

# Are Your Dating Standards Too High?



By Liz Kim

There's nothing wrong with knowing what you want in a future boyfriend or girlfriend; in fact you *shouldn't* settle for just anybody. But there comes a point when unrealistic standards may actually be what's keeping you from finding Mr. or Mrs. Right. If you are turning down a potentially great relationship because he has a funny hairstyle or she has "man hands" a la *Jerry Seinfeld*, then it's time to reevaluate your priorities and loosen up a little instead of spending every Friday night alone in your room. Here are some signs that your standards are too high when it comes to dating:

**1. You model relationships after what you see on the big screen:** “Love means never having to say you’re sorry.” “You complete me.” “I’ll never let go, Jack.” Although *Love Story*, *Jerry Maguire*, and *Titanic* are beautiful films that celebrate the power of the love, they’ve also done a pretty good job at shattering realistic expectations when it comes to dating and relationships. We all want a love like Jack and Rose, but even our idea of these people is false because Hollywood is scripted. With good editing and a staff of writers and makeup artists, any relationship can seem perfect. If you’re keeping track of your relationship by comparing it to what you see on the big screen, you are setting yourself up only for failure and heartbreak.

**Related:** [Ways To Help Single Friends Find a Partner](#)

**2. You have unrealistic physical standards:** We all have a “type” that we’re attracted to whether it be blue eyes or long brown curly hair. And while physical attraction does play an important role in dating, there comes a point when your standards just become ridiculous. “He’s tall, kind of muscular, kind hazel eyes, great with kids...*but* he has this tiny birthmark on his left cheek that’s too distracting. I can’t go out with somebody with a distracting birthmark.” Sound like you? Don’t let the little details get in the way of the big picture.

**3. You can’t remember the last date you went on:** You don’t realize this at first but after you’ve turned down date after date you eventually find yourself on the couch (again), on Saturday night (again), wrist deep into a pint of Ben and Jerry’s (again), re-watching all 7 seasons of *The Golden Girls* (again). If you don’t want this to happen to you, then it’s time to reevaluate what you’re looking for. If you refuse to budge on your standards, be prepared for many many nights alone.

**4. You’ve been told (repeatedly!) that you’re too picky:** If

one or two people say you're picky, then it's worth nothing but you probably don't have to be too concerned about it. If you're hearing again and again from most of your friends and family that you are way too strict with your standards, then you might have a problem. Sometimes we forget to look at ourselves from an outsider's perspective and don't realize how we're behaving.

**Related:** [10 Blind Date Etiquette Rules](#)

**5. You are a stubborn repeat offender:** If Chad is the eighth guy you've gone out with surfs and has sandy blonde hair and a penchant for guitar playing, and it hasn't worked out, break out of your mold. Clearly you don't fit with the "type" you date and now it's time to branch out and maybe go out with Jamie, the kind of nerdy barista from the corner coffee shop who always give you extra caramel drizzle and who may not have blonde hair and clearly can't surf but has a great smile. You've taken a chance with 8 Chads already so taking one more chance with somebody new can't hurt.

**6. The problem isn't you, it's him/her:** This one plays off of #5. If you're consistently dating the same type of person over and over again and it's always a nightmare, we hate to break it to you but it's probably you. If you are one for order and routine but your dream date is someone who is always spontaneous (and kind of unreliable), in theory this sounds like an opposites attract type of situation but more often than not you'll walk away unhappy and unsatisfied.

**7. You've more than once regretted dumping somebody:** Well now you've done it. You turned down Jamie because he was into comic books and a few months later you see him walking down the street with his new girlfriend. They're holding hands and can't take their eyes off of each other. Was he always so cute? You instantly regret turning him down because now he's happy and in love and you're still along and sulking.

Imagine going to a buffet with tables and tables of food you've never tried before but sticking only to french fries. You know you like french fries but all the salt makes you bloat and they're not too good cold. Maybe it's time to try another dish? The beauty of dating is that if it doesn't work out, you never have to see the person again. Instead of boxing yourself in with strict dating standards, maybe it's time to take a chance and date outside of your comfort zone. Who knows? Maybe he or she will bring out a side of you you didn't you had.

**Do you think your dating standards are too high? Tell us in the comments below.**

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## **How to Make Out with a Girl**





By Todd Valentine

Kissing was once the bane of my dating life. Like many of you, I was shy and worried about offending girls or making them feel uncomfortable. It took nine months of dating before I had my first kiss. Watch any romantic movie, and you'll notice that there is so much emphasis on the kiss. The kiss is the catalyst for getting physical. But, **kissing is just one step in physical escalation**, and it probably shouldn't be the first. A kiss can happen spontaneously—like on a dance floor—but typically you need to get physical in other ways first. One way is to make a move that doesn't involve kissing. If it's well received, continue. If not, back off and try again. When a woman says, "no," sometimes this really means, "not yet." Girls can be reluctant to make a move for fear of being labeled slutty, so it's your responsibility to make the interaction physical. Okay, so *how* do you actually make out with a girl? Below are four techniques that work for me:

### **1. Triangular Gazing**

Look from her eyes, to lips, to eyes, to lips, and so on. This

should be done slowly, and ideally, in silence. It conveys that you want to kiss, and it won't get you in trouble. If she goes silent too, or leans in, kiss her. If not? Try another technique.

**Related:** [5 Ways to Have a Stress-Free First Date](#)

## 2. Eskimo Kiss or Neck Bite

The Eskimo Kiss is another move that builds arousal. Rub your nose against hers and say, "Come here—but no lips!" If she's into it, kiss her, but I would suggest pulling away. You can kiss next time. With the **Neck Bite**, you're getting physical, but the girl isn't technically a participant, so she won't feel slutty. Plus, a bite often arouses a girl *more* than a kiss. Lead with, "I need to tell you a secret," then go for a nibble.

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## 3. Eyes-Closed Kiss

"Close your eyes. I want to show you something." She closes her eyes, you kiss her. Again, this releases the girl from feeling "slutty." Use this technique if other signals are there but she keeps shying away from kissing. The girl usually knows what you're up to but will often be glad you relieved her of the responsibility.

## 4. The Gangster

This is one of my favorites, but it requires courage. It works when you're not close enough to a girl to kiss her (maybe there's a table between you). Say, "sh," go silent, put down your drink, walk around the table, set down *her* drink, and kiss her. The move itself is so ballsy, and it will be less awkward to go for the kiss than to stop in the middle.

My overall advice is: **Go for it.** Girls want you to take charge. Get into a sexual vibe so she does too. Slow down,

look into her eyes, think sexual thoughts, and use **these four techniques**. If she responds well, great. If she doesn't, try again. Even if she doesn't kiss you, I promise she'll respect you for the attempt.

*Todd Valentine is a global authority on attraction and seduction. For more insights on kissing and dating, check out his blog [valentinelife.com](http://valentinelife.com) and his channel [youtube.com/rsdtodd](https://www.youtube.com/rsdtodd).*

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## 5 Reasons to Move In with your Mate



By Laura Seaman

Moving in with your partner is a big step. Sure, maybe you've spent the night at each other's apartments before, or gone on a trip where you shared a hotel room or lake house, but this is something else entirely. Living together means more than just sharing a house (which is a big responsibility on its own), it means sharing bills, personal space, and secrets that may have been hidden before. Despite the intimidation that comes with this decision, there are a few good reasons to take the plunge and move in with your mate:

### **Share the Cost**

Living together gives you half the rent and none of the transportation costs that came with two separate living spaces and the drive it took to visit one another. That's one utility bill, one water bill, and one gas bill. You'll also only be using one set of furniture. Just be sure that splitting these costs doesn't lead to conflict. Establish ahead of time who will pay which bills and how much each of you will pay. With another living companion, paying the bills might be a bit more complicated, but they will be much less expensive.

### **See Their Habits (and Vice Versa)**

There are plenty of habits you may not get to see while you're dating someone. People tend to hide their bad habits when they're trying to impress, so you might have a pet peeve they haven't revealed. When someone is at home, they're much more comfortable with themselves and they can't help but show their little quirks. It may be something as little as biting their nails, or something difficult to ignore, such as counting having to walk through a doorway three times. It's important to see these habits before taking your relationship too much further, because there might be one habit that pushes you over the edge, and the sooner you find this out the better.



**Related:** [What You Need to Know Before You Move In Together](#)

### **Seeing the Ugly Side**

When you're dating, situations rarely arise that will bring out a person's temper. While living together, you have the chance to see their tempers flare. This may not seem like a pro, but you will be thankful for it in the future. Moving in with your partner is taking your relationship to the next step and seeing a side of them that they wouldn't normally show you. This step may not be pleasant, but it's very important and cannot be overlooked if you hope to maintain a stable relationship.

### **Learning to Share**

With one place to live, one set of furniture, and maybe even a pet, sharing is essential to staying in a happy relationship. It may be something we learned as children, but it seems to get harder as we get older. It's difficult to share a home; that's why so many people argue with their families growing up. Once you learn to share more of your home with your partner, you can then learn to unwind and share more of yourself. It will be the most open and honest that you've ever been with each-other, and that is something you might not get when being apart.

**Related:** [QuickieChick's Video Dating Tips: Moving In with your Man](#)

### **Long-Term Decisions Come Up**

Living together is a big step in a relationship. For many, it means further commitment; it's a trial-run before marriage. However, what if not everyone involved feels that way? When going on a date, the subject of children and marriage isn't likely to come up. But when you're living together, you and your partner are bound to talk more, and these serious subjects will likely come up. This is the perfect way to find

out if your mate made the move to become something more, or if maybe you both have something more to talk about.

Living together can be tough, and many people advise against it. However, it's these hardships that truly make it worth the risk. If your relationship can't make it through the step of living together, how can it make it through marriage? The pros might not be as happy or pleasant as expected, but as with all learning experiences, it is necessary.

**Do you think it's a good idea to move in with your mate? What's your experience? Let us know in the comments!**

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## **The Most Publicized Celebrity Pregnancies**





By Shannon Seibert

There is nothing more exciting than welcoming little bundles of joy into the world. In the realm of celebrities, baby news is always the best news. Over the years, our beloved starlets have enticed us with their unique maternity wear, adorable pregnancy announcements, and awe-inspiring sentiments about expecting. We've pulled together the best of the best, with some of the most publicized pregnancies over the past few years.

**1. Catharine 'Kate' Middleton:** Undoubtedly, Kate had one of the most followed pregnancies of all time. With the whole world watching with avid anticipation of the birth of royal baby, the duchess served as a maternity style-icon throughout the duration of her pregnancy. Kate kept her style classy, utilizing simple silhouettes, classic dresses, and comfortable coats as her staple pieces. She and husband Prince William, welcomed a baby boy, George Alexander Louis, on July 22, 2013. We weren't even surprised when her baby-weight seemed to melt away mere weeks after bringing George into the world. Bow down to the Duchess of Cambridge.

**Related:** [Ginnifer Goodwin Opens Up About Her Pregnancy and Wedding](#)

**2. Kim Kardashian:** She and now fiancé, Kanye West, welcomed a baby girl, North West, on June 15, 2013. Kim's pregnancy is most famous for three reasons: A. Her crazy maternity wear. B. Her famous hubby-to-be (#Kimye5eva) and C. 'North West' is the name of her baby. In terms of wardrobe Kim made some daring choices. The reality star has served as a style icon for years, and during her pregnancy she still didn't disappoint. She never shied away from leather pants or killer six-inch heels. Also, with Kanye at her side, the two are obviously a power-couple. But most importantly, the adorable North West is both wide-eyed and beautiful like her mother, and already has a dominant personality like her father.

**3. Mila Kunis:** Currently, the actress and Ashton Kutcher are expecting their first child. Mila's pregnancy has graced Google's top search list since the news broke. The engaged couple began dating in 2012, four years after they costarred together on That '70s Show. Mila is also a Wonder Woman mommy-to-be, keeping up with yoga, publicly rocking skinny jeans, and emphasizing her pregnancy glow by canoodling with Ashton. With her and Ashton's killer looks and crazy personalities, the baby is bound to be a legend.

**Related:** [Kristi Yamaguchi "Surprised" by Parenthood](#)

**4. Gisele Bündchen:** Mother of two, both of the Brazilian beauty's pregnancies were for the books. From controversial pregnancy and motherhood comments to bikini baby-belly photos, the former Victoria's Secret supermodel never failed to impress us. An advocate of breast-feeding, healthy eating, and natural birth Gisele has set the standards for women. Benjamin, now four resembles his daddy's spitting image. Vivian is now 14-months-old, and has been seen rocking UGG baby booties and designer jeans to match her glowing mama. Of course with a hubby like Tom Brady, we really aren't

shocked that both kiddos adorn the tabloids with their cuteness.

**5. Scarlett Johansson:** This woman can actually do it all. The renowned actress is expecting her first baby with fiance, Romain Dauriac and is still currently filming for *The Avengers: Age of Ultron*. As a mother-to-be and a -bride-to-be, Scarlett seems determined to balance work, love, and family while retaining her own individuality. Not only will she give birth to a stunning child, but will undoubtedly have a glorious wedding as well.

**Have any baby-momma tips or tricks to share? Tell us about your pregnancy in the comments below!**

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## 5 Celebrity Couples That Adopted





By Louisa Gonzales

Lately, Hollywood has been flooded with celebrity baby news and baby bumps! However, many celebrities have chosen adoption over having a biological child. Here are five [celebrity couples](#) who recently adopted:

## Celebrity Baby Adoptions

1. [Angelina Jolie](#) and **Brad Pitt**: It wouldn't be right if we didn't put these two at the top of our list. They met back in 2005 while filming *Mr. & Mrs. Smith*. Soon after, they began their celebrity relationship and now have six children together, three of whom are adopted. Jolie adopted her first child, Maddox Chivan Thornton Jolie, a Cambodian infant born on August 5, 2001, with her then-husband, Billy Bob Thornton. The actress adopted her second child, Zahara Marley Jolie, who was born in Africa on January 8, 2005, without Pitt. However, Pitt later adopted both kids. The famous couple adopted Pax Thien from Vietnam on March 15, 2007. Initially, Jolie filed alone because of the country's regulations, but Pitt adopted

Pax when they went back home. Pitt and Jolie's first biological child, Shiloh Nouvel Jolie-Pitt, was born in 2007, and twins Knox Léon Jolie-Pitt and Vivienne Marcheline Jolie-Pitt were born in 2008.

**Related Link:** [Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie Enjoy Weekend Getaway Without Kids](#)

## **Even If A Celebrity Couple Goes Through A Divorce, A Family Can Still Be Maintained**

**2. Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman:** Back when these two A-List actors were a famous couple, they adopted two children: daughter Isabella Jane, born in 1992, and son Connor Anthony, born in 1995. The pair first hooked up in 1990 on the set of *Days of Thunder* and married later that same year in Colorado. However, this Hollywood relationship came to an end when they announced their separation in February 2001 after Cruise filed for a celebrity divorce. Both Cruise and Kidman share custody of the two children.

**3. Katherine Heigl and Josh Kelley:** The former *Grey's Anatomy* actress and musician are no strangers to adoption. The pair married back in 2007 in Utah and have two adopted daughters. This celebrity couple adopted their oldest daughter Nancy Leigh (nicknamed Naleigh) from South Korea in 2009. They expanded their family in 2012 when they adopted their now three-year-old daughter Adelaide, who was born in Louisiana.

**Related Link:** [Katherine Heigl and Josh Kelley Step Out with Newly Adopted Daughter](#)

**4. [Hugh Jackman](#) and Deborra-Lee Furness:** The *Wolverine* actor and his wife married back in 1996 in Toorak, Victoria, a suburb of Melbourne. The pair adopted two kids: Oscar Maximillian, born May 15, 2000, and Ava Eliot, born July 10,

2005. The Aussie actor and actress decided to adopt after they were unable to conceive naturally and through IVF. Jackman and Furness continue to advocate for adoption while raising their two children.

**What other famous couples have adopted? Comment below!**

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There's nothing wrong with knowing what you want in a future boyfriend or girlfriend; in fact, you *shouldn't* settle for



just anybody. But, there comes a point when unrealistic standards may actually be what's keeping you from finding Mr. or Mrs. Right. If you are turning down a potentially great relationship because he has a funny hairstyle or she has "man hands," a la *Jerry Seinfeld*, then it's time to reevaluate your priorities and loosen up a little. Below are a few signs that your standards are too high when it comes to dating:

**1. You model your relationships after what you see on the big screen:** "Love means never having to say you're sorry." "You complete me." "I'll never let go, Jack." Although *Love Story*, *Jerry Maguire*, and *Titanic* are beautiful films that celebrate the power of love, they've also done a good job at shattering realistic expectations when it comes to dating and relationships. We all want a love like Jack and Rose, but our idea of these relationships is false because Hollywood is scripted. With good editing and a staff of writers and makeup artists, any relationship can seem perfect. If you're keeping track of your relationship by comparing it to what you see on the big screen, you are setting yourself up for failure and heartbreak.

**Related:** [Ways To Help Single Friends Find a Partner](#)

**2. You have unrealistic physical standards:** Whether it's blue eyes, brown hair, or a certain height, everyone has a "type." And while physical attraction does play an important role in dating, there may be a point when your standards become too high. "He's tall, muscular, has kind hazel eyes, and he's great with kids...*but* he has this tiny birthmark on his left cheek that's too distracting. I can't go out with somebody with a distracting birthmark." If this sounds like you, you're letting the little details get in the way of the big picture.

**3. You can't remember the last date you went on:** You don't realize this at first, but after you've turned down date after date, you'll find yourself repeating the same scenario: it's

Saturday night, and you're on the couch wrist deep in a pint of Ben and Jerry's and re-watching all 7 seasons of *The Golden Girls*. If you don't want this to happen, then it's time to reevaluate what you're looking for. If you refuse to shift your standards, then be prepared for frequent nights alone.

**4. You've been told (repeatedly) that you're too picky:** If one or two people say you're picky, you shouldn't be too concerned. However, if multiple friends and family members are pointing out that your standards are too strict, then you might have a problem. Sometimes, we forget to look at ourselves from an outsider's perspective and don't realize how our behavior is affecting our life.

**Related:** [10 Blind Date Etiquette Rules](#)

**5. You are a stubborn, repeat offender:** If Chad is the eighth guy you've gone out with who surfs, has sandy blonde hair, and a penchant for guitar playing, and it hasn't worked out, break out of your mold. Clearly, you don't mesh with your "type," and now it's time to branch out. Try asking out the hipster barista from the corner coffee shop who can't surf, has brown hair, and always gives you extra caramel drizzle and a smile. You've taken chances with eight Chads already, so trying something new can't hurt!

**6. The problem isn't you, it's him/her:** This one plays off of number five. If you're consistently dating the same type of person over and over again and it's always a nightmare, we hate to break it to you, but it's probably you. If you are one for order and routine but your dream date is someone who is always spontaneous (and kind of unreliable), more often than not, you'll walk away unhappy and unsatisfied.

**7. You've more than once regretted dumping somebody:** Well, now you've done it. You turned down Jamie because he was into comic books, and a few months later you see him walking down the street with his new girlfriend. They're holding hands and

can't take their eyes off of each other. You think to yourself, *was he always so cute?* And instantly you regret turning him down. Now, he's happy and in love and you're still along and sulking.

Imagine going to a buffet with tables and tables of food you've never tried before but only selecting to eat french fries. You know you like french fries, but all the salt makes you bloat and they're not good cold. Maybe it's time to try another dish. The beauty of dating is that if it doesn't work out, you never have to see the person again. Instead of boxing yourself in with strict dating standards, it might be time to take a chance and date outside of your comfort zone. Who knows? Maybe he or she will bring out a side of you you didn't know you had.

**Do you think your dating standards are too high? Tell us in the comments below.**

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## **Social Media Etiquette for Your #Wedding Day**





By Laura Seaman

Sharing your engagement on Instagram, sending out rehearsal dinner invites via Facebook, and getting wedding ideas from Pinterest – social media is everywhere these days, and weddings are no exception. Well, for most people anyways. According to the eighth annual “What’s on Brides’ Minds” survey by David’s Bridal, 44 percent of brides think that digital rules are important at weddings, while 14 percent are completely banning cell phones from their special days. That means no photos, tweets, or status updates! It’s rumored that Kim Kardashian and Kanye West have set this rule for their wedding this weekend.

Even if social media isn’t allowed at your ceremony and reception, that doesn’t mean it won’t be part of your wedding at all. Page after page of Pinterest boards are dedicated to wedding décor ideas, and brides are known to bring a friend to judge their dress over Skype if she can’t be there in person. These are both simple ways to use technology to make your wedding exactly how you want it.

**Related Link: [Are You Too Young for Marriage?](#)**

Other couples use social media to make their wedding an Internet sensation. There's the usual practice of putting wedding photos on Facebook, but some people go the extra mile and put videos of their wedding on YouTube or broadcast the entire occasion via video chat. In fact, 36 percent of people surveyed thought that Skype was a good way to open the chapel doors to guests who can't attend in person.

The survey further shows that many brides have acknowledged the role social media plays and have their own dos and don'ts for their weddings. For example, 62 percent of brides believe that the bridesmaids should not post photos of the bride in her dress before the ceremony, while 58 percent of brides think that they or their husbands should be the first people to post wedding pictures. A smaller number of brides – only 22 percent – think that they should be the only ones posting wedding photos at all.

**Related Link: [4 Questions to Ask Yourself Before Getting Married](#)**

Of course, pictures aren't the only way to let people know about your wedding. 56 percent of brides will update their social media profiles with their new name within a day of the wedding, and 10 percent will even do it while the wedding is still happening!

So whether you plan on letting your wedding become the next YouTube sensation or you're going to put cell phones on hold like Kimye, it's clear that social media will probably play some part in your big day. Just don't forget to #livehappilyeverafter!

**What is your opinion on social media etiquette at weddings? Let us know in the comments below!**

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# 10 Date Ideas for the Married Couple with Kids



By Sanetra Richards

Finding time to go out on dates with your spouse can be difficult. The both of you may have hectic work schedules that always seem to get in the way. And it is not just the two of you ... the kids are also in the equation! No matter how hard you may try, planned or spontaneous dates rarely ever happen. Even if you do actually go out, you constantly find yourself worrying about the kids – is the babysitter reliable, what they are doing, and should you hurry back home. Well, fret no

more! Cupid has 10 suggestions to help you and your spouse get away from your routine and schedule some date time for each other:

**1. Every day alone time:** Who says you can't have a date every day of the week? Believe it or not, it's possible! Join your partner in something that is a part of their daily routine, whether that means an early morning workout or late evening planning session. Quality time with your partner can make a huge difference, especially if you are doing something that brings you together at the start of each day and/or at the very end. Maybe even put the kids to sleep at an earlier time just to have that hour or so to wind down together.

**2. Weekend getaways:** A short vacation is not only what you may need individually, but also as couple. Work can definitely become overwhelming and you just want a day (or two, maybe three) to sit back and enjoy each other's company, without the pressure and stress of work interfering. A trip to a cabin or a resort sounds nice, right?

**Related Link:** [Date Idea: Spice Things Up](#)

**3. Amusement park:** Married couples tend to become accustomed to the the following routine: work, kids, sleep, repeat. Sometimes it's easy to forget what fun feels like. An amusement park is a great place to channel your inner child. Take your spouse on a date to a nearby theme park – enjoy the roller coasters, attractions and games, but most importantly don't forget to laugh!

**4. Dance night:** What better way to show off your moves than dancing? Schedule a night for dancing it up at your local club. Try something as sassy as salsa or as precise as square dancing. The goal in all of this is to simply have fun.

**5. Fishing:** Envision a nice day out by the lake, relaxing in a chair, with a fishing rod in the water awaiting a tug. Hardly any disruptions besides the noises of nature and sound of the

water. You and your spouse will temporarily be worry-free.

**Related Link:** [Date Idea: Hot or Cold Night](#)

**6. Park picnic:** One of the most classic (romantic) dates of all time is a picnic in the park. Create a basket full of you and your partner's favorites, maybe take an activity you will enjoy (frisbee, kites, etc), and voilà! Maybe even consider bringing the kids along and making it a family day.

**7. Pick a hobby:** Choose an activity that the both of you love to do together. Perhaps yard work, such as gardening or mowing, is therapeutic – use this as a bonding experience and call it a date!

**8. Pamper & Polish:** Every once in a while, your sweetheart deserves a little TLC (tender, love, and care). Why not be the one to give it to them? Schedule him/her a session at a local spa or create your own at-home spa. If you would rather channel your inner romantic and set up your own spa, here are a few tips: make sure the environment is set nicely – well-lit and scented, relaxing music, and full of peacefulness. Then, give them the best massage they could possibly imagine (with the help of your favorite scented oil). They will appreciate the thought and touch.

**Related Link:** [Date Idea: Be a "Cheap" Date](#)

**9. Comedy show:** Laughter is good for the soul, right? Search for tickets to your favorite comedian's show and ask your honey to join you for the night. Get a few laughs in while enjoying the evening.

**10. Road trip:** Hop in the car and GO! A road trip entails lots of jokes along the way, singing songs on the radio, sightseeing, etc. Make a day out of it – travel down the roads with the most scenery. Take photos to capture the memories and most importantly, enjoy the ride.



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# 10 Celebrity Moms Over 40





Mariah Carey

Always known for living big, Carey not only had twins, Moroccan and Monroe, at the age of 42, but they were born on April 30 -- Carey and husband Nick Cannon's third wedding anniversary! To celebrate the special occasion, the couple renewed their wedding vows in the hospital with help from Rev. Al Sharpton. But the pregnancy wasn't easy. She suffered a miscarriage in 2008, followed by acupuncture and hormone treatments to boost fertility before getting pregnant. Mariah Carey and Nick Cannon. Photo: Juan Rico/Fame Pictures

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## Celebrity Couples Who Have Remarried Each Other





By Sanetra Richards

Marriage is certainly a test in which many do not succeed at first, but choose to dust themselves off and try again. That is exactly what quite a few celebrity couples decided to do after falling in love, then out of love, and back in it again. After all, time can indeed heal the wounds caused by the limelight, headlines, and pre-existing marital problems, right? Cupid has some celebrity couples who have given the married life another try:

### **Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton**

Elizabeth is notoriously known for her countless marriages throughout the years. However, the disastrous love story of [Elizabeth](#) and Richard Burton is one of the most memorable. The two met on the set of *Cleopatra* in 1963 and it was what seemed to be love at first sight (let's just say the on-screen kiss between the two was not just for show). Although both were married at the time, they could not resist each other. Their passionate attraction resulted in their first marriage, which began in March 1964. Unfortunately, that came to an end ten

years later once news broke that Richard had an affair with a co-star. Not even that could keep the irresistible lovebirds away from each other for too long. The couple decided to give it another go and remarried in August of 1975. Sadly, they were back to their old ways – the bickering and affairs continued. The couple divorced for the final time in July 1976, but remained connected at the heart.

### **Marie Osmond and Steve Craig**

The love was still there nearly 30 years later for [Marie Osmond](#) and Steve Craig. The pair met 18 months before their first wedding. The ceremony happened on June 26, 1982 in Salt Lake City when Osmond was 22 and Craig was 25. After several tries of reconciling and separation, the couple divorced in 1985. Nevertheless, they reunited in matrimony on May 4, 2011 – the date symbolizes the birthday of Marie's late son Michael and mother Olive. Osmond also wore the same Ret Turner designed dress as in her first wedding.

**Related:** [Marie Osmond Re-Wears Wedding Dress to Re-Marry Stephen Craig](#)

### **NeNe and Gregg Leakes**

We watched as NeNe and Gregg's marriage deteriorated right before our eyes on the hit Bravo show "*Real Housewives of Atlanta*." The loving couple divorced in 2011 after 13 years of marriage. Gregg claimed the fame boosted NeNe's ego and financial reasons broke them apart. Whilst NeNe claimed Gregg cheated her financially. Luckily, the star couple worked it out and Gregg proposed to his now-again wife and announced their engagement in January of 2013. The second wedding ceremony was glamorized and captured for the show "*I Dream of NeNe: The Wedding*," which premiered on the Bravo network later that fall.

**Related:** [NeNe Leakes Ties the Knot with Gregg Leakes, Again!](#)

How do you know whether to give marriage another try with your ex-partner? Share your thoughts below.

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## How to Handle Being More Successful than Your Partner



By Louisa Gonzales

Most of us are constantly striving to be the best we can be, especially when it comes to succeeding in our careers. If you are currently finding more success at your job than your partner, it can be hard for them to deal with emotionally, even though they are probably happy for you at heart. No

matter what your mate says, you “bringing home the bacon” can create tension in the relationship, especially if they hold traditional ideals and expect to be the main provider. It’s important to know how to deal with this source of tension so that you can both adjust your ways of thinking. Cupid has some advice:

**1. Consider your partner’s concerns:** It’s important to be able to hear and listen to your mate’s feeling and thoughts on the situation. Whatever concerns they may have about you being the main provider in the relationship, it’s good to be able to let them know it’s okay to voice their opinions. When you do discuss these feelings, make sure it’s in a low-key and comfortable setting. Avoid being defensive or mad when you’re talking about work and success, and remember it’s not a battle about which one of you is better.

**2. Ask your significant other how they hope to become more successful:** To show you care about your partner’s feelings, it’s good to ask them how they hope to improve or better themselves in their career. Listen to their response and offer your help in any form or way you can, whether it’s giving advice, suggesting some tips, or providing feedback. Keep in mind that it’s important to show you are their supporter and not their competition.

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**3. Realize it’s not a contest:** It’s okay to want to advance your career for yourself and for your partner, but you have to realize that it shouldn’t be dependent on how successful your partner is or isn’t. You are both your own people, and as much as you can rely and depend on one another, you can also remain independent. When it comes your careers, you should both be focusing your energies on bettering it for yourselves and not wasting any time on resenting your honey’s achievements. Instead, be proud of them and of yourself as you both try to

get ahead at your jobs.

**4. Seek advice or feedback from others:** Every relationship has its up and downs, and many couples experience and go through the same things. That includes situations like one person in a relationship doing better career-wise than the other. It's good to not rule out any form of help, and there's nothing wrong with getting advice from people you trust. Hearing outside perspectives can help you, your other half and your relationship. Taking into consideration an outside party's opinion might help shed some new light on your current predicament.

**Related:** [How to Prevent Yourself from Rushing into a Relationship](#)

**5. Encourage them to do better:** Help your main squeeze get to the place they want to be at their job by encouraging them. Be their biggest cheerleader. Doing this will help your partner realize how much you care about their future and wish them the very best. Plus, it will help them to extend the same courtesy to you. Your feelings for each other can only grow stronger by constantly showing you believe in each other and are willing and ready to support them in whatever they do.

**What are some other ways to handle being more successful than your partner? Comment below.**

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# Mother's Day Gift Ideas for First-Time Moms



By Louisa Gonzales

May 11th is Mother's Day, the time to give a special and thoughtful gift to mom, and for first-time moms, the holiday is an extra special treat. If you know someone who is a new mom, whether she is your partner, friend, or sibling, you know how monumental this occasion is. New mothers go through a variety of emotions and experiences from relief to worry, joy to stress, tiredness to elation – all within the first year of being a mother. It's important to show her how loved and cared for she is, and the right gift can go a long way.

However, finding a present that will show the mother how amazing, unique, appreciated, and special she is can be a challenge. That's a lot to pack into one gift! Don't stress though. The perfect idea is out there, and you will find it. To help in your search, here are five fun Mother's Day gift ideas that will bring a smile of joy to any first-time mom's



face:

**1. Spa date:** Being a mother is an amazing experience, but it's also a lot of hard work. This holiday, pamper the first-time mom by taking her on a weekend spa getaway. It's one of the best gifts you can give. If you're getting this gift for your main squeeze, go together and indulge in a couples massages and other romantic activities. If you're getting it for your daughter, friend, or sibling, she'll appreciate a day of reviving facial masks, mud baths, and other spa treatments. The brand new mother deserves a day of relaxation, a break, and a reminder that all of her hard work is appreciated.

**Related Link:** [Inexpensive Ways to Say 'I Love You'](#)

**2. Beauty products:** These are always cool picks for Mother's Day because they're something every woman loves. Figure out what beauty products she has been eyeing or what her favorite items are, whether it's her go-to moisturizer, a colorful makeup set, or fun hair accessories. There's no way you can go wrong with bringing a little beauty into the mother's life.

**3. Presents for both the mom and the baby:** There's a lot of things that first-time moms need for their baby. New moms spend an enormous amount of time with their infant, so getting a gift for the baby will be a gift to them too. You can get the practical and necessary items, such as pacifiers, extra bottles, and, of course, clothes (you can never have too many!). If you are looking to splurge, there's always a rocking chair, which every new mom will appreciate when they are trying to rock their baby to sleep. You can also get a stylish diaper bag for all of the baby's must-haves.

**4. Jewelry:** You know what they say: Diamonds are a girl's best friend. That motto really extends to all jewelry. Yes, it may be cliché, but a new necklace or bracelet is the perfect gift to show your love for the first-time mom. Jewelry is beautiful and will look ravishing, breathtaking, and stunning. Plus,

there's so many unique options – it doesn't matter what it is; she'll love it just because it's coming from you!

**Related Link:** [Celebrity Parents Who Splurge on Their Kids](#)

**5. Sweet treats and flowers:** This is the number one go-to gift when all else fails. No matter what anyone says, some good chocolate and a nice bouquet of flowers can make her day! To make this somewhat simple gift mean much more, create something unique and special to her tastes. You can build a bouquet of her favorite flowers or pick buds that mean something special (every flower has a different meaning, you know). Along with the bouquet, bake her favorite cake or pick up some yummy cupcakes. The mom will instantly be reminded of just how well you know her.

**What's your best gift idea for first-time moms? Tell us in the comments below!**

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## **5 Celebrity Women Who Proposed to Their Partners**





By April Littleton

Some women get tired of waiting around for their man to make the first move – female celebrities are no different. Why should they wait around for something they want when they can just go after it themselves? Cupid found five celebrity women who decided to take charge of their relationships and put a ring on it:

**1. Jennifer Hudson:** The former *American Idol* star met professional wrestler David Otunga after her separation from longtime boyfriend James Payton. She proposed to Otunga in September 2008. The couple have one son, David Daniel Otunga, Jr., born Aug. 10, 2009.

**2. Pink:** The *Just Give Me a Reason* singer met motorcross singer Carey Hart at the 2001 X Games in Philadelphia. After a brief separation, Pink proposed to Hart during a Mammoth Lakes motorcross race in June 2005. She wrote, “Will You Marry Me? I’m serious!” on a sign. The lovebirds married in Costa Rica Jan. 7, 2006. The singer gave birth to their first child, Willow Sage Hart June 2, 2011.

**Related:** [Celebrity Parents Who Splurge On Their Kids](#)

**3. Halle Berry:** Berry proposed to former love David Justice during the beginnings of her career. She married the baseball player after midnight Jan. 1, 1993. They separated in February 1996. The couple were officially divorced June 24, 1997. The actress moved on to marry Eric Benet from January 2001 to January 2005. Currently, she's married to actor Olivier Martinez, whom she met while filming *Dark Tide*. The couple have one child, son Maceo, born Oct. 5, 2013. Berry also has a daughter with former flame and model Gabriel Aubry.

**Related:** [5 Celebrity Couples Who Married Young](#)

**4. Britney Spears:** The *I Wanna Go* singer proposed to ex-husband Kevin Federline. They were engaged three months after meeting each other in July 2004. At the time, Federline's ex, Shar Jackson was pregnant with his second child. The lovebirds married Sept. 18, 2004. However, their marriage wasn't official until three weeks later due to legal issues. Their relationship was documented on the reality TV show, *Britney & Kevin: Chaotic*. The couple had their first child, Sean Preston Federline, in September 2005. A year later, Jayden James Federline was born. Spears filed for divorce in November 2006, citing irreconcilable differences.

**5. Kristen Bell:** Bell began dating actor Dax Shepard in late 2007. They became engaged in January 2010, but decided to postpone wedding plans until California legalized same-sex marriages. After the legislation passed June 26, 2013, the actress proposed to her longtime love via Twitter. The couple married at the Beverly Hills County Clerk's Office Oct. 17, 2013. They have a daughter, Lincoln Bell Shepard, born March 2013.

**What other celebrity women proposed to their partners? Comment below.**

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# Should You Give Your Ex Another Chance?



By April Littleton

You and your ex broke things off pretty quickly, and now you're thinking about giving the romance a second try. Maybe the two of you are still in love, or perhaps you're finally on your way to being on friendly terms with your former flame. Either way, you might want to ask yourself some questions before you officially decide to rekindle the spark. Cupid has some advice:

**1. The breakup:** What caused you and your ex to split up in the

first place? Did he/she cheat? Did you cheat? What was the ultimate deal breaker in your relationship, and how do you know for sure things will work out for the better the second time around? Remember, your ex is just that for a reason. Whatever problems the two of you had in the beginning will eventually bubble up to the surface. The issues won't magically disappear. If you expect your romance to flourish this time, be prepared to put in the work to make it happen.

**2. Friends and family:** What do your friends and family think about your former lover? Do they think you're better off without him/her, or do they think the two of you might be able to work out your problems? Listen to the advice your loved ones give you. They know you better than you know yourself. They'll be able to clue you in on what exactly you need in your life right now – and it might not be your ex.

**Related:** [How to Prevent Yourself from Rushing into a Relationship](#)

**3. Your feelings:** Once you stop and think about it, you might realize you don't really want your ex back. Are you afraid of being on your own? If you were with your partner for awhile before splitting up, being single again could be a scary situation. You don't remember what it's like to date someone new. How do you even know when you're ready to meet another special someone? Take it a day at a time. You don't need to go back to someone who doesn't know how to treat you right. Eventually, you'll find someone who appreciates all that you are, but first, you have to love yourself.

**4. What will change:** How certain are you that things will change the second time around? Your ex was still the same person he/she was when you broke up. A drastic change in their personality and/or behavior is highly unlikely – especially if they believe they played no part in the breakup. You can't go back to a relationship that can't be fixed, and you shouldn't want to risk being the person who is responsible for picking

up all the broken pieces of a lackluster romance.

**Related:** [Signs Your Crush Is Into You](#)

**5. The good versus the bad:** You might be able to salvage the relationship if the good outweighs the bad. Think about all the pros and cons to getting back together with your former significant other. Is the outcome worth it?

**Did you give your ex another chance? Share your experience below.**

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## What to Do When Your Parents Hate Your Partner





By Brittany Stubbs

No matter how great your partner may be, when your family doesn't get along with them, there's going to be some serious complications. Not only does this create issues and tension in your romantic relationship, but in your relationship with your parents as well. Whether you still live at home, see your parents every weekend, or just on the holidays, you're going to face difficulties if they're not supportive of your significant other.

**1. Consider your parents' concerns:** There's a reason for the old saying "love is blind." When you're dating someone you truly care about, it's easy to not see some of the warning signs regarding your partner or your relationship. Try and take a step back and see it from a more objective point of view. You might be surprised what a little open-mindedness can help you discover in your relationship.

On the other hand, consider if your parents' negative opinions about your relationship actually have anything to do with your



partner. Have your parents had a tendency to hate all the people you've been in past relationships with? If so, this might be less about who you're dating, and more about you dating in general.

**2. Discuss your parents' concerns:** It's important you communicate with your parents. Whether you understand their reasons for disliking your partner or not, you should at least be considerate and hear out their issues and concerns. The calmer you approach the situation, the better the discussion will go. Getting down to the bottom of their reasons for disliking your partner can not only help you have a better understanding for your parents opinions, but can also help you realize what it will take to change their minds when necessary.

**3. Discuss with your partner:** After discussing and evaluating your parents' issues, communicate with your partner. Despite your feelings towards your parents' opinions, it's important you at least share their reasons with your partner. Be open without making your partner feel attacked. Do they understand or see some truth to the concerns discussed? If your parents' concerns are minor, is your partner willing to fix or change certain things?

**Related:** [How to Get Over the Relationship Blues](#)

**4. Discuss and consider the opinions of outsiders:** Whether it's a professional counselor or friends from work, it can be helpful to discuss your situation with people that are not directly involved. What is their response to your parents' concerns and/or your significant others' behavior? If you're discussing with a friend who has been around your partner for a good amount of time, do they see some of the issues your parents are experiencing? Or are they fully supportive of your relationship? Considering the opinions from an outside party might help you see the situation in a new light.

**Related:** [Do Your Friends Influence Your Relationship?](#)

**5. Evaluate and make YOUR decision:** After discussing and considering the views of everyone else, it's time to step back and evaluate the relationship a final time for yourself. Are your parents' issues justified? If so, can you change/fix them? If not, is your partner worth the tension that will continue to build in your relationship with your parents? Despite the opinions of your parents, partner, and friends, you have to choose what is best for you and your happiness.

**What are some other things to do when your parents aren't fans of your new partner? Comment below.**

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# The REAL Reason that Gwyneth Paltrow and Chris Martin Split





By Sarah Christensen Fu

Unless you're under a rock, you've probably heard that Gwyneth Paltrow and Chris Martin recently consciously uncoupled. It's a bummer—I thought they were the golden couple that would shame all other Hollywood divorcees by going the distance. The truth is that it's not surprising they split if you look at their astrological compatibility. The REAL reason they split is because Gwyneth, a Libra, and Chris, a Pisces, are **completely star-crossed**.

First, and foremost, let's take a look at Chris's horoscope (this is copied directly from *Bad Birthdays: The Truth behind Your Crappy Sun Sign*):

*March 2: "Men are only as faithful as their options," said comedian Chris Rock. The Pisces ladies and gentlemen born on March 2 find themselves evaluating their options regularly, sometimes consciously and sometimes subconsciously. They love their partner deeply but can't help but fall prey to other sets of batting eyelashes and whispered sweet words from soft, cherry-like lips. Best to lock March 2 natives in some sort of*

*cage if you plan to maintain a relationship with one.*

Basically, Gwyn could have done everything right, and still lost her mopey Pisces poet to exotic temptations. However, Gwyneth brought her own share of icky personality traits to their relationship: she was born on September 27th, making her a vain, pretentious, wishy-washy Libra. No amount of money, class, live-in nannies, or self-righteousness, could have made this love match comfortable enough for people with this couple's sexiness and financial means to suffer through the rest of their miserable lives together.

**Related:** [Couples Therapy: A Way to Rebuild a Struggling Relationship](#)

At the core, Libras are obsessed with the thrill of the chase. While Pisces has a deep romantic streak, they are rarely proactive hunters when it comes to romantic interests. Gwyneth basically ended up playing a pathetic, partnerless game of Cat and Mouse, which I guess is just called "Mouse." Aw. On top of that, Libras born on September 27th have a competitive, determined fire in them, which would explain why Gwyn has tried so hard to be the best mother, wife and GOOP founder on the planet. If Chris had been supportive of all of those endeavors, the two may have found a way to remain the reigning king and queen Hollywood royalty. However, in his Piscean way, Chris very likely criticized and whined about Gwyneth's stupid lentil and lemon soup and her annoying GOOP colleagues—he actually may have literally gotten sick when she told him she planned to use the term "conscious uncoupling" to describe their split.

**Related:** [Cold Feet Before the Wedding? Reasons to Use Your Head](#)

Sigh. They were doomed from the start. However, if you, like me, are still feeling a little low about this celebrity breakup, you should find comfort in the fact that Gwyneth

Paltrow and Chris Martin probably had hotter sex during their marriage than many, many other celebrity couples. One thing's for sure: the Libra/Pisces combination emits a whole lotta sparks before it explodes and catches fire, burning everything down with it.

***Sarah Christensen Fu*** is a Virgo (incredibly high-strung and mostly a pain). She lives in Colorado with her husband and three kids, whose astrological signs cause a great deal of chaos and neuroses around the neighborhood. Visit her at [www.hey-sarah.com](http://www.hey-sarah.com).

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## Celebrity Parents Who Splurge On Their Kids





By Brittany Stubbs

All the fame and fortune celebrities receive brings some serious benefits, especially for their children! The stars' offspring may be getting followed around by paparazzi, but they're definitely not suffering when it comes to their birthday parties, wardrobes, or weekend fun. We've compiled a list of our favorite celebrity parents who splurge on their kids:

### **Beyonce and Jay Z**

Some little girls ask for a pony on their birthday. But if you're the daughter of these stars, you'll get the whole zoo! Beyonce and Jay Z helped Blue Ivy celebrate turning 2 by renting out the Miami Zoo. Between exploring Jungle Island, the wildlife park and botanical garden, there was no way this birthday girl wasn't feeling like a Princess! It makes one wonder, if this was just her 2nd birthday, what will her Sweet Sixteen be like?!

**Related:** [Jay Z and Beyonce Open Grammys with 'Drunk in Love'](#)

## **Victoria and David Beckham**

While all the Beckham's children seem to live a luxurious life, their youngest daughter, Harper Beckham, has been making the headlines for her success most recently. Being named Most Stylish Celebrity Kid, it's safe to say her parents have no problem splurging when it comes to Harper's wardrobe. Not only is this fashionista familiar with numerous designers, but she's sat first row at several of their fashion shows. I guess it pays off to have a mom like Victoria Beckham!

## **Katie Holmes and Tom Cruise**

This celebrity relationship might be long gone, but their daughter certainly isn't suffering. From attending musicals and ice skating in New York City, to private jet rides to Paris, Suri Cruise is living the good life thanks to her generous parents! The little princess was even spotted in courtside seats at the East Regional Final of the 2014 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament at Madison Square Garden. Just another day in the life for Ms. Suri!

## **Kim Kardashian and Kanye West**

It's a sweet life when you're the daughter of a reality star and a rapper. North West is not only known to be rocking a designer wardrobe before she can rock, but a luxury car before she can drive! The loving parents surprised their sweetheart with a mini Lamborghini to match the ride Kanye drives. Talk about daddy's little girl!

**Related:** [Kim Kardashian and Kanye West Ready for Second Baby](#)

## **Tori Spelling and Dean McDermott**

These celebrities might be going through a rocky time in their marriage, but they never fail to make sure their little ones feel special. Tori and Dean are notorious for throwing luxury birthday parties for their children. Most recently,

they celebrated their twins 2nd birthday by renting out Underwood Family Farms in Moorpark and throwing a lavish cowboy-themed party. Hattie and Finn were decked out in cowboy and cowgirl attire and each had their own two tiered Hansen cakes. Not only did the stars splurge on gifts for their twins, but put together amazing goodie bags for the children's friends, including Big Hugs Elmos.

**What are some ways you make your kids feel special?**

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## **Inexpensive Ways to Say 'I Love You'**





By Maria Darbenzio

You don't have to break the bank to show your significant other how much you truly care about them. When it comes to money, let's face it, not everyone has a chunk of extra spending money on hold for elaborate gifts. There are plenty of ways to say 'I love you' inexpensively or without spending anything at all. Keep your relationship and bank account in check with some of these ways to express your love and appreciation.

**1. Alphabet of appreciation:** Take the time to write down the ABCs of love for your partner. All you need is a pen and a piece of paper. For each letter, list something that you love about your sweetie until you've gone through all 26 letters. At the end, sign it with a kiss and leave it somewhere you know he'll see it.

**Related:** [5 Ways to Have a Stress-Free First Date](#)

**2. Mirror messages:** Before your sweetie wakes up to take a shower, take a q-tip and Rain-x anti-fog to write a cute message on the mirror. When they step out, the fog will form everywhere except your little note, leaving them with a nice little surprise to start their day. If you have no use for the Rain-x afterwards, you can go a more traditional route instead with the use of lipstick writing. It may be a bit on the messier side, but it gets the point across just the same.

**3. Post-it notes:** Much like the alphabet of appreciation, write down what you love about your partner or how much you can't wait for them to get home from work. Slip them into their wallet, in their car, or into their briefcase. Spread them around so they can keep finding them throughout the day. It's an easy way to keep a smile on their face all day long.

**4. Romantic dinner:** Everyone loves a nice romantic home cooked meal. The time and effort alone shows just how much you're

willing to do for your significant other. Whether you chose to cook together as a couple, or you surprise you hunny with a hot meal as they walk in from work, it's a classic way to show your love. Don't forget to light some candles and grab a bottle of wine to tie it all together.

**Related:** [Find Out What Romantic Thing Aaron Paul Tells His Wife Every Day](#)

**5. Rent a movie:** In the age of Netflix and On Demand television, "renting" a movie has never been easier. Cuddle up with a blanket, and your sweetheart, on the couch and pick a movie you've both dying to see. If you're up to date with the latest films, why not take a jump back in time to watch some of the romantic must-see movies. Grab some popcorn and watch the romance between Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan blossom in *You've Got Mail*.

**What are some inexpensive ways you show your love? Tell us in the comments below!**

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## 5 Celebrity Couples Who Married Young





By April Littleton

Lately, many celebrities are choosing to get married in their 30s or older. However, plenty of the Hollywood stars exchanged vows while they were still in their teens or early 20s. Here is Cupid's top five celebrity couples who married young:

**1. Megan Fox and Brian Austin Green:** The former *Transformers* star was 18 years old when she began dating Brian Austin Green. At the time, he was 30. The lovebirds met on the set of *Hope & Faith* in 2004. They got engaged in February 2006, but broke it off three years later. In June 2010, the couple became engaged again. However, Fox claimed they never broke off the engagement in the first place. Fox and Green exchanged vows June 24, 2010 at the Four Seasons Resort on Maui. The duo have two sons together, Noah Shannon Green (born Sept. 27, 2012) and Bodhi Ransom Green (born Feb. 12, 2014). The *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* actress is also the stepmother to Green's son Kassius from his previous relationship with Vanessa Marcil Giovinazzo.

**2. Hilary Duff and Mike Comrie:** The former *Lizzie McGuire*

actress was just 22 years old when she married former NHL player Mike Comrie. The couple began dating in 2007, and became engaged in February 2010. The pair married in Santa Barbara, California Aug. 14, 2010. However, the lovebirds announced their separation Jan. 10, 2014. They have a son, Luca Cruz Comrie, who was born March 20, 2012.

**Related:** [5 Cutest Teen Celebrity Couples](#)

**3. Olivia Wilde and Tao Ruspoli:** The *Her* actress married the Italian filmmaker and musician when she was 19 years old. They exchanged vows on a school bus in Washington, Virginia. In an interview, Wilde explained the duo married in an old bus because the wedding was a secret at the time. The couple separated Feb. 8, 2011, and divorced Sept. 29, 2011. Since then, Wilde has been in a relationship with *SNL* performer Jason Sudeikis. They got engaged in January 2013 and are expecting a baby boy in May 2014.

**4. Jessica Simpson and Nick Lachey:** Simpson was 22 years old when she married Lachey. They duo married Oct. 26, 2002. Their relationship was documented on the reality TV series, *Newlyweds: Nick and Jessica*. The couple announced their separation in November 2005. They filed for divorce Dec. 16, 2005, citing irreconcilable differences. The divorce was finalized June 30, 2006. Simpson dated Dallas Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo from 2007 to 2009. Currently, she's engaged to Eric Johnson. They have two children, daughter Maxwell Drew Johnson and Ace Knute Johnson.

**Related:** [Celebrities Who Have Gotten Back Together After a Cheating Scandal](#)

**5. Avril Lavigne and Deryck Whibley:** The *Girlfriend* singer was 21 years old when she married Sum 41 performer Deryck Whibley. The pair began dating when Lavigne was 19 years old. Whibley proposed to her during a trip to Venice in June 2005. They married July 15, 2006 in Montecito, California. The couple

divorced Nov. 16, 2010 after a little more than three years of marriage. However, they continued to work together. Whibley produced her fourth album and the single, *Alice*. Currently, Lavinie is married to Nickelback singer Chad Kroeger.

**What other celebrity couples married young? Comment below.**

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## **‘Mob Wives’ Star Renee Graziano Releases Romance Novel**



By Maria Darbenzio

*Mob Wives: New Blood* reality star and original cast member Renee Graziano released her new sexy thriller, *Playing With Fire*, on April 8th. The story takes the reader on an adventure filled with strong moments of passion with a look into life with the mob. Reign Grazi, the main character, lives a life much like that of her creator.

The title of the book *Playing With Fire* is more than just a familiar phrase. In this case, the book is loosely based around the life and experiences of Graziano over the years. This includes her fair amount of run-ins with dangerous men, much like the book's Nick Fattelli, during the heyday of the mob reign.

Graziano will be appearing for book signings in and around New York City on the following dates:

**Tuesday, April 8 – 7:00 PM**

Barnes and Noble #2609  
3981 US HWY 9  
Freehold, NJ 07728

**Wednesday, April 9 – 6:00 PM**

Barnes and Noble #2255  
97 Warren St.  
New York, NY 10007

**Thursday, April 10 – 7:00 PM**

Barnes and Noble #2021  
2245 Richmond Ave.  
Staten Island, NY 10314

**Monday, April 14 – 7:00 PM**

The Book Revue  
313 New York Ave  
Huntington, NY 11743

If you can't make it to one of the signings, check out [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com) to purchase a copy.

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# What Do the Drinking Habits of Singles Reveal?



By Liz Kim

Sometimes, you just need a little liquid courage to go over and talk to the blue-eyed Adonis you've been staring at all night. A bar is a convenient place where single people can let loose and have some fun. But while bars attract singles like moths to a flame, if you're looking for a long-term relationship, your local watering hole may not be the best place to find Mr. or Mrs. Right. U.S. dating site PlentyOfFish conducted a comprehensive research study and found that the drinking habits of single people are very much

correlated to whether or not they are looking for true love or a casual fling.

**Related Link:** [What Does Your Date's Drink Say About Him?](#)

The dating profiles of 11 million U.S. singles between the ages of 21 to 50 were examined, and the study revealed what most of us probably already knew but didn't want to admit was true: The more alcohol a single person drinks, the less likely they are to be in a serious relationship. In fact, men who want to marry are 82 percent more likely to be non-drinkers and women are 73 percent more likely. Men looking for a casual relationship are 55 percent more likely to drink often, and women are 80 percent more likely.

The study also examined how much singles tend to drink on a first date. Even before they go out, 36.4 percent of singles admitted to having a drink to calm their nerves. During the first date, nearly 50 percent said they had 2 or 3 drinks. These were the beer-with-a-burger, glass-of-wine-with-dinner type of people who knew their limits and didn't overdo it. But sometimes, your best judgement decides to stay home; you find that the night is young, and the pitchers miraculously keep filling up. The survey found 19.1 percent of single men and 16.8 percent of single women have actually gotten drunk on a first date.

So now that we know how much singles are drinking, what does your drink order say about you? Surprisingly, the survey found that what you order can affect how attractive your date thinks you are. And no, we don't mean beer goggles. According to the survey, over 26 percent of men think that the most attractive drink for their date to order is red wine, while over 23 percent of women think that the most attractive drink for their date to order is a pint of craft beer. These women may not be too happy to find out that male beer drinkers are 55 percent less likely (than the average male user of



PlentyOfFish) to be looking for marriage.

On a side note, whiskey lovers can rejoice because male whiskey lovers are 76 percent more likely to want non-serious dating and female whiskey lovers clock in at 74 percent more likely.

**Related Link:** [Focus on Friendship for a Peaceful Dating Experience](#)

The education levels and jobs of singles were also strong predictors for how heavily they drank. Women with a high school education are 26 percent more likely to not drink, and men with a high school education are 17 percent more likely to not drink. One statistic that particularly stood out was that women with PhDs are more than twice as likely (111 percent) to drink often, while men came in at only 51 percent.

While there is nothing wrong with letting your hair down and having enjoying a drink or two, anything that impairs your judgement and prevents you from operating heavy machinery isn't something you want to be relying on when looking for someone to spend your life with. A mere 14.1 percent of singles think that the most attractive drink for their date to order is something *without* alcohol – and maybe they're on to something. You might be surprised at how much fun you can have while still remembering what you did last night!

**What do your drinking habits say about you? Tell us in the comments below!**

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# How to Prevent Yourself from Rushing into a Relationship



By April Littleton

Rushing into a new relationship is never a good idea. You don't know the person you're dating well enough for a commitment, and you'll just end up right back where you started shortly after attempting the new romance. Take a step back from the dating scene and reevaluate what you want out of a partner. Cupid has some advice:

**1. Really think about your feelings:** Before you put yourself into a new relationship, take some time to really think about what you want. Are your feelings for the person you're interested in real, or are you just rushing into something new

because you can't stand the thought of being alone? Some individuals jump into one relationship after another because they're not used to being by themselves.

**Related:** [How to Get Over the Relationship Blues](#)

**2. What you're looking for:** What are you looking for in a partner? Are you looking for someone who makes you laugh? How important is trust and honesty to you? How well do you really know your new significant other? In order to really get to know someone and their intentions, you need to take the necessary time to feel each other out. Don't settle for anything less than what you want. So, if your new partner doesn't fit the bill, there's no need to be in a relationship with them.

**3. Keep dating:** Let the person you're interested in know that you will continue to see other people, and they should do the same. Be direct about what you want. If your new honey was hoping for something a little more exclusive, then make what you want out of a serious relationship clear before you commit. Until then, continue to get to know other people and have fun being single.

**Related:** [Can You Be Single and Still Have a Soulmate?](#)

**4. Don't worry:** Don't spend every waking minute thinking about dating. Instead of going out with a potential partner every Friday night, spend some time hanging out with your girls or family members. Now is the time to really enjoy some "you" time. Get comfortable in your own skin, and realize you don't HAVE to be in a relationship with anyone until you're fully ready. When the time is right, your epic love will be waiting for you around the corner.

**5. Get to know yourself:** Don't lose sight of yourself. Take up some of your old hobbies, or pick up some new ones. Do things for yourself that don't involve dating. Some individuals forget who they are while in a relationship. Don't let that

happen to you. Besides, independence is a turn-on.

**Related:** [How Weight Can Affect Your Love Life](#)

**6. No future talk:** Avoid talking about any future plans with your potential honey. There shouldn't be any conversations about marriage, family, moving in together, etc. Take your relationship slow. Conversations about kids and long-term commitment might scare the other person off. Plus, you're more than likely not ready for that kind of relationship anyway.

**What are some other ways to prevent yourself from rushing into a relationship? Comment below.**

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## How to Turn Your Spring Fling Into the Real Thing





By Rachel Sussman

Spring is officially here and love is in the air. In order for new romances to blossom this season, singles need to face the always unpredictable and often times stressful first date. Before setting a time and place, there are some important factors to consider in order to make a good first impression on a new fling based on the helpful findings from a recent report released by ChristianMingle and JDate.

The goal of any first date is to hit it off well enough to secure the coveted second date and hopefully lay the foundation for a successful, long-term relationship. But we all know there are things we can do – and things we can avoid doing – that can help our chances in any dating scenario. In the report, U.S. singles weighed in to reveal the rules of first dates when it comes to eating, drinking and general dinner etiquette, as well as the biggest turnoffs and deal breakers when it comes to courtship. Here are the top five dating rules and deal breakers needed to turn your spring fling into the real thing:

**1. Keep eating habits in check** – 50 percent of singles agree that the biggest faux pas when it comes to food on the first date is being a messy eater. And think twice before ordering for a date! This is the second biggest food faux pas, as 20 percent of women don't want a man ordering for her and 17 percent of men feel the same.

**2. Be mindful of cocktail consumption** – When it comes to drinking on a first date, the majority of singles say one to two drinks is acceptable. And if a prospective partner gets drunk on the first date, 72 percent of men would look past it and go out with her again; though it's much tougher to get a second chance with women (only 41 percent would go out with a drunk date again).

**3. It's OK if the guy pays for dinner** – When reaching for the bill, two-thirds of all respondents feel the man should pay for the first date. Men tend to feel stronger about this, with 69 percent saying the man should pay, and 55 percent of women agree.

**4. Take a shower and quit smoking** – Hygiene is a top deal breaker for both men and women, so make sure *not* to skip a shower before a date. For men, the top three dating deal breakers are hygiene (35 percent), smoking (24 percent) and weight (14 percent); and for women, it's hygiene (34 percent), unemployment (21 percent), and a tie for third between drinking habits and smoking (16 percent each).

**5. Make a good impression on their friends** – If a date's friends come into the equation, making a good impression is key. The majority of singles (66 percent) would break up with someone if they didn't get along with his or her friends.

While no two dates are alike, it is important to treat the above findings as a check list in order to leave a good – and lasting – impression on any date. This spring, be sure to follow these rules in order for your next first date to

hopefully become your last. Happy hunting!

*Rachel Sussman is a relationship expert and licensed psychotherapist.*

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## Signs Your Crush Is Into You



By April Littleton

You're crushing hard on someone, but you're not sure if they feel the same way about you. Could you be misreading the signs? Or does your future boo have the same feelings as you do? To help you out, Cupid came up with a few tips:

**1. Attentive:** Your crush pays attention to you – and only you. If you don't see your potential honey showing interest in anyone else, then he might be ready to make things official with you. Think back on some of the conversations the two of you have had together. Does he show curiosity about your life? What kind of questions does he ask you? He's into you if the two of you can discuss certain topics and situations on a deeper level.

**2. His friends know about you:** Your boo has told all of his friends about you. Most people don't disclose information about their love life to close friends and family unless it's getting serious. Also, your honey is dropping major hints if you actually meet some of the gang.

**Related:** [How Weight Can Affect Your Love Life](#)

**3. Showers you with compliments:** If your crush is constantly reminding you of how great you look, how funny you are, etc, he feels the same way you do. When a guy says something positive about you, he usually means it. Don't over think it. Just thank him and believe what he says. After all, it's rare to find someone who appreciates the little things about another person.

**4. He's around often:** Wherever you are, your crush isn't too far behind. Your guy is into you if he is constantly asking you out on dates. Does he check in on you via text when the two of you aren't together? How often do you spend time with him? When your new man chooses to be around you even when he doesn't have to be, that's a sign he's interested in taking the relationship a little further.

**Related:** [The Pros and Cons of a Whirlwind Romance](#)

**5. Surprises:** Most people don't go out of their way to make someone smile unless they enjoy their company. If your crush surprises you with flowers or other sweet items, he's trying to show you his feelings without actually saying the words.



**6. Body language:** How close do the two of you get in a private setting? Do you hold hands? Are the hugs he gives you merely platonic, or does the body contact feel a bit more intimate? You can tell a lot about how a person feels based on their body language. Don't let a romantic opportunity pass you by because you're missing the signs.

**What are some other signs your crush is into you? Comment below.**