

Celebrity Couples Who Keep Their Relationships Out of the Spotlight



By April Littleton

Most of the famous and wealthy individuals we see on our TV screens and in the magazines enjoy having their love life on display for the whole world to see. However, there are a select few who prefer to keep their relationship out of harm's way. Cupid has a list of celebrities who manage to keep their private life – private:

1. Dolly Parton and Carl Thomas Dean: The country singer has been married to Dean since May, 30, 1996. They met at a Wishy-

Washy laundromat on her first day in Nashville with his first words to her being, "Y'all gonna get sunburnt out there, little lady." Since marrying, Dean has only seen Parton perform once and he rarely makes any public appearances with his wife. Parton and Dean have no children together, but she commented on his romantic side in an interview stating that Dean does spontaneous things to surprise her and sometimes writes her poems.

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2. Beyonce and Jay-Z: This couple kept their relationship under wraps for quite a while. It was rumored that the couple began dating after collaborating together on the hit single "03 Bonnie and Clyde". The lovebirds took it a step further by secretly marrying on April 4, 2008. When it comes to the status of their relationship, the couple have since eased up on their privacy, especially when Beyonce publicly announced her pregnancy during a live performance on the 2011 MTV Video Music Awards.

3. Morris Chestnut and Pam Byse: Who knew that *The Best Man Holiday* co-star was married? Well he is – and has been for 18 years now. Chestnut and his wife Pam have two children together, Grant and Paige. In an interview with *Upscale* magazine, the actor explained what makes their marriage successful. "I let my wife be the woman. You know? I let her be the woman.... And she, in turn, when it comes down to it, she lets me be the man," Chestnut said.

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4. Rachel Weisz and Daniel Craig: These two lovebirds got married with only four people attendance, while the rest of the world didn't even know they were dating! Weisz and Craig tied the knot in a private New York ceremony June 2011. The *Oz the Great and Powerful* actress has since told *Marie Claire*

magazine that the marriage gives her 'a wonderful feeling of stability.'

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5. Megan Fox and Brian Austin Green: It's no secret that these two stars have been in an on-again, off-again relationship since 2004, but the fact that they managed to hide the birth of their firstborn for three weeks should speak volumes. Fox gave birth to baby Noah Sept 27, 2012, but didn't publicly announce the news until much later. Recently, the couple told the media that they are expecting their second child together sometime this year.

Are there any other celebrity couples who should be on this list? Comment below.

Watch the Winners of the Match.com Propose Perfectly Video Contest!





2014 "BRADY BUNCH" RECEIVES SECOND CHANCE AT LOVE WITH THE HELP OF MATCH.COM

Last November, Match.com asked their successful couples across the country who were ready to pop the question to enter to receive a proposal of a lifetime that included an engagement ring and professional proposal planning as well as a videographer to capture the entire experience. Out of hundreds of inspiring entries, **Troy and Eliza from Tampa, Florida**, were selected because of Troy's overwhelming love, admiration, and respect for Eliza, a widowed single mother of three who rarely takes time for herself. Troy (with the help of an all-star proposal team) quickly began planning the ultimate surprise for his future bride-to-be...but not before documenting their entire love story on film, unbeknownst to her.

Background on the couple: Troy is an Arena 2 football coach and former police officer who was injured in the line of duty. He met the love of his life Eliza, a third grade special education teacher, on Match.com in February 2013. Both joined the site after previous marriages. Troy was blindsided by a divorce after 19 years, while Eliza was widowed six years ago

when her husband died unexpectedly in front of their son. They each have three children (six between them), making their family a unique and modern day *Brady Bunch*. Eliza's 13-year-old daughter has severe special needs, and despite all of their obstacles, Troy and Eliza have done a great job of blending their families.

About their proposal: On the day of the proposal, Eliza believed she and Troy were simply going to be part of a documentary about successful couples that met online – making her totally unprepared for what actually happened that day. The video crew filmed them at locations meaningful to their relationship, and Troy and Eliza used a Polaroid camera to capture the special day. That evening, she was surprised in her backyard where all six kids and Troy (with a ring) were waiting for her. The entire yard was lit up, and Eliza's friends and family were also flown in to celebrate the day.

Congratulations to the happy couple!

The Do's and Don'ts of Speed Dating





By Louisa Gonzales

Make your single life more fun by starting off the New Year by trying something different. Try your hand at speed dating!. Speed dating is a quick and easy way to put yourself out there and maybe find someone you want to have a relationship with. It can either be a hit or miss, but at least you'll meet new people, gain new experience and maybe find new love. Before you head out there and give speed dating a shot, Cupid has some advice on the do's and don'ts:

1. Do dress to impress: It is important to dress nice, but not too fancy. Your best bet is to dress casual, but at the same time you don't want to come off like you just rolled out of bed and went straight there . So, find something to wear that is flattering to your body and what makes you feel good. If you look and feel your best you will be more confident and comfortable.

Related: [Celebrities Who Met Men on Blind Dates](#)

2. Don't have too high of expectations: Speed dating is

supposed to be fun. Going in with too high of hopes will lead to a bigger chance of disappointment. It may also keep you from giving someone a real shot. Go in knowing what you want, but also keep in mind you're going for a chance to get out and have a good time.

3. Do be prepared to ask and receive questions: Speed dating is talking to as many people as possible in a short amount of time. The goal is to find someone you have a connection with in the little time you have. Know what you want to find in a person and potential partner. Ask about their hobbies, favorite foods and places, etc, and be ready to share your own interests with them as well.

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

4. Don't pretend to be someone you're not: Be yourself. Let your own unique personality shine through and don't worry about trying to impress the other person. If you are trying too hard to be someone you're not it may come off as fake. You are looking for a potential lover and you want to find someone who could fall in love with the real you.

5. Do be attentive: Who knows you could find your soulmate at the event. So it's best to keep all ears on the other person and listen to what they have to say. If your mind is wandering elsewhere you might miss something important about the person. Listening carefully, will help you in the end in deciding who was your best match and who you wouldn't mind going on another date with.

What are some of your rules for proper speed dating? Share your tips below.

5 Celebrity Couples Who Are Still Friends After Divorce



By Louisa Gonzales

Breakups are hard. Divorce is even harder. Some are nasty, while others end amicably, but even so, for some couples transitioning from ex lovers to buddies just isn't possible.

Many celebrity partners have gotten married over the years, and not all of them have worked out. However, some pairs have managed to go from being in a romantic relationship to remaining friends. Here are Cupid's top 5 celebrity ex couples who still remain friends to this day.

1. Miranda Kerr and Orlando Bloom: The pair married for three years before calling it quits in 2013. The ex couple shares

one son, Flynn, born in 2011. The ex lovers may have ended their marriage, which their reps stated the split was amicable, but the family is still spotted in friendly outings together. Having a son together it makes sense the two remains more than cordial with one another.

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2. Courteney Cox and David Arquette: The two got hitched back in 1999 and were together for 11 years before splitting up and then officially divorcing in 2012. The ex lovebirds have one child together their daughter, Coco. The two have reportedly stated they still remain best friends and are both fully committed to raising their daughter together even though they are no longer married.

3. Ryan Phillippe and Reese Witherspoon: The couple who tied the knot back in 1999 married young, but remained together for eight years, unusual for Hollywood standards, before ending their romance. The ex lovebirds have a son and daughter together and still maintain a healthy relationship with each other to this day.

4. Demi Moore and Ashton Kutcher: The once power couple both made headlines when they first got together back in 2003 because of their major age difference, about fifteen and half years total! Their divorce may have been one of the nastier ones, there's speculation Kutcher was unfaithful, but the ex's have both since moved on. Kutcher stated he would always cherish the time they spent together in a tweet and the pair appears to still be friendly toward one another.

Related: [Top 10 Celebrity Couples of 2013](#)

5. Demi Moore and Bruce Willis: These two former flames haven't been married for years divorcing way back in 2000 after being married for 13 years. They had three daughters together. The duo remained close after the split. Willis even use to pose with his daughters, Demi and her now other ex

husband Ashton Kutcher! Talk about having no hard feelings!

Do you think it is good to stay friends even after a divorce?
Share your comments below.

How to Handle a Clingy Partner in a Relationship



By April Littleton

Wanting to be around your love on a regular basis is perfectly normal, but sometimes individuals can get a little out of control with their feelings and end up smothering their boyfriends/girlfriends. Clingy behavior can result in a bad

breakup. If you're in a similar situation right now, Cupid has some advice:

1. Set some rules: When it comes to your space and privacy, set some boundaries for your partner to follow. Having your significant other follow ground rules and vice versa will keep your relationship running smoothly.

Related: [What to Do when He's Still Dating Others](#)

2. Spend time apart: Don't play along with your partner's little game. You don't have to spend every waking minute with your boyfriend/girlfriend out of fear of upsetting them. They need to learn how to trust in you, your relationship and let go of all other insecurities if they want to maintain a relationship with you. You had your own life before you met your significant other, and it's guaranteed they had the same before meeting you. Continue to spend time with your friends and family and carry on with your day-to-day schedule.

3. Express your concerns: If you see any red flags in your relationship, let your partner know your worries and concerns. Don't let your honey continue to carry on with behavior you don't condone it. If you feel smothered or you can't seem to get a moment alone for yourself, sit your significant other down and tell them how you're feeling. If they continue on with their excessive, controlling behavior, you might need to start thinking about ending the relationship.

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4. Listen to their fears: Most companions resort to clingy behavior out of fearing of losing their partner. Sometimes, they could be still holding on to old feelings from past relationships or they might just have a problem with jealousy. Whatever the case may be in your situation, help your significant other feel at ease by listening to their issues. Talking it out and reassuring your commitment to the

relationship might help with the problem the two of you are facing together.

5: Make an effort to bond: All your partner may be looking for is some attention from you. Make an effort to spend some time with him/her if the two of you haven't really been seeing each other on a regular basis. Spend the day doing some of your honey's favorite activities, and end the evening by doing some of yours. The time you spend together might cure your significant other's need to cling to you so tightly.

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

6. Call it quits: If you've tried everything and your partner is still showing signs of clinginess, the issue might be more serious than you think and you should think about ending the relationship. Your love could be dealing with bigger problems than the ones he/she is letting on, so it would be a good idea to take a step back from the relationship until they can figure out what they'll need in order to feel secure with the person they love.

How did you handle a clingy partner in a relationship? Share your experience below.

10 Ways to Make a Long Distance Love Work





By [Whitney Johnson](#)

Long distance relationships aren't always easy, but that doesn't mean they're not worth the extra trouble. In truth, they *do* take a bit more effort, but with these 10 tips, you'll overcome the miles separating you and your significant other.

1. Talk every day: No matter how far apart you are, a simple phone call will work wonders. Hearing your loved one's voice will not only make your day better; it'll also make you feel like a bigger part of your partner's day.

2. Take advantage of technology: Sure, you can't cuddle on the couch as you watch *Scandal* on Thursday nights...but that doesn't mean you can't enjoy it *together*. FaceTime or iChat will allow you to share in your TV-watching night; that way, when you're in the same place again, you'll both know what Olivia Pope and Fitz have been up to.

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3. Talk about each other: Just because your BFF may not know

your boyfriend well doesn't mean you can't talk about him. Reminiscing about your last kiss or sharing your excitement over seeing him again with your girlfriends will bring the two of you even closer.

4. Plan ahead: In any relationship, it's important to have something to look forward to – whether it be a simple date night at your favorite Italian restaurant or a romantic trip to Turks and Caicos. When you live in different cities, it's even more important to pencil in your next get-together.

5. Save up: With that thought in mind, you have to save your money for those frequent plane tickets or road trips. You never want that big sale at Bloomingdale's to get in the way of seeing your someone special.

6. Send presents: On those weekends when you can't visit your man, send a sweet care package or simple card to let him know you're thinking about him. Even something silly like a box of his favorite cereal will show that you pay attention to what he says – a little thing that make a big difference.

7. Text, text, text: Yes, you need to try to fit in a phone call every day, but texts will help you stay even more connected. If you get a supportive e-mail from your boss or totally screw up during your important presentation, shoot him a quick text to tell him how you're feeling. You can discuss your days in more detail later in the evening.

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

8. Stay positive: Like any relationship, you'll experience ups and downs – only those low moments may be even harder to handle without his arms around you. Surround yourself with pictures and special mementos from your time together. They'll help remind you why you're putting up with the long distance in the first place.

9. Feel confident: Be sure of yourself when it comes to your

relationship. It's easy to let the lack of physical closeness translate to lack of trust or jealousy.

10. Think about the future: At a certain point, you have to decide if you want to make a real commitment to your significant other. Are you willing to give up your job, your house, and your social circle to relocate for your love? If so, tell him you're ready to take that next step.

Cupid wants to know: What's your best tip for making a long distance relationship last?

Top 10 Hollywood Couples of 2013





By April Littleton

The year 2013 is slowly drawing to an end, and it's only fitting to look back at some of the most memorable [celebrity couples](#) to grace the television screens and magazine covers. Here are Cupid's top 10 favorite famous lovebirds of this year:

1. Jessica Biel and Justin Timberlake: The former 7th *Heaven* star began dating Justin Timberlake Jan. 2007. The Hollywood couple briefly split in 2011, only to reconnect in the fall of the same year. Timberlake proposed to Jessica Biel in Jackson, Wyoming in Dec. 2011. They married at the Borgo Egnazia resort in Fasano, Italy in Oct. 2012.

A Celebrity Relationship That Started in College

2. Prince William and Kate Middleton: The Duke of Cambridge started seeing Kate Middleton in 2003 when the two were university flat mates. The famous couple became engaged in

Kenya in Oct. 2010. In April of the following year, the long-time lovebirds had a celebrity wedding in Westminster Abbey, London. The newlyweds welcomed their first child, a baby boy named George, on July 22, 2013.

Related Link: [Celebrities Who Met on Blind Dates](#)

3. Jay-Z and [Beyoncé](#): The *Love on Top* singer secretly married Jay-Z in New York City on April 4, 2008. Since then, the Hollywood couple have been more relaxed about the status of their relationship. Beyoncé announced her celebrity baby news on live TV during the 2011 MTV Video Music Awards while performing one of her singles. She said, “Tonight, I want you to stand up on your feet. I want you to feel the love that’s growing inside of me.” After her performance, the singer dropped her microphone and revealed her growing baby bump. The couple’s daughter, Blue Ivy Carter, was born on Jan 7, 2012.

4. Brad Pitt and [Angelina Jolie](#): Everyone should know the story of how these two met. Remember the movie *Mr. and Mrs. Smith*? The famous couple have been together for eight years now, welcoming three biological children together as well as three adopted kids.

5. Nina Dobrev and Ian Somerhalder: *The Vampire Diaries* co-stars confirmed their celebrity relationship in 2011. Two years later, the duo called it quits, and Nina Dobrev began dating *Dancing with the Stars* professional Derek Hough. Just six weeks after the famous couple went public, the two went their separate ways, saying the relationship “played itself out.” Since then, celebrity dating rumors about Ian Somerhalder and Dobrev rekindling their romance have been spreading.

A Hollywood Couple Who Waited for

Same-Sex Marriage Before Having a Celebrity Wedding of Their Own

6. Kristen Bell and Dax Shepard: More than three years after announcing their engagement, the happy celebrity couple finally got married. Kristen Bell and Dax Shepard began dating in late 2007 and got engaged two years later. Wedding plans were postponed when the pair decided to wait until same-sex marriage was legal in California, which happened in June. To celebrate, the former *Veronica Mars* star tweeted, “@daxshepard1 will you marry me? Xo #marriageequality #loveislove.” The married duo also welcomed their first child, daughter Lincoln, in March.

7. Drew Barrymore and Will Kopelman: Drew Barrymore began dating Will Kopelman in 2011, and the two became engaged a year later. Married since June of last year, the famous couple had a daughter, Olive Barrymore Kopelman, and are expecting baby number two!

8. Kristin Cavallari and Jay Cutler: *The Hills* star married Chicago Bears quarterback Jay Cutler a year after the birth of their son Camden Jack, who was born in 2012. In Oct. 2013, Kristin Cavallari announced she was pregnant with their second child.

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9. Jessica Simpson and Eric Johnson: The singer became engaged to Eric Johnson in Nov. 2010, whom she dated since May of the same year. She gave birth to their first child, Maxwell Drew Johnson, in May 2012, and their second, son Ace Knute Johnson, on June 30, 2013.

10. Halle Berry and Olivier Martinez: After her celebrity divorce from model Gabriel Aubry, Halle Berry began dating actor Olivier Martinez in 2010 after meeting on the set of their film *Dark Tide*. The Hollywood couple got engaged two

years later and married on July 13, 2013. The pair welcomed a son together, Maceo, in October.

Are there any other famous couples you were hoping to make the list? Comment below!

What to Do when He is Still Dating Others



By April Littleton

You're in love, but the person you're dating might not feel the same way. In fact, you just found out he's still fooling around with other women. A situation like this can be tricky

to handle – especially if you haven't been seeing your man for that long. How do you get the point across that you want a commitment without scaring him off? When do you decide to walk away from the relationship altogether? Cupid has some advice:

1. Do the same: At this point in time, your partner might not be ready to commit to you. He may be focused on other things such as school, a career, etc. Instead of stressing over him not making you a priority, start getting back out on the dating scene. If he's still seeing other people, you shouldn't put all of your focus and time solely on him when he's obviously not doing the same for you. Keep yourself open to new possibilities and new love interests. You never know, someone who's ready for a serious commitment might be waiting for you just around the corner.

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2. Keep busy: Don't sit and wait around for your boyfriend to call or text you. Continue on with your daily routine. Your life shouldn't revolve around another person – especially if that certain individual isn't seeking an exclusive relationship with you. If your man wants you, he should show it and fight for you. When he realizes you're no longer waiting around for him and you're not going to be a second choice, he'll either get his act together or you'll be free to find someone who's worth your time.

3. Read the signs: A man who wants to be with you will do whatever it takes to do so. Does your guy call and/or text you often when the two of you aren't together? If not, he's probably using that time apart to connect with other people. Have you met his family? Do your loved ones like him? The first step to a serious commitment is the approval of both parties family and friends. You don't want to be with a guy who hasn't introduced you to the important people in his life. If the two of you are constantly doing things by yourself and

you haven't met anyone else in his life, he isn't serious about you and you need to rethink the status of the "relationship."

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4. Talk it out: Your significant other may not be aware that an exclusive relationship is what you're after. If the two of you have been an item for awhile and he's still seeing other women on the side, have a talk with him first before you call it quits. Let him know how you're feeling about the situation. Tell him if he wants to continue being with you, he must stop dating around. A serious commitment might not be on his mind right now and if that's the case you need to find a way to move on. Don't keep yourself in a situation you know isn't going to work out in your favor.

What are some other things you can do when your man is still dating others? Comment below.

Top 5 Celebrities with the Most Marriages





By April Littleton

Many celebrities are known for their numerous, infamous marriages to other stars who are in the spotlight. Cupid has come up with a list of the top five celebrities who've had the most marriages. Check it out here:

Billy Bob Thornton

This 58-year-old has been married a total of five times. Thornton married Melissa Lee Gatlin, with whom he has a daughter with, in 1978. The couple divorced in 1980. Six years later, he married actress Toni Lawrence. They separated the following year and divorced in 1988. The *Sling Blade* actor was married to Cynda Williams from 1990 to 1992. A year later, Thornton became involved with *Playboy* model Pietra Dawn Cherniak. They have two sons together, Harry James and William. However, the wedded bliss didn't last long. The lovebirds divorced in 1997. The next lady to come into Thornton's life was none other than Angelina Jolie. At the time, the *Tomb Raider* actress was 20 years his junior. The duo married in 2000 and were known for their eccentric public

displays of affection. They reportedly walked around with vials of each other's blood around their necks. The newlyweds separated two years later and divorced in 2003. Currently, Thornton is in a relationship with makeup effects crew member Connie Angland. The pair have one daughter together, Bella. The couple have no plans to marry in the future.

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Elizabeth Taylor

The beautiful Elizabeth Taylor married eight times to seven husbands. Her first marriage was to Conrad "Nicky" Hilton from May 6, 1950 to Jan. 29, 1951. Taylor's next husband was Michael Wilding, who was 20 years her senior. The couple stayed together from 1952 to 1957. Her next marriage to Mike Todd was the only one not to end in divorce. The lovebirds were married from Feb. 1957 up until Todd's death in 1958. Eddie Fisher, Todd's best friend, became Taylor's fourth husband. The pair began an affair while Fisher was still married to Debbie Reynolds. The duo divorced Mar. 1964. The *Cleopatra* actress married Richard Burton Mar. 15, 1964 and divorced June 26, 1964. They remarried in a private ceremony in Kasane, Botswana, but soon re-divorced in 1976. Taylor married Republican United States Senator John Warner Dec. 1976, but the couple separated in 1982 because of Taylor's unhappiness with the political lifestyle. Larry Fortensky was Taylor's last husband. They met at the Betty Ford Center and married at the Neverland Ranch. The duo were together from 1991 to 1996.

Larry King

The television and radio host has been married a total of eight times to seven different women. In 1951, he married his high school sweetheart Freda Miller at the age of 18. The marriage was annulled a year later. Next, King was briefly married to Annette Kaye, whom he has son, Larry Jr. with. His

third wife, Alene Akins, was a Playboy bunny. The couple married in 1961 and divorced two years later. Mary Francis “Mickey” Stuphin, who divorced King, married him in 1963. He remarried Akins in 1969, but they divorced again in 1972. King was involved with math teacher and production assistant Sharon Lepore for seven years. Julie Alexander became his sixth wife in 1989. However, the couple lived in different cities, resulting in a divorce in 1992. King married Shawn Southwick in 1997 three days before he underwent heart surgery. The couple have two children together, Chance and Cannon and are currently still together.

Geena Davis

The *Beetlejuice* actress has been married four times. She married Richard Emmolo from Mar. 25, 1982 to Feb. 26, 1983. Her next marriage was to actor Jeff Goldblum from 1987 to 1990. Film director Renny Harlin became her third husband in 1993. The couple divorced in 1998. Davis married Reza Jarrahy Sept. 1, 2001. They welcomed their first child, daughter Alizeh Keshvar Apr. 10, 2002. At 48-years old, Davis welcome twin boys, Kian William Jarrahy and Kaiis Steven in 2004. The lovebirds are still married.

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Barbara Walters

Walters has been married four times to three different men. Her first marriage was to Robert Henry Katz in 1955. The marriage was annulled 11 months later. Lee Guber became her second husband in 1963. The couple adopted a daughter, Jacqueline Dena Guber, in 1968. The pair divorced in 1976. Walters married the CEO of Lorimar Television, Merv Adelson in 1981. The couple divorced three years later only to remarry in May 10, 1986. They divorced again in 1992.

**Are there any celebrities who should have made the list?
Comment below.**

Celebrity Christmas Weddings



By [Whitney Johnson](#)

The holidays are said to be the most wonderful time of the year, so it's no surprise that so many couples – famous faces and everyday folks alike – choose to walk down the aisle around Christmas. Thanks to lightly falling snow, flickering fireplaces, and cozy color palettes, the wedding practically plans itself. Whether they embraced the cold crispness in the air or escaped the winter wonderland and headed somewhere warm, the celebrity couples below ensured that their holiday seasons were all the more magical because of their plans to say “I do.”

1. Cassandra Jean and Stephen Amell: The handsome star of The CW's hit show *Arrow* married the former *America's Next Top Model* contestant during a small sunset ceremony officiated by a close friend in the Caribbean on Christmas Day in 2012. The couple had a second wedding in New Orleans on May 26, 2013, and welcomed their daughter Mavi Alexandra Jean Amell, in October.

Related: [Stephen Amell Marries Cassandra Jean for the Second Time](#)

2. Katherine Heigl and Josh Kelley: These two lovebirds exchanged personally-written vows in Park City, Utah, on December 23, 2007. The wedding took place at the Stein Eriksen Lodge, and the tent was decorated with white flowers and white candles, both of which complimented the fresh snow. The actress was decked out in a custom-made Oscar de la Renta gown and walked down the aisle to an acoustic song written by her husband-to-be. Bringing in a bit of Christmas spirit, Heigl's bridesmaids wore red.

3. Danielle Deleasa and Kevin Jonas: The pop star made sure that his "Jersey Girl" had a wedding fit for a princess: The couple tied the knot at Oheksa Castle in Huntington, New York, on December 19, 2009. Jonas even gifted his bride, who wore a strapless tulle and Chantilly lace Vera Wang gown, with a pair of glass slippers on the big day. With the groom's brothers, Nick and Joe, serving as the best men and his father officiating the traditional ceremony, it was a family affair – one that most certainly extended into the holidays.

4. Crystal Harris and Hugh Hefner: A tumultuous courtship preempted this couple's big day: Harris began dating Hefner in January 2009 and initially broke off their engagement in June 2011 – only five days before she was set to walk down the aisle. Nearly a year later, the twosome reunited. They became re-engaged on December 1, 2012 and married in a small ceremony at the Playboy Mansion on New Year's Eve of that year. A

perfect way to end the holiday season and ring in the new year!

Related: [Hugh Hefner and Crystal Harris Tie the Knot on NYE](#)

5. Perrie Edwards and Zayn Malik: This musically-talented pair, who only got engaged in August, is hoping to say “I do” before Christmas of this year. The reason for the rushed wedding is quite practical: Edwards, a member of the British girl group Little Mix, is dreading being away from her fiancé when he departs for One Direction’s 2014 tour, and she’s hoping it’ll be easier if they’re hitched. Only time will tell if these plans come to fruition!

Cupid wants to know: Would you ever want a holiday wedding? Why or why not?

Ways to Help Single Friends Find a Partner





By Leslie Chavez

We all think very highly of our closest girlfriends, so when one of them is single we naturally want to find a partner for them who is just as intelligent, kind, funny, sophisticated and attractive as they are. Although we mean well, sometimes our good-intentions can be misconstrued as offensive and slightly irksome. As someone who is well acquainted with being set up by happily coupled friends, trust me when I say there are certain ways to go about finding that special mate for your BFF. So before you get all Millionaire Matchmaker Patti Stanger on me, consider these alternative approaches to helping your friends find romance.

Try a new activity together

Sometimes your friends need your help in yanking them out of their comfort zone. Trying new activities or learning a new skill is a great way to meet guys. Ask her what kind of class she's always wanted to take but didn't have the courage to do alone. Maybe a comedy class or surfing lessons, somewhere where there will be plenty of guys around to "help" you and

your friend out with that new technique you've been learning. This way the pressure is off and your friend can naturally meet a guy who shares some of the same interests as her, all while having a great time practicing a new hobby with you. If she does find someone she is interested in, suggest that you all go out for drinks after class.

Related: [Dating with an Age Gap](#)

Take control of her online dating profile

If your friend really trusts you and she is comfortable with this, offer to be her online dating advisor. You will be able to give her a different perspective on those online suitors she's been ignoring. Encourage her to be more open to guys she wouldn't normally go for; she might not know what she's been missing. While you're at it, spruce up her profile. Lauren Ware, Match.com's professional online dating profile writer suggests, getting specific, "when you want to use an adjective to describe yourself, think of an anecdote or example that shows how you embody that trait." Grab a bottle of pinot noir and the two of you can turn it into a fun evening of reconnection and reminiscence. Your friend will have a fresh approach to online dating to boot.

Related: [Celebrities Who Met on Blind Dates](#)

Have a party

Have you had your eye on your athletic co-worker with the curly, brown hair or that blue-eyed barista who greets you every morning, thinking they would be perfect for your friend? Have a party and invite them! This isn't an episode of *The Bachelorette*, so don't start lining up roses for your friend to give away at the end of the night just yet. Take a step back and construct a little plan. You can't just invite cute guys. Invite everyone; friends from work, neighbors and your single friend of course. When the party is in full swing, casually introduce your friend to her potential date(s) and

let the chemistry take care of the rest. But remember, try not to put too much pressure on the connection. If there are no sparks, then you have to let it go. Look at it as a reason to have another party.

Have you helped a single friend find a partner before? Share your experience below.

Celebrity Women Who Date Younger Men



By Gabby Robles

Celebrity men aren't the only ones who go after what's young

and hot in Hollywood. Sexy celeb women have helped get the term “cougar” published in the dictionary in it’s slang term – and with all of these women dating much younger, we’re surprised it hasn’t happened sooner!

Sharon Stone and Martin Mica: This couple shares a 30-year age difference, but they haven’t let that stop them from showing their love to the world! The duo have been dating for over a year and are still going strong despite rumors of a breakup that surfaced this past January. Mica was only six when Sharon Stone starred in *Basic Instinct*, but that was years ago, right?

Mariah Carey and Nick Cannon: Mariah’s first husband, Tommy Mottola, was over 20 years older than she was. Naturally, Mariah decided to go 11 years younger when she married Nick Cannon. These two haven’t let age compromise their marriage; they have been married over 5 years and have two adorable children together.

Related: [Mariah Carey and Nick Cannon Spend a Family Day with Their Twins](#)

Julianne Moore and Bart Freundlich: These two have a 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ -year age difference, but the actress and director have two children together. Moore stated that when she first began dating Freundlich, she was unsure their relationship would work. But as their relationship progressed, it didn’t remain as a standing issue.

Kathy Griffin and Randy Bick: This pair has a near-20 year age difference. The comedienne and her marketing executive-boyfriend met at a food festival over a year ago. Kathy says she “hunted him down.” Meow, cougar!

Danielle Fishel and Tim Belusko: These lovers just tied the knot on October 19 in Los Angeles. Their 7-year age gap doesn’t stop them from being happy and finding their

soulmates; The *Boy Meets World* star had previously said, “Tim is the one. He accepts me for exactly who I am!”

Related: [‘Boy Meets World’ Star Danielle Fishel Marries Tom Belusko](#)

Jennifer Lopez and Casper Smart: Lopez is 18-years Smart’s senior, but these two have been going strong publically since July 2012. The singer revealed to Katie Couric, “It’s hard for me to think of my age... I feel very youthful... And it’s funny, until somebody brings up [the age difference], I don’t think we really think about it.” Well, we’re happy for them!

Dating younger is how some people reach Cloud 9 – and it’s not a bad thing. As long as these couples keep in mind that age is just a number, they will continue to be happily in love!

What do you think of women dating younger? Share with us below!

What Is the Money Talk? Understanding Why You Should Have It With Your Partner





By Rick Osborn

Being in a relationship is often extremely rewarding, as finding that special someone to share life experiences can make for a more enriched life. However, making a relationship last is hard work and one of the best ways to get off on the right foot is to have the “money talk” with the person you love. It can be difficult to discuss, but it is wholly necessary.

In short, the money talk generally means jointly discussing and agreeing on financial goals to make your life together easier and more fruitful. Start by identifying some areas where you and your partner may not be in agreement or have differing habits – for instance, regarding your respective spending and saving mindsets – and then look at areas where your joint finances need work. Perhaps you can set up a budget, or work together on paying down credit card debt.

If you start your life together without discussing finances, you will do neither yourself nor your partner any favors. But having the discussion early on in your relationship – in an open and frank manner, without judging and without raising

voices – can benefit you two-fold: It helps you to become accustomed to talking about money together, and it allows you to set – and reach – your goals sooner.

Here are three additional benefits of having the money talk:

1. It Helps You Set a Long-Term Plan

The money talk involves a lot more than deciding who will pay the bills, or who will clip coupons to save money on groceries. Among other things, you need to tackle long-term topics, such as retirement savings, creating and stocking an emergency fund, and saving for your children's college expenses.

Related: [Your First Date: What It Will Cost](#)

2. It Reduces Conflict

Although you may be starry-eyed in love, it's an unfortunate fact that arguments will ultimately arise. However, reducing what those arguments are about and how often they occur can also make for a stronger and more trustworthy relationship. Arguing about leaving the toilet seat up is not nearly as unpleasant as the confrontation that might occur after one of you drops hundreds of dollars on a purchase or a night on the town without the other knowing.

Related: [Top 7 Tips to Win the Love of Someone Rich or Famous – When You Are Not!](#)

3. It Helps Your Relationship Blossom

How many couples are able to freely speak about money, you ask? According to the National Foundation for Credit Counseling, not many. In a poll released earlier this year, 68 percent of the surveyed couples had negative attitudes about discussing money with each other. However, getting over this discomfort can allow your relationship to blossom and grow.

Once you get it out of the way, you can enjoy each another's company more fully, and experience more mutual trust.

If you hit a snag during your money talk, it never hurts to bring in a professional. Do your research before choosing a certified financial advisor – having assistance can take a lot of the guesswork out of your planning. And if you still experience troubles, never hesitate to partake in professional counseling.

Have you discussed finances with your partner yet?

Rick Osborn lives in Chicago and writes about relationships, lifestyle, and personal finance – including tips for making a budget, finding the best entertainment options, and coming up with great first date ideas. Check out www.moneycrashers.com/inexpensive-things-to-do-on-first-date/.

Dating with an Age Gap





By April Littleton

Many people find themselves attracted to others who are older and/or younger than them. Dating someone who isn't the exact same age as you isn't uncommon. In fact, it's almost rare to find a couple who don't have an age gap between them. This doesn't mean that dating someone who's a different age doesn't have its challenges. Sure, you'll have plenty in common with your new boo, but you might also have quite a few differences. Cupid has some advice:

1. Be sure: Whether you're dating someone older or younger than you, you need to be 100 percent sure that you want to be with that person. Why are you dating this specific individual? Do you see it going anywhere? Will the age difference ultimately affect your relationship? If there's a huge difference in age, the two of you as a couple might not see eye-to-eye. One of you might be ready to settle down, while the other is still wanting to play the field a little. Just be sure the person you're devoting your time to is worth the hassle.

Related: [What to Do When Politics Interfere with Your Relationship](#)

2. Find common ground: If you're going to try to make the relationship last, you and your partner need to communicate early on what your goals and interests are. Find some hobbies you and your honey can enjoy together. Discuss whether or not you're looking for something more long-term, or if you're just taking it day-by-day. Make sure you really dig deep into each other's lives. Watch your significant other's favorite movie, eat the food he/she enjoys, etc. You might come to find that you have a lot more in common with your love than you think.

Related: [5 Tips to Dating Someone with a Potty Mouth](#)

3. Don't make it a big deal: Many of your friends and family members might do a double take when you tell them how old your partner is, but the trick is to act like it's no big deal. Don't act any differently around your honey than you would anyone else. If he/she is younger than you, don't try to act as if you know all of the new slang words people tend to use. If he/she is older, don't pretend to be anymore mature than you are. The two of you are together for a reason. He/she obviously likes you for who you are. Be yourself around your significant other and everyone else will follow suit – regardless of how young or old they are.

Have you ever dated with an age gap? Share your experience below.

Celebrities Who Met on Blind

Dates



By April Littleton

Blind dating isn't uncommon among people who have a difficult time meeting potential love matches, but it does raise an eyebrow or two when we learn that some of our favorite celebrities endured their fair share of spontaneous dating. You would be surprised to find out that some of our most beloved couples actually met through mutual friends. Cupid has a list of such past and present lovebirds:

1. Tom Brady and Gisele Bündchen: Brady began dating Gisele Bündchen in December 2006. In 2009, he revealed to *Details* magazine that he and the supermodel met during a blind date. A mutual friend set up the two lovebirds. "This friend told me he knew a girl version of me," Brady said, with Gisele chiming

in: "And he said to me he'd found a boy version of me." The couple hit it off immediately and married Feb. 26, 2009 in an intimate Catholic ceremony in Santa Monica. The duo have two children together, son Benjamin Rein Brady and daughter Vivian Lake Brady.

Related: [5 Celebrities with Open Marriages](#)

2. Pete Sampras and Bridgette Wilson: The retired American tennis player met former Miss Teen USA and actress Bridgette Wilson on a blind date arranged by friends in 2000. Just nine months after their first date, the two got married. They have two sons together, Christian Charles and Ryan Nikolaos.

3. Cindy Crawford and Rande Gerber: These two met thanks to Crawford's agent, Michael Gruber. After Gerber escorted the supermodel to her manager's wedding, the two began a friendship. The pair reconnected romantically after Crawford's three-year marriage to Richard Gere ended in 1994. Shortly after, the new couple married in 1998. "When she's lying next to me, she looks incredible. That's the best part: waking up with her," Gerber said of Crawford, 47. The lovebirds have two children together, son Presley Walker and daughter Kaia Jordan.

4. Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston: The former *Friends* actress met her ex-husband through a date that was set up by both of their managers in 1998. The couple married July 29, 2000 in a private ceremony in Malibu. However, wedded bliss didn't last long. Five years later, the pair announced their separation and divorced Oct. 2, 2005. Brad Pitt has since moved on with Angelina Jolie and Aniston is now living with and engaged to Justin Theroux.

Related: [Top 5 Celebrity Couples That Live Across the Pond](#)

5. Jenny McCarthy and Paul Krepelka: Before dating her current beau Donnie Wahlberg, McCarthy connected with Boston sports agent, Paul Krepelka. "He was my fifth blind date," she told

talk show host Ellen DeGeneres in Jan. 2011. However, due to the stress of a long distance relationship, the couple called it quits a month after McCarthy went public with their romance.

Who are some other celebrities who met on blind dates? Comment below.

10 Blind Date Etiquette Rules



By [Whitney Johnson](#)

As tricky as it is to navigate the dating world, a new type of pressure is added to the meet-up when it's a blind date. It

may be the first step to finding lasting love, or it may be the worst date of your life. Even so, everyone should experience a blind date at least once. You're sure to learn something about yourself and what you want in a mate. Read on for 10 blind date etiquette rules to keep in mind before getting together with your mystery man:

1. Don't drag your feet. Rather than postponing the date or holding off on meeting for a few weeks, schedule a get-together as close to the initial fix-up as possible. "The longer you have to exchange digital communication, the longer you'll have to create a fantasy that this date will be the perfect mate," says author and relationship expert Dr. Wendy Walsh.

2. Keep your expectations in check. It's natural to have some hopes or doubts about the date, but keep an open mind. Even if you have an instant connection, there's bound to be an awkward moment or two. Dr. Walsh adds, "Creating a build-up, site unseen, can set you up for a big crash."

Related Link: [How to Ease Your Nerves Before a Blind Date](#)

3. Ask your matchmaker for details. Don't hesitate to ask the friend who set you up for intel about your date. If you're lucky, you can get an idea of what type of guy he is and what type of girls he's dated in the past. Plus, you can identify a few common interests to keep in mind when conversation grows quiet.

4. Dress like a lady. Since a blind date eliminates the usual pre-dating process, it's particularly imperative that you make a great first impression. When he first lays eyes on you, he won't be seeing your charming personality or quick wit. He'll only be noticing what you're wearing, so keep it classy. Save your distress (but very trendy) jean jacket or fanciful headband for next time.

5. Come prepared. As Dr. Walsh explains, “In these days of gender equality, it’s perfectly acceptable to bring your own car and your own money to a blind date.” It’s also the best way to keep yourself safe, as you want to have an easy exit strategy in case you feel threatened or in danger.

6. Be your best self. “You could be auditioning for the most important role of your life: being the companion to an incredible person,” reminds online dating expert Julie Spira. If you’re the right match for your date, you won’t need to lie about who you are or even try to impress him. He’ll like you for you.

7. Don’t expect immediate chemistry. “It takes time to get to know someone, and relationships need to go through all seasons before you sign up for the long-term,” says Spira. Also remember that your date may be nervous, so “if you aren’t feeling it right away, give him a second chance.”

Related Link: [Why a Blind Date Might Be Good for You](#)

8. Keep the conversation light. “Just because you know someone in common doesn’t mean you need to kiss-and-tell or spend the entire date talking about your past history,” cautions Spira. “Ration your information flow.” Sticking to surface-level topics will also keep him wanting more – you can tackle the heavier stuff on a fourth or fifth date.

9. Never walk away. No matter how poorly the date is going, it’s never an excuse to be rude. Even if you see no future with this man, you can survive a few hours of harmless chit-chat. Plus, as Spira points out, “Even if there’s no chemistry, your date might have a friend to introduce you to, know of a business opportunity for you, or just be a great guy to have in your life.”

10. Be honest. At the end of the date, tell the truth when it comes to your feelings. There’s no reason to string someone along if you have no interest in seeing him again. If you’d

love to get together again, don't be shy! No matter what, be gracious as you say goodbye and know that there's someone out there for you, even if this guy's not The One.

For more information on Dr. Wendy Walsh and Julie Spira, please visit DatingAdvice.com.

Tell us: What's your number one rule for a blind date?

What to Do When Your Mother Doesn't Like Your Partner



By Jennifer Harrington

Relationships are tricky, and romances can become even more difficult if your mother does not approve of your significant other. Previously, Cupid explored if you should listen when your parents advise you to break-up. Let's assume you have made the decision to stick with your partner and disregard your parents counsel to end the relationship. What happens next? You have to move forward and try to enjoy your life. Here are some tips that may help you keep the peace, if your mother doesn't like your partner.

Focus on the positive

Your mother may not like your significant other, but that does not mean you should act like your relationship does not exist. Avoiding discussion about your partner is only going to make things more awkward as time passes. You can still share with your mom positive updates about your romance and your partner, because at the end of the day, your mom values your happiness – whether or not you are dating someone she likes. Also, your mom's opinion about your love may change over time; some positive reinforcement from you about your guy and all of the great things he is accomplishing might help transform her view of the situation.

Related: [Are You Too Young For Marriage?](#)

Play peacekeeper

Do your best to keep the peace. Acknowledge and respect your mom's opinion about your relationship, but don't bring it up and try to change her mind every time you are with her. This will likely only create further conflict and frustration for everybody. Another important part of playing peacekeeper is ensuring your mom and significant other can get along when they spend time together. Think about what you can do to make both parties comfortable, and when everybody is together, do your best to minimize drama or confrontations.

Spend quality time with your mom

You had a long, meaningful relationship with your mom long before you started dating your current partner; don't make the mistake of abandoning this very important relationship because you disagree with her opinion about this issue. Focus on other pastimes and things the two of you have always enjoyed (check out [this article, http://oureverydaylife.com/good-ideas-mother-daughter-bonding-outing-16090.html](http://oureverydaylife.com/good-ideas-mother-daughter-bonding-outing-16090.html) if you need ideas of bonding activities). Carve out time for your mom on your calendar, and commit to spending quality time with her. It is so important to continue to enjoy her company because romances come and go, but your mother will always be just that.

Reflect on her concerns

Don't forget that your mom only wants what is best for you. It is easy to get wrapped up in a romance, but if your mother spots red flags, you should carefully reflect upon her concerns. Your mother has more life experience than you, and has known you your whole life. If she's vocalized her dislike of your partner, it's crucial you take the time to process and reflect upon her analysis.

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

Don't badmouth your mother

Your mom's issues with your relationship are likely to weigh heavily on your mind, and will probably frustrate you. After all, you adore your partner – or otherwise, you wouldn't be dating them! No matter how wrong you feel your mother is, do not turn her into the bad guy in this situation. Resist temptation to vent about your mom to your other family members, friends and partner. Your mother has a right to her opinion, and she's only concerned about your relationship because she loves you.

Need another perspective? Check out this article, www.yourtango.com/experts/evan-marc-katz/what-do-you-do-if-your-parents-dont-approve-your-partner from Your Tango, which provides another viewpoint of what to do when your parents don't approve of your romance.

Have you ever dated someone your mother didn't like? What are your best tips for dealing with the situation?

How Celebrity Chefs Love Their Mates With Food



By Kerri Sheehan

Everyone knows that the way to your lover's heart is through his or her stomach! Imagine dating a celebrity chef, they would win your love in no time. Check out how these four celebrity chefs love their mates with food:

1. Giada De Laurentiis and Todd Thompson: Giada De Laurentiis and her husband Todd have been together for over 20 years and they still find ways to keep the romance alive. The couple tries to hire a babysitter when they can and plan memorable date nights at home. She does the cooking and Todd takes care of every other detail. Italian born De Laurentiis believes that making someone food is the perfect way to show them who you are. She enjoys serving up authentic Italian meals like she grew up on.

Related: [Date Idea: Wine and Dine](#)

2. Ina Garten and Jeffery Garten: Ina Garten of *Barefoot Contessa* has a nurturing nature and creates elegant dishes with a small amount of ingredients that are packed with quality products. Her show is often more about making the people you're cooking for happy than making complicated dishes. Jeffery is often on the program to enjoy the food that Garten dishes up. Sounds like a delicious marriage to us!

3. Bobby Flay and Stephanie March: You may recognize food master Bobby Flay as one of the four Iron Chefs on the show *Iron Chef America*, but he's been grilling up flavorful American favorites since way before that. Him and wife Stephanie March recently built their dream home in the Hamptons and he let her take control of everything except when it came to the design of the indoor and outdoors kitchens. It includes a commercial 10-burner stove, two ovens, a fryer, a griddle, and a salamander. With all of those appliances Flay is sure to wow March with his cooking every night.

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4. Mario Batali and Susi Cahn: Chef Mario Batali is known for his flavorful food and amazing restaurants. Him and wife Susi Cahn currently live in New York City with their two sons, Leo and Benno. Other than the once a week that they order take out from one of Batali's New York restaurants, he makes time to cook dinner at home. The one time his wife takes control of the cooking is on Batali's birthday every year when she makes him a birthday cake.

How do you wow your mate with food? Share below.

How Fighting Can Strengthen Your Relationship





By Gabby Robles

Whenever you fight, you might feel as if this is it – relationship over. But you shouldn't always feel that way. Sure, fighting can come off as negative thing, but you don't always have to see it that way. In fact, you should see fighting as a way to bring strength to your relationship. If approached in the correct manor, it's a way to work things out. See how fighting can actually strengthen your relationship:

1. It's normal: The couple that “never fights” isn't as healthy and happy as you think. It's absolutely normal to argue with your man sometimes – you're both human! Conflict paves the way for you both to grow as a team. Take advantage of it. When you keep quiet about things that are bothering you, not only are you avoiding conflict, but you are keeping yourself closeted. You're not letting your boo see the real you, and that will eventually lead to resentment or worse: a huge explosion of emotions somewhere down the line and believe me, it will not be pretty.

2. It gives you a chance to talk: Talking it out will give you an opportunity to let your partner know how you're feeling. When you express your feelings, you can give your man insight to how you want to continue going about a particular situation. When you listen to each other, you understand the other's priorities and needs better. That puts you in the perfect position to make your partner happy, thus making yourself happy.

3. It gives you closure: If you're able to talk out a problem or conflict together appropriately, you will be able to leave it behind. It won't bother you, it won't consume your thoughts for months on end. The argument will end, and that will be it. There's no need to rehash old issues between you two, and you'll feel that way even more if you both resolve a problem effectively.

Don't think every fight is going to be "the end." Remind yourself that you're both happy and that conflict is healthy. It will relieve you of over-stressing yourself and will release the pressure that you might have to make your relationship "perfect." The only perfect relationship is a happy one, so as long as you both continue to wake up and be happy that you're with your partner, then you are in the perfect relationship.

What are some other ways fighting can actually help your relationship? Share your ideas below.

5 Celebrity Couples That

Fight Dirty



By [Whitney Johnson](#)

It's no secret that mean words and angry actions can be detrimental to a relationship. Still, it's easy to get caught up in the moment and say or do something you don't mean. Even celebrities are guilty of this inappropriate behavior – and unfortunately, their arguments are often caught by paparazzi and splashed on tabloid covers for all the world to see. In order to learn from their mistakes, here are five celebrity couples that fight dirty:

1. Emma Roberts and Evan Peters: This past summer, the 22-year-old *American Horror Story* actress and her boyfriend were caught in a violent fight that led to Roberts being booked in a Montreal jail. When the cops arrived at the scene, Peters

was found with a bloody nose and a bite mark. Fortunately, no charges were pressed, and the couple remains happily in love.

Related Link: [Emma Roberts Arrested After Fight with Boyfriend Evan Peters](#)

2. Mary Delgado and Byron Velvick: Season 6 *Bachelor* Velvick was engaged to the show's winner for five years before they finally split in 2009. The couple first showed signs of trouble when Delgado was arrested for assaulting her fiancé in 2007. According to the police report, she was under the influence of alcohol when she punched Velvick in the mouth.

3. Rihanna and Chris Brown: It was hard to miss that infamous picture of Rihanna after an argument with Brown escalated and he repeatedly attacked her following a pre-Grammy party in 2009. Still, the couple reunited and has since been in an on-again, off-again relationship. The pop star most recently referred to the incident as "the biggest wake-up call."

4. Kourtney Kardashian and Scott Disick: You can still fight dirty *without* being physically violent, and this reality star couple is proof of that. Thanks to E!'s popular show *Keeping Up With the Kardashians*, they have to relive their many arguments and sometimes work through the issue more than once – even months after the initial disagreement occurred. Even so, Disick recently told Ryan Seacrest that the couple is "decently happy."

Related Link: [Kourtney Kardashian and Beau Get Therapy](#)

5. Sharon and Ozzy Osbourne: Early in their marriage, during Ozzy's drug- and alcohol-filled days, the rocker reportedly beat his wife, even trying to strangle her once. Somehow, though, they worked through their issues and have been married for over 30 years, briefly separating earlier this year.

Tell us: What celebrity couple do you think fights the dirtiest?

Are You Too Young For Marriage?



By April Littleton

When the idea of marriage begins to pop up in a relationship, most couples ask themselves 'Am I really ready for this?' and 'Will the relationship work out?' Some even worry, 'Can I afford the wedding?' What many people forget to ask themselves is whether or not they're old enough for the type of commitment they have in mind. Age is a very important factor to consider when you're talking about spending the rest of your life with another person. Cupid is here to help:

You still rely on mommy and daddy

If you still seek your parents' advice on every single situation you stumble upon, then you're probably not ready to get married. Do you know how to take care of yourself? Who does the cooking? Do you still expect your mother to do your laundry for you? You still have some growing up to do. Take the time to become independent – both mentally and physically. Don't expect your future spouse to act like a parent. How would you feel if you had to take care of someone who didn't know the first thing about looking after themselves? You want a partner, not a babysitter.

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

You're still living in a fantasy

Depending on how young you and your partner are, the both of you could still be thinking with a "high school" mentality. A marriage between a young couple rarely works out because they don't take into consideration that their goals and personalities change with age. What you like now may not be things you're interested in a few years down the road.

Marriage isn't necessarily a positive

You may be excited about spending the rest of your life with the person you love, but you still see marriage as an end to the "good life." Once you're married, you won't be able to hang out with your friends and party until the crack of dawn. If this is all you're concerned about, then you're not ready for a serious commitment. One of the keys to a successful marriage is maturity. Without this trait, you won't be able to get through any rough patches with your significant other, and you surely won't be able to work on your relationship effectively.

Related: [Does It Matter If You Have A Lot in Common?](#)

You're only thinking about the wedding

You've been so wrapped up in the wedding plans that you haven't even thought about what comes after the fancy ceremony and reception. A marriage isn't just about the wedding. The dress, expensive gifts and delicious food doesn't matter in the long-term. Most young couples only think about what they'll receive in return for exchanging vows, but it's not the wedding you should be celebrating – it's the relationship.

What are some other factors to consider if you're not sure you're too young for marriage? Comment below.

Celebrity Men Who Love Taller Women





By Jennifer Harrington

It seems most people have a preference in terms of physical characteristics for the people they find attractive and choose to date. Celebrities are no different, and it recently came to Cupid's attention that there are celebrity men who prefer to date taller women. We took a closer look at some of these stars who prefer taller women, and examined their dating histories to see who they have romanced – and the inches separating the couples.

Mick Jagger

Mick Jagger is perhaps as legendary with the ladies as he is for being the front man of the Rolling Stones. Married twice, Mick has seven children with four women. Over the years, Mick has been linked with several women taller than his 5 feet 10 inches, including model Jerry Hall and his current love of 12 years, L'Wren Scott. L'Wren, a model and fashion designer, is 6 feet 3 inches. L'Wren admitted in an interview with *Harper's Bazaar* that people have always been intimidated by her silhouette. According to the article, "when she and Jagger

pull up in front of the paparazzi, she adjusts the silhouette, bending at the knee to even things out.”

Related: [5 Celebrities with Open Marriages](#)

Rod Stewart

One of the best-selling music artists of all time, singer Rod Stewart has been married three times and has eight children. His current wife, model Penny Lancaster, stands 6 feet 1 inch, in contrast to Rod’s 5 feet 10 inches. Penny is frequently photographed wearing high heels, and it doesn’t seem to faze her rocker husband at all. When asked in a recent interview if the height difference bothers Rod, Penny responded by saying, “He likes me in the heels. I appear to be a foot taller but it’s the camera angles and the heels.” Rod has certainly established his personal preference over the years: many of his romantic partners have been tall, slender blondes.

Tom Cruise

Mega movie star Tom Cruise has dated (and married) many taller women, including Rebecca De Mornay, Nicole Kidman, Penelope Cruz and Katie Holmes. Tom Cruise stands 5 feet 7 inches, which is several inches shorter than the average height for men in the United States. His ex-wife Katie Holmes is 5 feet 9 inches, so two inches in height separated the couple (in addition to differing views about Scientology and how they would raise their daughter, Suri). After her divorce from Tom in 2001, Nicole Kidman famously quipped on *The David Letterman Show*, “I can wear heels now.”

Keith Urban

Country music sensation Keith Urban has been married to actress Nicole Kidman since 2006. Parents to two young daughters, Keith and Nicole split their time between Nashville and their native Australia. Nicole, who was formerly married Tom Cruise, is blissful in her marriage and the new attitude

her husband gave her, saying to *Harper's Bazaar*, "He just gave me confidence through just being very kind to me and understanding me, opening me up to trying things." Nicole is about three inches taller than Keith.

Related: [Celebrities Who Dated Out of Their League](#)

Michael J. Fox

After meeting Tracy Pollan on the set of *Family Ties*, Michael J. Fox married the leggy actress in 1988. The couple, separated in height by about two inches, has four children. Their marriage has stood the test of time, which is especially noteworthy because Michael has been fighting Parkinson's disease since 1990. Tracy opened up in an interview with *Parade* about her marriage saying, "Any marriage has its ups and downs. It's work to be married for this many years! That said, Michael's a very easy person to be with under his circumstances, funny and gracious."

As these couples showcase, height should not matter in a relationship, and ladies can wear high heels proudly, no matter the height of their boyfriend or husband.

Are there other celebrity couples featuring a significantly taller woman? Should height matter in a relationship?

What to Do When Politics Interfere with Your Relationship



By Meghan Fitzgerald

Politics in any situation can cause a catastrophe in a matter of moments, especially in a romance relationship. Stating what party you're in, discussing your views on gay marriage and gun laws. Every person has a different opinion on politics, and it usually ends with an argument if you have polar views. If politics interferes with your relationship, there are a few ways to solve the problems:

1. Common ground: If you and your significant other have different political views, or simply argue about aspects of politics...find a common ground! Although this may seem challenging for those who come from different parties, however it is possible. You need to keep in mind that your partner is more important than who you are voting for.

2. Keep calm: If you and your partner are arguing about

politics, it is best to stay calm. It is not going to help the situation if you constantly are down each other throats with harsh words and hate towards one another. It is essential to remember that you and your partner are the only relationship that matters in your love life. Not the relationship between Sarah Palin and the rest of the world.

Related: [How to deal with your partner's professional failure](#)

3. Privacy: Even though this isn't ideal when politics have just interfered with your relationship, this could resolve the problems you are having with your beau. Voting booths are private because situations like this occur! And we know that keeping your thoughts, especially on politics, hidden from your partner is difficult. Give it a test run and see how the new privacy helps with your relationship.

What are some other ways to approach politics in your relationship? Share below.

Your First Date: What It Will Cost





By Stephanie Lynch

When it comes to a first date, there are so many things to think about. What are you going to wear? Where the heck are we going? What will they think of me? With so many things rumbling through the mind, there is one thing many people often forget – the costs.

Now, while you don't want to be too cheap, you don't want to spend too much money either. Since most guys are expected to pay for most, if not all of the date, this simple guide should give you an idea on how much money you should plan on spending so that you don't look like the cheapest date on the block.

Who invited who?

First off, if the girl invites the guy, there's a good chance she won't expect him to pay for 100 percent of the meal. However, if the tables are turned and the guy invites the girl, then the girl will more than likely expect the date to foot the entire bill. Keep this tip in mind.

Related: [How to Date Outside the Box in NYC](#)

The atmosphere

When choosing a place to eat, make sure you pick out a place that is quiet and enables you to talk with your date. This way, you don't have to yell over loud music or people screaming next to you. Even if you don't want to head to a restaurant on your first date, that's okay. Most of the time, a coffee house will suffice.

The dinner

No date isn't going to be complete without a dinner. While 99 percent of the first dates out there often head to a restaurant, there may be a select few that want to have a meal cooked inside of a home. If you plan on eating out, try to stick to a higher-end restaurant that isn't too fancy. Try to avoid your name brand chain restaurants and obviously stay away from the fast food joints.

On average, be prepared to spend at least \$50 to \$75 at a minimum for a nice dinner. This should include two nice entrees, a few glasses of wine and maybe even a dessert and appetizer. Of course, this is going to depend on the restaurant, geographical location and the meals you're choosing.

Now, don't head to a \$100 a plate restaurant off the bat. If you do, your date may expect the same kind of treatment every time you head out. Instead, try to stick with something that you're comfortable with. Don't forget to ask your date what they are interested in when it comes to food. It would be silly to take them to a seafood place when they have an allergy to fish.

Related: [Fantasy Dating: How to Play the Game Right](#)

Tip: Don't know where to go for dinner? Try popular review websites such as UrbanSpoon.com, TripAdvisor.com or Yelp. This is a great way to find the hot spots in your local area.

If you're going to take the tips mentioned above and choose a coffee place instead, consider purchasing a drink and a light snack. Most of the time, this shouldn't be more than \$20. In the end, plan on budgeting according to where you plan on going. Most of the time, your date should be deemed successful if you spend around \$50 to \$75 on the entire meal. Just remember: Don't go overboard and keep your date in mind!

Stephanie works for howmuchisit.org – a large collection of cost helping resources. If you ever want to know what something costs, be sure to keep her resource in mind.