relationship Power Couple, are dedicated to busting the myth that love is supposed to happen by accident. In the business of “Creating Love on Purpose,” they have taken their crusade global, empowering singles to be their own advocates to ultimately form true, soul partnerships. Promoting ‘love is an inside job and that it’s never too late to find the love of your life,’ Orna and Matthew have shared their successful program and expertise on: NBC, Fox News, MSN, USA Networks, KPFK Radio, with Les Brown on CBS Radio, and Bravo’s The Millionaire Matchmaker.

Expert Relationship Advice: Are You Expecting Ryan Gosling Perfection?





by [Jane Greer](#), PhD

for GalTime.com

From the outside, Ryan Gosling probably seems like a flawless boyfriend – there’s certainly no denying that he’s a handsome star. But [maintaining a relationship](#), as he and Eva Mendes have done for well over a year, requires so much more than that.

We all want the ideal relationship with the best partner, right? In our minds, that person is very clear: always thoughtful, tuned into our needs, knowing what we hope for before we even have to voice it. So when you are dating someone and they don’t act like that, do you immediately assume they aren’t right for you, or might they be worth a little more time and effort? More important, how can you make the distinction?

When it comes to your partner, many people’s notion is: If You Loved Me, You Would. If you loved me, you would be willing to spend Saturday with my parents. If you loved me, you would agree to eat vegetarian. If you loved me, you would shave every day because I ask you to.

The problem is, when your partner doesn’t do these things, it seems like they are being selfish and purposefully

disappointing you. That is not always the case at all. In fact, often your partner's choices are more about their own preferences and not a measure of their love for you. It is the act of placing your judgment on those actions that puts the negative spin on them.

We all come at things from a varied perspective, and much of that has to do with the families we grew up in. It might seem perfectly natural to spend every Saturday with your parents, but he is used to seeing his own parents twice a year. Or you might want to stop eating meat for one reason or another; but she loves meat, and that has nothing to do with how she feels about you.

Disrespectful behavior that makes you feel devalued or bad requires other considerations. But if it is just a matter of dealing with your differences, despite the few bumps they might generate, it doesn't have to mean the end of the journey. The goal is not to eradicate the disappointments, but to learn how to handle them, work through them, and move on.

No partner is perfect, probably not even Ryan, so you want to be equipped to face the let-downs without letting the whole thing falling apart.

Celebrity Mom: Holly Madison Discusses Baby Names – Right Before She Heads to the

Hospital!



By Whitney Baker

Holly Madison first stole our hearts as Hugh Hefner's number one bunny on E!'s reality show *Girls Next Door*. Since the show ended in 2010, Madison has made quite a name for herself, appearing on the eighth season of *Dancing with the Stars*, headlining *Peepshow* at Planet Hollywood in Las Vegas and starring in her own television show, *Holly's World*. Of course, in recent months, her focus has shifted: in August 2012, she announced that she was expecting her first child with boyfriend Pasquale Rotella.

"I've finally met the man of my dreams and am ecstatic to be starting a family," Madison shared. "But I'm really grateful that I had several years of working hard as a single woman before diving into being a mom. I feel like I needed that for my identity."

The *Playboy* model and husband Rotella, a club promoter, have

been prepping for their daughter's fast-approaching arrival, and the mom-to-be has been sharing her pregnancy experience with fans via her blog and Twitter. As open as she's been, there's one thing that the couple is keeping under wraps: the baby's unique name. "We have a pretty unusual name picked out. So unusual that we aren't telling anyone what it is until the deed is done!"

Related Link: [Kim Kardashian and Kanye West Are Expecting a Baby Girl](#)

In the past few weeks, pregnancy has certainly slowed Madison down a bit. "I've started getting a little uncomfortable – it's hard to even reach my feet to tie my shoes!" she said. "I've kind of been in nesting and hibernating mode."

Still, she continues to make headlines. Just last week, Madison revealed that she plans to ingest her placenta after the birth of her little girl. When asked about her decision to do so, the reality star said, "A baby nurse I met with suggested I have my placenta made into pills because it can help prevent postpartum depression. I figured why not! It can't be bad for me."

As busy as they've been in anticipation of their baby's due date (tomorrow!), Madison and Rotella have still made time to focus on their relationship. "I feel like we're getting to know each other because we've only been together for a little over a year," the Vegas performer said. "We're learning so much about each other just from trying to agree on little things when it comes to renovating our new home, so I can only imagine what we will learn from raising our daughter."

Madison has already learned a thing or two from her pregnancy. "My only advice so far is to let yourself know that it's okay to not be quite as ambitious as you were before you were pregnant," she explained. "Creating a child is a huge responsibility, and you have to make time for that, maybe

sacrifice some things that don't fit into your life anymore."

As for her relationship with Rotella, Madison thinks that communication is most important when it comes to keeping the romance alive. "Sometimes, other people don't understand how uncomfortable pregnancy can be, how occupied your mind can get and how you just don't feel sexy. You don't want your significant other to get the wrong idea and assume you aren't attracted to him anymore."

"Our relationship is great," she adds.

So great, in fact, that Madison has started to plan their wedding. "I'm trying to secure a really unique and special venue and choose a date. I'm hoping for some time in August."

Related Link: [QuickieChick's Video Dating Tips: Are You the Marrying Kind?](#)

As excited as she is to become both wife and a mom, there's one thing that Madison is still figuring out. How will she tell her baby about her life as a Playboy Playmate? "I'll be really honest with her and let her know that it wasn't all unicorns and rainbows like you see on television," she shared. "You kind of have to be damaged and have low self-esteem to put yourself in a situation like that."

So what's next for the soon-to-be mom? "Besides learning how to be a mom and getting back into shape, I would love to return to the stage – but in a musical this time. I've been concentrating on my singing lessons during my pregnancy." Given her impressive career, we're confident that Madison will excel at whatever she does next – especially when it comes to raising her little girl.

You can keep up with Madison by visiting her [blog](#) or following her on [Twitter](#).

French-Canadian Science Romance, 'Upside Down'



By Meghan Fitzgerald

Juan Diego Solanas directed and wrote the French Canadian romantic science fiction film, *Upside Down*. Starring Jim Sturgess and Kirsten Dunst, this futuristic love story is one for the books! Adam (Jim Sturgess) is searching through an alternative universe for the love of his childhood, Eden (Kirsten Dunst). The movie begins with Adam telling the story of his universe, the story of two planets next to each other; pulled in opposite directions by gravity. The 'Up' is the rich and prosperous while the 'Down' is the poor. The people down are strictly forbidden to go up. The only way they are able to communicate is through a company called 'TransWorld.' Adam finds a mountain which gets close to 'Up.' He meets Eden, and

years later form a relationship as teenagers. Adam is able to pull Eden down by rope however, they get caught, Adam gets shot and drops Eden. He believes her to be dead but ten years later sees her on TV. He then begins his quest to find Eden, the love of his life.

Should you see it: This is a different twist on your typical romantic love story. Juan Diego Solanas forms a love story around different universes, you can't say that isn't incredible! With the stunning Kirsten Dunst, and grungy yet adorable Jim Sturgess, how could you pass on seeing this movie? For all Science Fiction lovers, you should see this movie immediately when it comes out!

Who to take: Coming out on March 15th, warm weather will be in the air! Love will be in the air! This is a perfect movie for you and your significant other. With suspense, romance, and a phenomenal cast, you two will enjoy it! Go grab lunch with your mom and then check this movie out! Or go by yourself on a rainy afternoon, either way see this movie!

Although it is challenging for Adam to make it in the 'Up' world, he finds help through friends at, TransWorld. It is evident in the trailer that he will fight gravity as long as he can to be with Eden. It shows the strong difference between the 'Up' and the 'Down.' The trailer shows how futuristic and different this movie is. Adam (Jim Sturgess) ends the trailer stating that "Gravity, they say you can't fight it, well I disagree."

When do you risk yourself for love?

Cupid's Advice:

Putting yourself in a position of risking yourself for love is challenging. You will inevitably come into a situation where you want to reach out of your comfort zone for your partner.

The problem here is when you should do this. Cupid has some advice:

1. Passion: Our passions in life need to be followed! Some people have not followed their own passion because it frightens them. Get out of your comfort zone ladies and gentlemen. If you love your passion, if you think about it every single moment of your life, take a step. Even if you may get hurt or there is a possible danger in the future, pursue it! It is simple, if you love something, take that risk. Go for gold.

2. Love: Loving another person is absolutely terrifying. As much as people say it is easy as one, two three; it isn't always. With the beginning of a relationship, or even in any situation, you will have to take a jump. Yes it is scary, and you may not want to do it..but you must! If you could see your relationship strengthening with love, or blooming into love-risk it! Don't be worried of getting hurt, or losing the person you've been with, a risk is always healthy for people.

3. Danger: A little danger here in there is not only exhilarating, but necessary! Every once in a blue moon, put yourself in something you wouldn't normally. Go out on that blind date your mom set up. Move in with the guy you've been seeing. Have a one night stand with the mysterious, dark man staring at you in the bar. Love is everywhere and you need to risk yourself a little to find it.

Have you risked yourself for love? Share your experiences below.

Expert Relationship Advice: 5 Ways to Have a 'Date' From Miles Away



By Jennifer

Harrington

Being apart from your love is never easy, whether the distance is short or long term, but in today's fast-paced and mobile world, separation is a common reality. When the miles separate you from your sweetheart, here are some easy ways to keep your date night on the calendar:

1. Dinner and a movie: Just because you're not physically together doesn't mean you can't engage in this courtship ritual! Decide with your partner what you want for dinner (make it something accessible everywhere, like pizza or Chinese food). Once you both have your dinner ready, hop on the telephone, chat and enjoy dinner together, before starting

your movie. Need some ideas for a movie? Check out this list of the 30 most romantic movies of all-time.

Related: [Tips for Making a Long Distance Relationship Work](#)

2. Cheer on your favorite sports team: Maybe you and your sweetie share a passion for the New York Yankees or the Green Bay Packers. Commit to both watching the game and texting each other your ongoing commentary. It can be fun to hear another person's perspective on the same game you are watching! Plan to follow your text session during the game with a phone call to celebrate your team's victory together.

3. Scavenger hunt: Every place is full of unique and interesting spots. With a little advance planning (and sometimes a bit of research), you can plan scavenger hunts for each other. Plan to do the scavenger hunt at the same time, and enjoy all of the special places in your location that your love hand-picked out for you. Snap pictures of yourself with your phone and send so your partner can see all of your adventures!

Related: [4 Ways to Make Your Long Distance Relationship Work](#)

4. Play the question game: As well as you may think you know each other, there is always more to learn about your special someone! Pick up a copy of the book *The Book of Questions* by Gregory Stock for 265 questions you can ask each other. The questions range from silly to serious so you're sure to uncover stories and opinions on a variety of topics. You can easily swap questions and answers over email or the phone!

5. Plan for the future... virtually: Use a webcam or Skype to talk to your significant other about the future. Commit a hour to an important discussion, such as planning for your upcoming vacation together (here is a list of the most romantic spots on Earth) or how you want to celebrate your anniversary. Being apart can sometimes prompt deep, meaningful conversations and these conversations can give you cause to be excited about

your future plans together.

So, the next time you are faced with your love being across the state or on the other side of the world, know that the distance is not a deal-breaker in your relationship. Take the opportunity to get creative and find new ways to get emotionally closer.

Tell Cupid: what are some ways you keep your relationship alive and well when you are apart?

Movie Pick-Up Lines That Will Score You a Date



By Sarah Ribeiro

Life – and love – are constantly inspired by the movies. Even

if they just inspire pick-up lines.

In the height of award season, [Badoo.com](https://www.badoo.com) offered female users from across the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and New Zealand the chance to select their favorite from a list of ten movie pick-up lines to start online conversations.

“This is a study of pick-up lines in action”, says Louise Thompson, Badoo’s Director of PR. “And not just any lines but Hollywood’s finest.”

Badoo then analyzed the data on 1,000 interactions using the lines. They were able to gauge which lines were most picked by women to use on men and which lines got the highest response rate from men.

The line picked most by women was first delivered by Audrey Hepburn to Cary Grant in *Charade* (1963): “I don’t bite, you know . . . unless it’s called for.”

According to Jo Hemmings, a behavioral psychologist, relationship and dating coach, this naughty pick-up line makes sense for women to choose. As she tells Badoo, “It’s slightly quirky, with an element of naughtiness and sexuality about it – but in a fun way.”

The pick-up line that got the highest response from men was originally delivered by Bette Davis in *The Cabin in the Cotton* (1932): “I’d love to kiss you, but I just washed my hair.”

Badoo observed that older movie lines were more successful than newer ones to snag a partner. “The old lines do seem better – sharper, wittier, snappier”, says Thompson. “In fact, we found it much harder to find strong candidates from recent movies. They don’t seem to write them like they used to.”

In fact, the only contemporary pick-up line that made the list was from Natalie Portman’s 2011 movie, *No Strings Attached*:

"You give me premature ventricular contractions... You make my heart skip a beat." It was ranked fifth out of ten by women, and seventh out of ten by men.

This highlighted the other notable finding of Badoo's study: that the lines women favor are not the ones to which men are most likely to respond.

Check out Badoo's lists for yourself:

The Lines Most Picked By Women To Approach Men:

- "I don't bite, you know ... unless it's called for." *Audrey Hepburn (Reggie) to Cary Grant (Peter) in "Charade" (1963)*
- "You don't have to say anything... Oh, maybe just whistle. You know how to whistle don't you?" *Lauren Bacall ("Slim") to Humphrey Bogart (Harry) in "To Have and To Have Not" (1944)*
- "You don't know how hard it is being a woman looking the way I do." *Kathleen Turner (Jessica Rabbit) to Bob Hoskins (Eddie) in "Who Framed Roger Rabbit?" (1988)*
- "Was that cannon fire, or is it my heart pounding?" *Ingrid Bergman (Ilsa) to Humphrey Bogart (Rick) in "Casablanca" (1942)*
- "You give me premature ventricular contractions... You make my heart skip a beat." *Natalie Portman (Emma) to Ashton Kutcher (Adam) in "No Strings Attached" (2011)*
- "Would you be shocked if I put on something more comfortable?" *Jean Harlow (Helen) in "Hell's Angels" (1930.)*

The Lines Getting The Best Response From Men:

- "I'd like to kiss you, but I just washed my hair." *Bette Davis (Madge) in "The Cabin in the Cotton" (1932)*
- "Don't worship me till I've earned it." *Shirley MacLaine (Aurora) in "Terms of Endearment" (1983)*

- “You don’t have to say anything... Oh, maybe just whistle. You know how to whistle don’t you?” *Lauren Bacall* (“Slim”) to *Humphrey Bogart* (Harry) in “*To Have and To Have Not*” (1944)
- “Was that cannon fire, or is it my heart pounding?” *Ingrid Bergman* (Ilsa) to *Humphrey Bogart* (Rick) in “*Casablanca*” (1942)
- “I don’t bite, you know ... unless it’s called for.” *Audrey Hepburn* (Reggie) to *Cary Grant* (Peter) in “*Charade*” (1963)
- “You aren’t too smart, are you? I like that in a man.” *Kathleen Turner* (Matty) to *William Hurt* (Ned) in “*Body Heat*” (1981)

What’s your go-to pick-up line from a movie? Share it with us below.

Date Idea: Expand Your Tastes





By Sarah Ribeiro

One of the great parts of dating is getting to experience new things together and grow as a couple. This weekend, think outside of the box and expand your tastes. You'll benefit from having a really unique date – plus, you have nothing to lose!

Do something with your love that the two of you normally wouldn't do. If you're used to the typical dinner-and-a-movie, try a new form of entertainment. Go to a classical symphony performance, a dinner theater, or a comedy club. A popular dinner show is 'Joey and Maria's Comedy Wedding,' an interactive comedy show that includes a realistic wedding reception and has toured all around the country. A date like this one is sure to be something that you and your honey will remember: eating, laughing and dancing the night away.

For a less interactive night, you can spice up your traditional dinner date and literally expand your palette – prepare your tastebuds for something new. Restaurant "experiences" like Opaque (located in San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, Dallas and New York) that provide a "dining in the dark" experience. You and your love can experience your food in a whole new way; ridding yourself of sight allows your sense of taste to heighten. If you're on a

budget, you can try this idea in your own home. The intimate environment all but guarantees a romantic time for the entirety of the night.

If you're just plain sick of going out to eat, pick up a new skill or hobby instead. Pottery shops have been popping up across the country, encouraging couples to tap into their artistic sides and try their hand at throwing pots (or just painting them). Most even have "date night" specials that include complimentary wine or champagne.

You could even mix things up and focus on taking care of yourselves: if you're generally not an active couple, take an exercise class together. Many gyms have two-for-one deals or guest passes that allow you to bring a non-member into a class. Get competitive in a spinning or kickboxing class, or get in tune with yourselves in a yoga class. It's a great way to start a new healthy habit for the two of you – and to leave you both with a new sense of confidence. After sweating it out for a couple hours, head home to soak your sore muscles in the tub with your sweetheart.

Have a great idea for a date that expands your tastes? Share it in the comments below.

5 Completely Unique Honeymoon Ideas





By Amanda Hevener

Traditionally, a honeymoon is a vacation taken directly after the wedding so that the newlywed bride and groom can spend a little alone time. These vacations are usually spent at beach resorts, on tropical cruises or at exotic destinations that the new husband and wife have never been to before. However, there is something to be said about a unique honeymoon, where the newlyweds can still be together without spending time lounging on a beach. These unusual trips involve doing activities that both halves of the new couple love, or taking a once in a lifetime chance to do something adventurous.

Spend time at a small fishing cabin.

A quiet, peaceful week without any interruptions, aside from fishing and hiking, of course, might be just what you need to unwind after the craziness of planning a wedding. If both you and your future spouse like the outdoors, then this might just be the right honeymoon for you. Find a quiet, somewhat isolated cabin near a freshwater lake and be prepared to spend a relaxing week boating, fishing and sitting around a campfire.

Related: [Three Far Flung Honeymoon Destinations](#)

Go on an Alaskan cruise.

Many people spend their honeymoons on a cruise – only they choose to travel to warm, tropical locations, for example, Mexico, Jamaica and the Bahamas. For a change of pace, go to Alaska instead. The state is beautiful, and amazingly full of things to do. Plus, most of the cruise ships that go to Alaska are smaller, so you will not have to deal with as many crowds.

Tour historic sites, like Civil War battlefields.

If both you and your new spouse are history buffs, then spending your honeymoon traveling around to different historic sites is a great idea. Plus, if you decide to go by car, you will save money on your travel expenses! Some ideas include touring various United States Civil War battlefields, spending time in Washington DC taking in the many monuments and museums, and wandering the back roads along the Lincoln Highway, viewing all of the small towns along the route.

Related: [5 Post-Wedding Tips for Newlyweds](#)

Book a trip to Nepal and climb Mount Everest.

For a real once in a lifetime adventure, consider going mountain climbing. This is only a good idea if both of you are experienced climbers, since it can be very dangerous for everyone involved, especially those new to rock climbing. Sure, mountain climbing is not a very romantic experience, but it will leave you with memories to look back on when you are old and gray, and that is all that matters.

Go backpacking throughout Europe.

This can be interpreted in several different ways, as one person's backpacking involves staying in hostels and following a budget, while another person's version of backpacking might revolve around four star hotels. Either way, spending some time traveling around Europe is an excellent bonding

experience. You can try new foods, see new places, and even visit some of the most romantic cities in Europe: Rome, Florence and Paris. It will be the trip of a lifetime!

Amanda Hevener writes about the wedding business and dishes out wedding business tips.

Britney Spears Did It: When Should You Call It Off?



By Jane Greer, PhD

for GalTime.com

Pop superstar Britney Spears recently announced the end of her engagement to talent agent Jason Trawick. Trawick, who stepped down as Britney's manager when they started dating in 2009, proposed in December 2011. Reports suggest that Britney, 31,

who has two sons with ex-husband Kevin Federline, decided to cut ties because Trawick, 41, is not interested in having more children. Whether this was the true reason they called it off or not, it's an opportunity for the rest of to discuss when calling off an engagement is the right choice.

Getting engaged can sometimes be a challenge, but knowing when it's a mistake and it's time to end it is even more difficult. While reaching that point is different for every couple, here are a few indicators that canceling, or at least postponing, the wedding might be in everyone's best interest.

The event is keeping you together more than the relationship. Is the event itself, and all the time and money that has gone into planning it, the reason you are moving forward even though you feel in your gut that this is not the right thing to do? Every time you think of taking that drastic step and breaking the engagement, do you picture the invitations and the cake that have already been ordered and tell yourself it will be okay? If that's the case, then it is a red flag that something isn't right. Or is everyone else telling you how lucky you are, but you just don't believe it? If, in your core, you feel that something essential is missing and constantly reassure yourself that it's not, that important.

Your "big issue" with each other keeps rearing its ugly head. Another red flag that you might not be ready is if there is a problem behavior that you hoped would disappear as your big day approached, but instead continues to cause difficulties. That could involve anything from alcohol and drugs, to an issue at work, to an ongoing drama with your future in-laws. If you find yourself constantly dealing with extreme anger and resentment, you might want to think about putting off that date and getting help before you say, "I do."

You have a sense of dread, doubt, guilt or obligation. If you

have lots of doubts, and are dreading the day that should be so happy, what you want to do is focus on evaluating your relationship and your situation. Additional warning signs are if instead of feeling that your life is expanding and getting bigger and better, you instead feel like you're making a sacrifice and giving up too much of your freedom and what is valuable to you. Also, if your motivation for following through with the wedding plans is stemming from guilt: hurting your fiancé, disappointing your parents, or upsetting your friends, you might want to reconsider.

You are moving forward for the kids. In Britney's case, it has been said that Trawick has developed a strong relationship with her kids over the years. He was quoted as saying he "adored" them. Sometimes thinking that sticking it out would be best for the kids keeps people together even if it isn't the best thing for the adults. In this instance, the person doing the breaking up can feel guilty about hurting and letting down the children. If Britney experienced this at all, it didn't hold her back.

You feel the old "I love you but I'm not IN LOVE with you." While you may love your partner, you may not be in love with them. This is the passion that helps you navigate and negotiate the many ups and downs of marriage, which you need in order to make it work. If it isn't there, trust your gut. Britney did that, you can, too.

Betsy Prioleau Demystifies the Ladies' Man in Her New

Book 'Swoon'



By Michelle Danzig

In a world full of bad boys, players and ladies' men, it may be difficult for women to find a partner who truly loves them. Constantly falling into their web, women dub these men toxic and don them with a negative reputation. However, author Betsy Prioleau challenges these views. After writing a book about famous female seductresses, which exposed an intellectually compelling woman with the ability to land – and keep – the best men, Prioleau set out to discover their counterpart. In her new book, *Swoon: Great Seducers and Why Women Love Them*, she describes notorious Casanovas as unexpected lovers with a true appreciation for the opposite sex. In an exclusive interview, Prioleau tells us what inspired her to investigate this type of man, what makes him tick and what type of woman is his perfect match.

In your first book 'Seductress,' it seems you have an affinity

for powerful, seductive women. Why turn the tables and write a book about seductive men?

In both cases, I was intrigued by why some people consistently enchant and win over others. Plus, I wanted to see if seducers were as misunderstood as seductresses. These ladies' men have never been studied before. And I found that they've been just as distorted by myth and prejudice as their female counterparts. They offer a privileged window into what women want and can even help men become better, sexier and more cherished in the love game.

Related Link: [Love Lessons from Holiday Movies](#)

Where did you find your inspiration for 'Swoon'?

My inspiration came from two men in my life: my charismatic father, who was so fond of women and they, of him, and my husband, a born women-charmer.

Another inspiration was a course that I taught at New York University four years ago. In this class, we explored ladies' men throughout history, and the seducers we studied, both fictional and real, baffled every preconception and raised a host of questions. What made them so unique, sexy and irresistible to women? Why were they always censured and punished?

There was also a defining moment when it dawned on me that we have such a misguided idea of seductive men. One night, I got a call from a stranger – a Catholic priest, of all people – who'd heard I was studying ladies' men. He said, "You've got to talk to this man. I have no idea what he has, but every time we go out for coffee, women sort of appear and are all over him." A month later, I finally met this babe-magnet and was floored. He was older, only average-looking and ingratiating in the most unexpected way. He was courtly, soft-spoken – almost diffident – and spoke of the women he'd loved and how he courted them with deep, genuine affection. That's

when I realized I had to try to get a handle on this mystery and figure out who these ladies' men really are and what makes them tick.

Based on your research, who would you say was the number one Casanova?

After Casanova (who was very misunderstood, by the way), I'd say the number one ladies' man was the eighteenth-century duc de Richelieu. This man was a diplomat, marshal of France and a famous general. He was also a hero of the boudoir and adored by women everywhere. Charming, kind, and vivacious, he received ten to twelve love letters a day and romanced nearly every beauty in Paris. With his "wolfish grin," they used to say that "he could ruin a woman with a smile."

Women were so wild for him that he caused one of the greatest scandals of his day. Two court ladies who were competing for his favors, dueled over him in the Bois de Boulogne. They arrived on the scene dressed as Amazons and fired pistols at each other; the marquise de Nesle fell to the ground, drenched in blood. She survived (it was only a surface wound), but Richelieu was too universally desired to belong wholly to anyone. He sired a child in his 80s and died at 92, still irresistible to women.

In your opinion, who would you say is today's modern-day celebrity Casanova? Is there one?

With all the Hollywood spin, it's hard to say for sure. But based on women's testimonials, I'd single out three: sexy peacock, Johnny Depp, Hugh Jackman, and Ashton Kutcher. Jackman is a Mr. Romance who studies the art of pleasing in etiquette classes, creates enrapt female audiences, and still woos his wife. And charmer/activist Ashton Kutcher, by reputation, is a "honey-dripping, chick magnet." None may have the whole package, but they're avatars of change and challenge the canard that Casanovas are an extinct species.

What are your thoughts on Hugh Hefner?

Hugh Hefner now is just pathetic—a grotesque rhino (an old guy who chases girls), with a purchased blond. But in his day, he was dangerous. He sold men on the idea that women were playthings, seduced by expensive props, cool moves, and satin sheets. Since he ignored love craft—charm and conversation, for starters—he left a generation of men laid but unloved. His legacy still lingers in the PUA (pick-up artist) culture, but happily most of the male population have wised up considerably since then.

What are three common characteristics of ladies' men? And what attribute do you feel that women would find most surprising?

I'd say the three most common characteristics of ladies' men are: sexual charisma (that indefinable radiance, which may be genetic), a genuine love for women and a mating effort. Unlike most men, great seducers court women energetically and are perpetual suitors.

I think the most surprising attribute of great seducers is their androgyny. Contrary to the popular view that women swoon over he-men, almost every ladies' man turned out to have a strong feminine streak.

What women would make the best partner for seducers?

The best partner for a seducer is his match: a seductress in full possession of her erotic powers. That's why so many enchantresses of history, like Cleopatra or Annette Bening today, paired up with seducers—and made them faithful. As Picasso said, "The lion mates with a lioness."

Related Link: [8 Great Winter Dates](#)

Do you have any advice for women on how to seek out and appreciate the type of men in your book?

If you're lucky, you won't have to go far. Great lovers,

though still a minority, are everywhere: they turn up at parties and work or on trains and planes.

The bigger question is how to appreciate them. These darlings of women can be mercurial and faithless, but it's possible to corral a great seducer if you're savvy and seductive enough. The best way to appreciate them is to harvest their love arts and teach them to be ordinary men. As the love philosophers say, every man should be Don Juan to his wife.

You can purchase a copy of 'Swoon: Great Seducers and Why Women Love Them' in bookstores and online from Amazon. For more information about Prioleau, please visit BetsyPrioleau.com.

How to Date Like A Celebrity



By Andrea Surujnauth

You always hear about celebrities going on flashy dates and having such a great time. But how can we experience glamorous dates like that without having to rob a bank? We took some extravagant dates by different celebrities ... and re-modeled them with more reasonable price tags. No need to break a sweat when re-creating these amazing dates:

Justin Bieber and Selena Gomez

The Biebs has a wallet that weighs more than he does, so he had no problem taking Selena Gomez to the Staples Center just to watch the *Titanic* ... all alone. No biggie!

DIY Version:

Throw on a nice outfit. Just because you're watching a movie at home doesn't mean it has to be the same old DVD and pajama routine. No need to wear a dress suit, but give the pajamas a rest today. Get a projector and some yummy popcorn. Turn the lights off, get close and enjoy your at home movie. No LA Lakers arena needed!

Related: [Creative Dating on a Dime for Valentine's Day](#)

Jennifer Aniston and Justin Theroux

This sweet couple decided to have a romantic dinner under the stars. The two were in Paris together and had a nice meal in the Eiffel Tower. Talk about a star-studded date!

DIY Version:

Have a late night picnic in your backyard. Cook something nice, dress up your backyard picnic table with a white table cloth, and light a few tikki torches and candles. Sit out in your backyard and watch the stars while you and your date enjoy a meal. Who needs Paris with a date like that?

Justin Bieber and Selena Gomez (again)

This kid never takes a break from spending all that money. He took Selena Gomez to see a Demi Lovato concert. How sweet! Is it any wonder why girls all around the world go crazy for this teen sensation?

DIY Version:

We all know how much those concert tickets cost. The only seats that are well...sort of.. affordable are the ones all the way in the back. Binoculars anyone? Well instead of wasting money on a terrible date, go see a local band perform. The music is just as great with less crowds.

Related: [Date Idea: Dress Up](#)

Sophia Vergara and Nick Loeb

So this hot couple went to Mexico to see the ruins together. Vergara brought her whole family and ended up getting engaged on top of one of the ruins. The two got permission to climb one of the beautiful ruins where Loeb got down and one knee and proposed to Vergara.

DIY Version:

Here is a date idea with some history thrown in just like Vergara's rendezvous in Mexico but minus the proposal. Go to museum with your beau. Museums usually have one free day and some are even free everyday. How's that for a breathtaking price tag?

What are some ways you re-create celebrity dates? Comment below and let us know.

3 Ways to Background Check Your Next Date



By Bradley Corbett

We live in an age of digital content. Every picture you post and every word you put online are stored somewhere. It makes finding out information about another person a whole lot easier. And with online dating constantly growing, it's important to do your due diligence before meeting up with strangers.

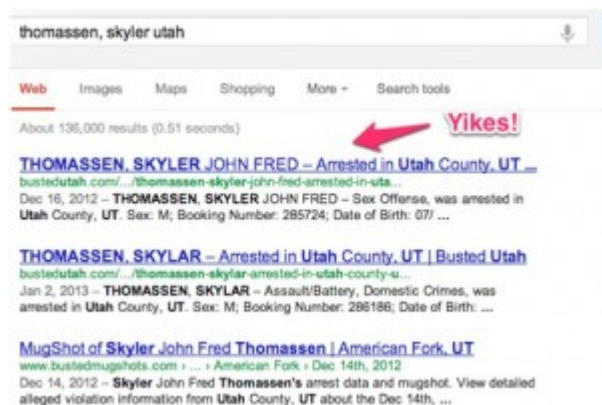
When you finally meet in person, it's not exactly appropriate to ask someone if they have been convicted of a crime or if they have had troubles with the law in the past (especially if you want a second date).

Here are three ways to research your next date that you may not have tried before:

1. Google.

Yes, we've all Googled ourselves but next time; try searching for your upcoming date. If they have a common name, it may be a bit trickier but try some of these search terms to get more specific:

- Date's Name + Birthdate
- Date's Name + City, State
- Date's Name + Job Title/Company
- Date's Name + Mugshot
- Date's Name + Blog
- Date's Online Username
- Google's Image Search – put your date's picture in Google and it will find similar pictures of them on other websites.



Related: [Date From Hell – 10 Ways to Get Out of It, Tactfully](#)

2. Social Media.

I'm sure you've probably Facebook stalked a date before but if you really want to dig in, there are many other social networks you can investigate to learn more about and upcoming date.

- LinkedIn – What's his/her employment history like? Watch out for frequent job changes or long periods of unemployment.
- Twitter – Not only can you see what they're tweeting, you can dig into the people they follow to learn more about their personality.

- Pinterest – Even guys are on Pinterest these days. Check out the types images they pin and see what they're into.
- Flickr/Instagram – Is he posting a picture of a new date every night or his Grandma? Whichever you prefer, it's good to know.

Related: [5 Ways to Avoid a Bad Date Before It Happens](#)

3. Public Records.

Most counties and states publish public information somewhere on their website even though it's not always easy to find. You can look up a variety of information about a person like:

- Land records
- Criminal records (and mugshots)
- Licenses
- Assets
- Marriage Records

Despite how wonderful someone may act during your first few weeks together, there is the off chance that they've been convicted of something like domestic violence or sexual offenses in the past. From my experience as a Criminal Defense attorney, the people being convicted of domestic violence or sex offenses are often repeat offenders. In situations like this, it is better to be safe than sorry.

Do you always want to know?

You'd always want to know if you're going out with convicted rapist or a chronic thief but sometimes intense prying can mess up something great. If you are with someone that you really care about and trust, you may want to avoid going overboard.

It's always a good idea to do a general search on someone that you're with, but remember that individuals make mistakes and may have been convicted of a petty theft or a DUI 10 years ago

which isn't always reflective of who that person is today.

Bradley Corbett is a Criminal Defense attorney in San Diego, California handling a variety of cases from petty theft to DUI to manslaughter.

11 Ways to Meet Your Next Date



By Eleanore Wells

for Galtime.com

When did dating become so complicated? Actually, it isn't the dating part that's so complicated as much as it is the *meeting someone* to date part. It almost seems that the more options for meeting someone that there are, the harder it is to actually meet someone. Here's a round-up of the many options

modern-day daters have to help them find true love:

1. Friends. Asking friends to introduce you to someone is still one of the best ways to find Mr./Ms. Right. Your friends know you and probably aren't going to introduce you to someone who's going to be a disaster.

2. Flirting. See someone interesting? Smile. Wink. Hope for the best.

3. Matchmakers. Professionals who will find "the one" for you... for a fee.

4. Singles Party. Throw a party. Only single people allowed. Ask friends to bring other single friends.

5. MeetUp.com. This is an informal online social networking site that facilitates offline group meetings of like-minded people for a range of activities. Including dining, bowling, hiking, cooking, biking, etc.

6. Singles Events. Stir by Match.com offers social events, such as cooking classes, happy hours, and cocktail parties for members of Match.com. If you are more of an IRL lady, this is a great way to be social and learn how to mix a perfect martini or whip up a souffle.

7. Online Dating. Match, OKCupid, eHarmony, Christian Mingle, JDate, Black People Meet, How About We. This is not an exhaustive list of online dating sites, but these are among the most popular. They all work pretty much the same. Complete a profile questionnaire, add a picture (or don't), then search or let the site search for you.

8. Grouper. Grouper sets you up with three Facebook strangers, but they don't like to call them "dates". It's a social service that sets you and two friends up with three strangers based on your Facebook profile. Sign up for Grouper via your Facebook account, and it sets you up with someone of the

opposite sex whom you're not Facebook friends with. There are no profiles on the site; they do the matchmaking, and you all meet at a place of Grouper's choosing. Grouper says 93% of participants want to do another one. Currently, the service is about twice as popular with women.

9. Crazy Blind Date. This is an iPhone/Android app. An OKCupid profile is not required, but it makes it much easier. Choose a date and time, a bar or coffee shop from the app's recommendations, then choose from among 4 people the app suggests. You're supposed to spend only 20 minutes on the date, then rate it on the app. Cost is about \$3.

10. Other Blind Date Apps. Tawkify. MeetCute. Meet Moi. These apps set up blind dates for you. All you have to do is just show up... and hope be pleasantly surprised. Clearly, it can go the other way, as well.

11. Location-based Dating App. Tinder is location-based and identifies people nearby who the user might know, and connects them if both are interested. Feels creepy to me... but I'm sure it could be fun, as well. It helps if you like surprises.

I'm not sure if the techy ones are more efficient than finding love through family and friends, but they certainly are more creative.

So here we are with seemingly a zillion options (or at least 11) at our disposal for finding love, and yet the rate of singles is higher than it's ever been in this country. I wonder what it all means? Are we seriously looking for "the one", or does having this many options make it harder than ever? How can you choose just *one*, when there are so many?

Which way (or ways) do you prefer to meet new people? Share your comments below.

How to Avoid Arguing Over Money



By Jennifer

Harrington

Unquestionably, two things that can be difficult to navigate in life are relationships and finances. And, if you're involved in a serious romantic relationship, at some point, you are going to tackle the topic of finances and how they will be handled in your joint life with your sweetie. Here are some tips to avoid the conflicts about money that can frequently plague romances:

1. Always communicate.

Clear and timely communication is crucial. Make sure you

convey all wealth-related issues and concerns with your significant other, and have regular, honest talks about your money, expenses, and financial priorities for the short and long-term. Last year, it was revealed that Alicia Keys husband, hip-hop producer Swizz Beatz, owed the government more than \$2.7 million in unpaid taxes. It's likely this financial misstep caused discord in the duo's romance, as it was exposed that the couple had to make several important asset-related decisions in light of the money that was owed to the government.

Related: [Celebrities: Love, Marriage and the Money In Between](#)

2. Make a budget.

Take the time to talk through your cash flow and upcoming expenditures with your partner. While communication is an essential first step of establishing a healthy financial relationship together, it also helps to [create a financial plan by using a monthly budget template](#) and, most importantly, stick to it. That way you are both clear on the plan of how you will handle money as a team, and can hold each other accountable with a budget. Even Will Smith recognizes the importance of budgeting and spending responsibly. The Men in Black superstar, and longtime husband of fellow star Jada Pinkett Smith, once said, ""Too many people spend money they haven't earned, to buy things they don't want, to impress people they don't like."

Related: [Celebrity Couples Who Let Money Ruin Their Relationship](#)

3. Try to see your love's perspective.

Each person has an unique approach to managing money. No doubt, your significant other will do things with his or her money that will anger you. Try to keep your frustration under control and hear your partner out about why they made a particular spending choice. Taking the time to listen and

empathize can go a long way in diffusing a fight. Viewing a situation from your partner's perspective also provides you with a valuable opportunity to see things from their eyes and through the lens of what they value.

When money matters bring strife into your romance, remember this famous Judy Garland quote. *The Wizard of Oz* star was quoted as saying, "'I can live without money, but I cannot live without love.'" Being financially healthy is important, but don't lose sight of the fact that money can't buy (or keep) love.

What are some other ways to avoid arguing over money? Share your thoughts below.

Date Idea: Warm Up With Winter Cocktails





By Deanna Atkins

You and your special someone can enjoy what's left of this chilly winter with warm cocktails that are perfect for this time of year. [Indulging](#) in a hot spiked apple cider or learning how to make a hot toddy will set you up for an intimate night that's different from just cracking open a couple of beers or sipping on a glass of wine.

If it's a night for two, you and your [honey](#) can relax by the fireplace with drinks that will make you feel warm inside – and maybe even a little lovey too. Look up recipes to make so you each can try your best at perfecting your own beverages.

Have a soft spot for hot chocolate? Add tequila or peppermint schnapps to this classic drink – and don't forget the whipped cream. Another twist to attempt is adding KahlÃ© to the concoction. If you have a bottle of red wine that has overstayed its welcome in your home, uncork it and add spices, citrus, sugar and brandy to achieve a delicious mulled wine. Light some candles, put on soft music and enjoy tasting each other's signature drinks.

For more [fun](#), host a (warm) cocktail party at your place. Invite close friends over to celebrate winter's end. Have each guest bring over a bottle, a mixer and a garnish, but make

sure they know to stay in the theme. Some easy suggestions include eggnog, rum, Tuaca, bourbon, cinnamon sticks, dried cherries, vanilla and miscellaneous spices. Then, taste everyone's homemade cocktail and judge who made the ultimate drink at the end of the night.

This weekend's date idea can also be done at a bar with your friends and a professional mixologist. Be sure to step out of your comfort zone and try something new. Testing out a variety of unique flavors and spoiling your senses with a delicious drink will spice up your night and refuel your [connection](#) with your man.

What is your favorite winter cocktail? Share below.

Celebrity Hair & Makeup Artist Predicts Anne Hathaway Will Steal The Red Carpet at The Oscars





By Whitney Baker and

Nicole Cavanagh

Celebrity hair and makeup artist Julia Papworth finds her inspiration just about everywhere: from fashion magazines or local newspapers to sites like Pinterest and Vine, she's always looking for new looks to try. "It's important to find an image you love and then take it and make it your own," she said. By making a few small changes, you can create a unique style that will represent your particular personality and specific style.

Although Papworth focuses on hair and makeup, she often collaborates with stylists to ensure that, together, they're creating "a full package." Fashion and jewelry must align with hair and makeup to invent a character, whether it's for a red carpet, a work meeting or even a first date.

Speaking of red carpets, for the 2013 Academy Awards, Papworth hopes to see a lot of old school Hollywood glamour. To her, there is nothing better than a woman just being pretty. "No gimmicks or crazy blue eye shadow and insane hair. I just love beautiful looks and classy dresses. That's what the Oscars are all about!"

Related Link: [Marc Friedland Explains Why the Winner's](#)

Envelope is Now an Iconic Part of the Oscars

Two great examples of this style from the 2012 Oscars are Emma Stone and Penelope Cruz. Stone took a risk by wearing red, a color that redheads often avoid. Her polished updo paired perfectly with the dramatic neck of the Giambattista Valli gown, making for a very sophisticated look on the young starlet. Cruz, on the other hand, opted for a romantic and flowing periwinkle dress by Armani Prive, which was both “stunning and super vintage.”



So who will steal the show this year? Anne Hathaway, according to Papworth. “She has been on point all year long and has been more adventurous with her pixie cut,” the stylist shared. Many women with short hair think they can’t be stylish or feminine, but Hathaway is a prime example of how to do it right. She keeps her look fresh and varied, mainly by “playing with color.” Changing your lip color or even your nail color will give your style a bit more edge when you have a short and simple haircut.

Papworth is also excited to see what Jennifer Lawrence, Quvenzhané Wallis and Jessica Chastain will be wearing. For Lawrence, she hopes to see a pretty, polished updo. As for Wallis, she always likes to see how the younger stars manage

to look beautiful while still being age-appropriate. Chastain should wear a color that complements her luscious red locks, such as emerald green or deep plum.

Related Link: [Get the Latest Fashion Style from 'Hunger Games' Star Jennifer Lawrence](#)

This classic style holds true for men and even couples too. Papworth is a big fan of the clean, classy look that Justin Timberlake has been rocking lately. In terms of couples, "it's nice to have a picture where you look like you go together." You and your man – famous or not – should complement one another and support each other's style. In addition to predicting the looks for this Sunday's big show, Papworth is also a go-to source for everyday style, something that comes in handy if you're getting ready for a first date.

Take a look at her three tips below and keep them in mind as you're primping and hoping to impress that new guy.

1. Be comfortable. "If your uncomfortable in anything you're wearing or how you look, all your going to do is think about that. If you're wearing uncomfortable shoes, you're not going to be able to hear a word your date is saying because you're just going to think about how your toes hurt."

2. Keep it simple. Simplicity is always best when it comes to date. You may be "super wound up and excited and want to make a big splash when meeting someone for the first time, but honestly, people want to see you and hear you and what you have to say." Something simple, classy and chic is the best way to translate your personality to fashion and beauty.

3. Don't experiment. A first date isn't the time to try anything new. You always want to put your best face forward, so stick to something that works rather than something that *might* work. Don't test run a new hair color or makeup product. Of course, experimenting isn't always a bad thing. It's easy to get stuck in a style rut and do the same thing with your

hair and makeup; Papworth has even fallen victim to this mistake.

Stepping out of your comfort zone may be challenging, but you have to give yourself some “tough love” and just do it. It’s also helpful to turn to those around you for their opinions. “Confide in your girlfriends. They’ll give you that extra push.” You should chat with your stylist too: he or she can help you find something new that you can recreate at home.

As Papworth says, “It’s about finding that perfect marriage.”

You can catch Papworth’s work on ‘Legit,’ an FX comedy on Thursdays at 10:30 p.m. EST.

From Kanye and Kim to Justin and Jessica: Which Celeb Couples are Really Compatible?





By Stephanie Caramel

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We see them on the red carpet, walking through the airport or taking a stroll on the beach. Celebrity couples are everywhere and we can't get enough of them. Supermarket magazines fly off the shelves when there's a famous couple on the cover.

So how compatible are these celeb couples when there's no paparazzi around? Gary Goldschneider's bestselling book "The Secret Language of Relationships" offers a very revealing look at different relationship combinations. Let's put some of Hollywood's hottest relationships to the Secret Language test:

1. Kim Kardashian and Kanye West: This relationship combo is all about being center stage. It almost always focuses on issues greater than the partners' feelings for each other. Marriage is possible, but this relationship dynamic is more about Kim and Kanye's joint impact on the world, and less about true love.

Related: [How to Define Your Aura to Find Lasting Love](#)

2. Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel: One word: boring. Love affairs between these two are affectionate, but rarely passionate. Jessica and Justin's marriage could go for years

at a very ho-hum pace. The relationship will be satisfying, but uneventful.

3. Channing Tatum and Jenna Dewan: Channing loves spoiling Jenna and feels like her protector. This combination is good as long as they don't keep secrets from each other. Tatum and Jenna really need to relate on a deep, emotional level for this marriage to work. Overall, though, it's a winning combination and ideal for marriage.

Related: [Khloe Kardashian Gives Tips for a Happy Marriage](#)

4. Blake Lively and Ryan Reynolds: Sparks definitely fly between Blake and Ryan. Love affairs in this combination are extremely passionate, but there is an emphasis on superficial things that could be destructive in the long run. For these two, the chemistry is great, as long as they don't lose their looks! The combination is most ideal for a love affair.

5. Gwen Stefani and Gavin Rossdale: The relationship between Gwen and Gavin can work, as long as power trips don't get in the way. Love and marriage can fall apart in this combination if one or both of the partners let their ambitions get out of control. Gwen and Gavin are better suited as friends.

Of course, you can use "The Secret Language of Relationships" to check out your own relationships too. Not just with your boyfriend, but with your mom, child or BFF. There's now an interactive relationship calculator based on the bestselling book that's fun to play with: www.thesecretlanguage.com/-check/relationship. The Secret Language website also offers loads of celebrity relationship news: marriages, births, break-ups, etc. Check it out! www.thesecretlanguage.com/today.