Date Idea: Plant Some Roots





By Ann Luther and <u>Mara Miller</u>

Spring has sprung! Flowers are blooming everywhere — and so are your feelings for your partner. Take advantage of this beautiful season with this weekend date idea. You can plant seeds in the ground *and* each other's hearts!

Plant a Garden for This Weekend Date Idea

Go for a drive with the windows down and hunt the neighborhood for inspiration for your garden to follow this <u>relationship</u> <u>advice</u>. You can check out the lawn of other residents, hanging baskets in front of local storefronts, and the wild vegetation peeking out everywhere you turn. You might even try going to a nearby park and taking a stroll. The park will be full of blossoming flowers, native grasses, and intricate landscaping. Before you leave, stop and pick up a dandelion, make a wish for you and your lovebird, and blow!

Related Link: First Date Outfit Ideas: Outdoor Festivals

On this date idea, you can pick out plants based on their meanings and what you want your garden to convey. Jasmine signifies eternal love, and agrimony flowers stand for thankfulness. Coriander is a sign of lust, while sweet peas smell fantastic and symbolize gratitude. Oxeye daisies are lovely representations of patience. With a little research and the right intentions, you can create a garden that ushers in much more than beauty into your lives.

Once you and your beau are fully inspired, learn which plants grow best in your area. Provenwinner.com is a great resource for area-determinant gardening. Then, it's off to the local gardening store for you two! Stock up on all the supplies you'll need— like shovels, gloves, potting soil, and, of course, whatever seeds or plants you picked out. Be sure to pick up some pretty pots to add a bit of color to your front porch too!

Related Link: <u>10 End-of-Summer Date Ideas</u>

If none of the pots fit your fancy, purchase normal clay pots and make a quick trip to the craft store for some acrylic paint and a few paint brushes on the way home. Get to gardening, but before you start on the potted plants, take your paint and brushes and decorate the pots! You can paint hearts or design something more abstract. It doesn't have to be precise; it just has to be colorful. On the bottom of the pots, paint the date to make sure you'll never forget.

Take your time today. Enjoy the sun, the breeze, and your relationship and love. Winter felt like it lasted

forever, and summer will be here in no time, so bask in the beautiful weather of the spring. As the seasons roll on, you'll have your sweet garden to remind you of this weekend date idea.

Have you ever planned a gardening date? Share your stories below!

Date Idea: Explore Love on a Road Trip





By Sarah Batcheller and Mara Miller

After a stressful week, you just want to unwind and spend

quality time with your partner. So pack a light bag, jump in the car, and head out on a road trip! Taking to the open road is bound to be an experience to remember; it's a great way to spend quality time together and explore your relationship and love. It shouldn't take too much planning, but in order to enjoy your journey, there are a few things you need to keep in mind.

Road Trip Your Way to a Stronger Relationship and Love

The first step is to choose a few destinations. For this date idea, you and your partner should select places not too far or too close to home. One great idea is to visit a popular city in your state or a neighboring state. If you don't have any preferences, ask friends who have been on road trips. It's always a great idea to get dating advice and personal recommendations from your loved ones — that way, you can also get information on the best places to eat, lodge, and just have a good time!

Related Link: Bring the Beach to You

Deciding where to go has a lot to do with you and your boo's personalities. If you're music junkies, you might want to hit up Nashville, Tennessee. Or maybe you're history buffs, and you want to see the marvelous Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Your chosen spot depends on the kind of romance you want to stir up as well. You may want to pick a place that's known for its party scene or somewhere with a beautiful, breathtakinglysilent landscape.

Once the destination has been chosen, it's time to get your suitcase out. Several items you should take with you on this weekend date idea are music you both enjoy, a GPS or map, books, snacks, drinks, a first aid kit, some clothes (be sure to check the weather!), and cash or credit card.

Related Link: Rent a Cabin for the Weekend

In order to enjoy the road trip and make the most of your relationship and love, give yourself sufficient time to check out your destination spot as well as places you pass through. Take pictures and keep receipts as souvenirs. With these tips and the right planning, you'll be ready to take another road trip next weekend!

Do you have any suggestions about road tripping with your sweetheart? Share with our readers by commenting below.

Date Idea: Stroll Through a Museum





By <u>Sarah Batcheller</u> and <u>Mara Miller</u>

Searching for an exciting date idea this weekend? Plan a trip to a local museum! You can spend the entire day with your significant other and get an educational and entertaining experience at the same time.

Head to a Museum for a Culturally-Influenced Date Idea

When choosing which museum to visit, think about your interests. If you want to learn more about a specific event in history, such as the Holocaust, find a museum that has a section for that. Do you live in Washington, D.C.? The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum is one of the best Holocaust museums in America. If your man is a space or aviation fanatic, follow this <u>love advice</u> and take him to the National Air and Space Museum, also in D.C., on your next weekend date idea.

Related Link: <u>Tour a Chocolate Factory</u>

If you're more fascinated with contemporary art, the New Museum in New York is the best place to go. It even has a Sky Room that provides a stunning view of Manhattan's skyline. If you live in Chicago, the Museum of Contemporary Art is also on the list of top ten museums in America.

Planetariums and aquariums make for great date ideas too. The American Museum of Natural History in New York exhibits a variety of shows in their planetarium, ranging from outer space to the function of the brain. The New York Aquarium is also popular. From sea lions to sharks, you'll certainly stay busy!

Museums are great because of all the opportunity for conversation, especially if you're going on a first date. Still, whether it's your first or fifty-first outing together, there's always something fun to enjoy. Strolling down various corridors and stumbling upon new exhibits will give you and your partner time to bond over your mutual fascination for the museum's focus. The quietness of a museum makes for good romance too, and it'll cause you to feel closer to your partner. While immersed in a century-old Greek oil painting, the two of you will feel like you're the only ones in the room, like you're in an entirely different world.

Related Link: <u>How to Date Outside the Box in NYC</u>

Once you're tired of hushed voices and "Do Not Touch" signs, you can head over to the cafe or bakery that many museums typically offer their guests. There, you'll be able to discuss all the wonders you've seen and continue your conversation. Don't forget to stop by the gift shop on your way out and pick up a memento of your day!

Do you have any great museums, planetariums or aquariums in mind? Share your date idea with us!

Date Idea: Romance at a Resort



By Sarah Batcheller and Mara Miller

It's time to escape your everyday burdens and have a romantic getaway with your beau. Pamper yourselves and enjoy time away from the office and with each other by venturing off to a resort. This weekend date idea will allow you to retreat to a relaxing place and rejuvenate your relationship and love for one another.

Find out how to indulge fully in a resort weekend with these date ideas!

Heat things up in this cold weather! Why not head to a fun spot like the Hamptons or Montauk and spend the days and nights on the beach with the one who makes you happy? Check out sites like LivingSocial or Groupon for deals on weekend getaways. You *can* have a vacation that won't break the bank. If you literally want to heat things up, travel somewhere with a warmer climate, like The Keys, for this date idea.

Related Link: Valentine's Day Date Ideas

Once you arrive at your destination, make a bonfire on the beach, melt some s'mores, and snuggle up. Soak in all there is about where you are. One morning, be sure to order breakfast in bed — there's nothing better than being comfy with your boo while sipping your morning coffee and watching the sunrise from the sheets. Talk about a great start to the day! After all, the point of this <u>dating advice</u> is to do what you can't do when you're tied down with work and other responsibilities. Take some time to do nothing except appreciate the company of your significant other.

Many resort locations offer a variety of romantic activities for couples, like dance lessons, horseback riding, couples massages, or private yoga. Any of these will add some edge and spark to this weekend date idea. If you'd rather follow the trail of spontaneity, just explore your destination. If you prefer a laid-back day, head to the pool to soak up some rays. There's bound to be poolside service at any spa resort, so the two of you could comfortably spend all day basking in each other's arms.

Related Link: Take a Virtual Vacation

Afterward, have a candlelight dinner for two on your balcony. Talk about your trip so far and what you've enjoyed most about your time away. No matter where you go, having a romantic resort getaway is a great way to spend some quality time with the one you love.

Tell Cupid about your favorite resort spots in the comments below!

Date Idea: Dance the Night Away





By Courtney Shapiro and Sarah Batcheller

Sure, going to the movies and grabbing burgers is a relaxing and tasty <u>date night</u>...or it's just plain boring. But don't worry! Better nights are just around the corner. Prove to your sweetheart that you can go the extra mile for them by scheduling dance lessons this week. With this <u>date idea</u>, you get to shake and show off while fitting in your daily exercise. Plus, you get to be close and personal with your significant other. Take this <u>relationship advice</u> and go dancing with your partner.

Use This Date Idea to Reconnect With Your Beau

If you're searching for something romantic with this date idea, try ballroom or Argentine tango. Not sure what the differences are? A ballroom tango is a type of dance that you've seen on *Dancing with the Stars*. There are certain moves you must learn – from underarm turns to alternating hand holds to side-by-side choreography. If you and your partner prove to be particularly talented on the dance floor, you can even enter competitions.

Related Link: Date Idea: Ice Skating Adventure

The Argentine tango is a social dance, and because there aren't any steps involved, it relies on improvisation. In short, it means that you and your mate can learn how to dance it quickly. You can go out that night and display your new moves at a nearby nightclub or bar!

If you follow this relationship advice and want to do something that's fun and sexy, try salsa. Although couples don't embrace as much as they do in a tango, dancers hold hands most of the time and remain in one spot, often swapping back and forth. If this idea appeals to you, then get ready for all the hip wiggling and spins you'll face! Salsa is a great style for those who just want to be eye-to-eye while dancing with their honey.

Related Link: Date Idea: Warm Up By Exercising This Winter

If you still aren't sure which dancing lessons to take for this weekend date idea, see these dances in action. Check out videos on Youtube.com, or you may consider taking a beginners class for all three dances. That way, you can compare the pros and cons of each style and pick out which one is best for you and your beau.

Have you and your special someone taken dance lessons before? Let us know by commenting below!

Date Idea: Embrace the Cold Weather





By Mara Miller

With your flip flops in storage and warm weather a distant memory, it's easy to spend your weekends under a warm comforter, reading a book together or flipping through the channels for <u>date night</u>. Although binge-watching Orange Is the New Black and ordering a pepperoni pizza can be great at times, your love life shouldn't cool down just because the temperature is declining. Instead, use this <u>weekend date idea</u> to take advantage of the season by embracing winter activities that you can only enjoy once or twice a year.

Relationship Advice: Winter Activities for Your Next Date Idea

1. Try something new and go tubing: Whether you're a pro or haven't been on the mountain since you were a kid, it's one way to keep your pulse pumping with your partner. Most ski resorts offer this activity, and since you have the option to stay a few hours or an entire weekend, coasting down a hill just may turn into that surprising <u>romantic getaway</u> that you've been craving.

Related Link: Enjoy the Snow from Indoors

2. Create some fun in your own backyard: Get all bundled up, venture outside, and make snow angels or build snowmen with your cutie. Better yet, when your mate turns their back, you'll have the chance to start a snowball fight. A little activity and some healthy competition will keep your blood flowing even during the coldest of days. Being silly with your sweetheart is important, and playing in the snow is a great way to do it.

Related Link: Warm Up With Winter Cocktails

3. Warm up after your outdoor adventure: Heat up some good old-fashioned hot apple cider. If you're feeling frisky, spike it with some Fireball whiskey. A warm drink with the one you love is the perfect end to a day filled with fun winter activities!

How do you and your beau keep busy during the colder months? Tell us in the comments below!

Date Idea: Spend an Intimate Night Indoors





By Sarah Batcheller and Ché Blackwood

If you're craving a romantic <u>date night</u> but don't want to spend a fortune or you're tired of the same-old restaurant scene, then get creative and bring the excitement of a night out into your own home! There's no reason you and your partner can't share an intimate evening dancing and dining together without breaking the bank. With this weekend <u>date idea</u>, your dining room can rival even the fanciest of dinners.

How to Plan a Date Idea at Home

Pick out something sexy to wear for your beau: Just because you're at home doesn't mean you shouldn't get dolled up. In fact, staying in means you can actually dress a little nicer than usual. This is one time when you can feel free to overdress (or under dress) for the occasion. No matter what, you want to feel beautiful and comfortable!

Related Link: Date Idea: Be a Cheap Date

Share a drink to kick the night off: Stop by your local winery

or liquor store and ask the manager to choose a good bottle of red for the best value. When you buy wine directly from the store rather than at a restaurant, the prices are drastically reduced, leaving you with a higher-priced bottle for a lesser cost. If you really want to go all out, purchase a few different bottles and have your own wine tasting. Just pop the cork, swirl your glass, and pretend your kitchen table is the most coveted spot in the house.

Cupid's <u>dating advice</u>: take the night to the next level and plan a special menu to cook together. Choose a unique recipe to really test your culinary talents or remake the first meal the two of you ever shared together. Be sure that your dinner pairs well with your wine of choice. Red meat and pasta taste great with a full-bodied Merlot!

Related Link: Date Idea: Hometown Hotel

After you've wined and dined, relax: Fortunately, you don't have to go very far! Run a bubble bath for two if you really want to get the romance flowing, or curl up on the couch with popcorn and watch a movie with your sweetie. The comforts of being home mixed with the luxuries of a passionate date will leave you feeling refreshed and swept off your feet, without any looming stress over next month's credit card bill!

How do you like to spice up a night at home? Tell us in the comments below!

Date Idea: Ice Skating

Adventure





By Sarah Batcheller and Jessica DeRubbo

This weekend, embrace the dropping temperatures and head to an outdoor ice skating rink to be romantic with your sweetheart! You don't have to be an Olympic skater to enjoy a day on the ice, and it may even work to your benefit if you need a little help. For this weekend date idea, either take lessons with your partner or use your inexperience as an excuse to hold your man's hand for support as you glide across the floor. No need to be embarrassed if you or your mate takes a fall. After all, it'll only make for great laughs later!

How to Enjoy This Ice Skating Date

Idea

When you're ready for a break, head over to the snack bar. Hot chocolate will warm you both up and give you time to connect. If you need an energy boost, buy some popcorn or candy (or both!) to munch on too.

Related Link: Date Idea: Light Up the Night

Ice skating rinks always play music, and most of them designate a romantic song or two so that couples can skate together. When you hear your favorite love tune, it's your cue to take your partner's hand and glide to the rhythm of the beat. The slower pace and quieter atmosphere will also allow the two of you to spend some time talking while you skate. That way, the date is still focused on the two of you rather than focused on not making a fool of yourself!

If you're feeling especially adventurous before you embark on this date idea, use your time on the ice rink to play a little hockey with your partner. Once you've learned to maintain balance, you can amp up the energy and fun by going one-onone. Just make sure you've got all the right gear for warmth and safety!

Related Link: Date Idea: Ice Sculpting Festival

Remember to check with your local rink before you go. Sometimes, they have private parties or teen nights. You don't want to be in a scenario that you weren't anticipating, especially if it means a crowded floor with screaming kids whizzing by. Plan accordingly to make the date just right.

Let us know about your ice skating adventure in the comments below!

Date Idea: Warm Up By Exercising This Winter



By Sarah Batcheller and Jessica DeRubbo

With colder weather still ahead and beach season behind us, hitting the gym seems pretty daunting. If you and your honey want to stay fit, working out together is a fabulous weekend date idea. Experts say that having an exercise partner can help improve your results, so why not use this relationship advice and choose your main squeeze as a workout companion?

Relationship Advice: How to Stay Fit with Your Partner

First, set a day and time each week for you and your partner to be active together. Whether you're on an indoor track or embracing the crisp air by walking outside, get your cardio in by teaming up. You can begin by strolling along while chatting, then increase your speed and compete with one another during a run. Exercising with your significant other allows you to spend quality time doing something healthy. Plus, you can get back on track after the holidays!

Related Link: Adventure Date: Do Something Daring

Another weekend date idea is to test your flexibility at a Bikram Yoga class, which entails 2 sets of 26 poses done for 90 minutes in a room heated to 105 degrees. The warmth will help you fully stretch your muscles and get the most out of your workout time. Staying in the room, known as the "torture chamber," is a challenge, but by going in with your partner, you'll push yourself to last until the final minute. Don't forget to bring along a bottle of water to keep yourself hydrated and a towel to wipe the sweat out of your eyes!

Related Link: Date Idea: Spa Vacation

Exercising with your other half isn't just a great way to improve your health. It also allows you to spend time with the person you love. So follow this relationship advice and get moving!

Do you have a workout plan with your partner? Let us know below!

Date Idea: Relax and Reflect





By Sarah Batcheller and <u>Jessica DeRubbo</u>

This holiday weekend, wind down from all the excitement of the New Year and spend some time alone with your significant other. Instead of watching old films or picking up a new book, consider this <u>dating advice</u> to improve your relationship: Bond with your partner by snuggling up by the fire, cherishing old memories, celebrating how far you've come, and talking about where you'd like to be in the future.

Follow This Date Idea to Improve Your Relationship and Love in the

New Year

For this relaxing <u>date idea</u>, find the place that helps you unwind the most. Perhaps it's by your fireplace, listening to the crackle of the logs and admiring the glow. Maybe it's on the swing overlooking the lake in your backyard. Once you've picked a spot, fill a picnic basket with some cheese, crackers, fresh fruit, and dark chocolate. Grab a bottle of your favorite wine (we suggest Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, or Pinot Noir to warm you— all perfect for the winter!) and settle in to talk with each other. Don't forget to bring a cozy blanket to keep you warm!

Related Link: Rent a Cabin in the Snow

Next, use your intimate time together to think critically about your past and future. Think of some professional goals that you've set and accomplished in previous years, and gather new ones that you want to achieve. Talk about why you chose these resolutions and why it's important for you to stick with them. When following this love advice, encourage each other to commit to your respective goals; discuss how your relationship can strengthen your goal setting and how achieving your objectives will better your partnership.

Related Link: Plan a Walk Around Town

Take advantage of this date idea and talk about your relationship too. Look at where you were last year as a couple and decide what you and your sweetheart want to work on for the next twelve months. Set goals for events or activities that will better your relationship or even just add some spice to it! Discuss what you both want and think of ways to get there as a team. Plan to do yoga together twice a week or visit a new restaurant together every other Friday night. Even the small ideas will help you start off the year on the right foot – with intimacy, love, and a whole new set of plans! What are some of your New Year's resolutions? Comment below and tell us.

Date Idea: Pick Your Own Presents





By <u>Jessica Gomez</u> and Kristin Mattern

If you forgot to go shopping for your sweetie, no worries! This is a great opportunity for a fun date idea. Grab your babe and tackle the crowds as you take on last-minute Christmas shopping together. Pick out presents the two of you will really appreciate, and share some laughs as you choose gifts for your friends and family.

Here are a few dating tips for what to do on your <u>date night</u>:

Get a little sentimental: Don't be afraid to do so as you reminisce together over classic toys in kid stores. Nostalgic feelings can be awesome! Also, don't leave out the feelings of tenderness...and seduction even. Feel the romantic tension build as you wander into the lingerie department together. This unique date is sure to please your inner shopaholic!

Be sure to set a plan of attack with your partner: The two of you can spend some time conspiring together about the best route to take when hitting up the crowded shopping malls and outlets. Decide which stores you'd like to go to, and create a list of items you want. Come up with a silly call that you can yell out when you get separated (you could just call him on the cell phone, but what fun is that?). Play a little. You can also both wear matching Santa or Elf hats with your sweetie to make it easy to spot one another! Adorbs.

Related Link: Date Idea: Make the Perfect Playlist

Overcome shopping stress by making a game of it: Create a naughty and nice column on a piece of paper. Getting frustrated from shoppers snatching the last Tickle Me Elmo just as you reach for it? Remember: for every shopping tantrum one of you throws, you get a check in the naughty column! Enough checks, and you'll only be getting coal in your stocking this Christmas. Creative and soothing, right?

Chill out in the middle of your shopping extravaganza for a delicious lunch date: Splurge! Go to a really nice restaurant in the area or that high-end spot in the mall you normally avoid. If you can, make reservations ahead of time so the two of you can easily transition from your high energy shopping

spree to a relaxing, romantic meal. Enjoy this calm moment by sharing tastes of one another's food and chatting about what each of you are most excited about for the upcoming holiday.

Related Link: Date Idea: Couple Up with Game Night

Wrap gifts together: When your cutie and you have bought all of the gifts on your list, head home to continue the date by wrapping presents together. Put on your favorite classic Christmas music and pour some warm deliciousness into your mugs to sip while the two of you keep the holiday magic going. See who can wrap the fastest or the most elaborately as you make all the items you bought Christmas-ready. This is the perfect way to wrap up your last minute shopping date!

Have you gone last minute shopping with your honey before? We want to hear about it! Tell us in the comments below.

Date Idea: Get in Gear for the New Year





By Jessica Gomez and Shannon Seibert

You may think New Year's resolutions are old-fashioned, but there's a great sentiment behind them. Rather than planning year-long objectives, follow these <u>date night</u> ideas and set small goals with your love. In relationships and love, people tend to take on more than they can handle alone. Buckle down with your significant other and get realistic together. Celebrate the holiday season before ringing in the New Year. Use this time to see what direction you both want to head in your partnership.

Cupid has some advice on strengthening your partnership in the New Year. Here are a few date ideas that will be productive for you and your lover:

By following these small pieces of dating and relationship

<u>advice</u>, you are sure to strengthen your love in the long run.

Go to the gym together: Get your sweat on! Thinking of goals is the easy part of New Year's resolutions — it's sticking to them that's so hard! We've all seen the people who want to "get fit this year" and crowd the gym for the month of January, but are no where to be found by the middle of March. Set goals with your partner that are achievable.

Related Link: <u>Date Idea: Create Magic in Your Relationship</u>

Give to yourselves and to others: Give to yourselves by taking a couple's trip, like taking a weekend getaway within the next two months. And give to others by spending one day each month giving back to our community. There are may ways to help out, so choose a cause you and your other half are passionate about and go for it!

Related Link: Date Idea: Couple Up with Game Night

Go on dates weekly: Any date! Be spontaneous! If there are small aspects of your partnership that you'd like to work on with your partner, tonight's the night to tell them. If your significant other has a busy career that involves a lot of travel, make a goal for more communication throughout the week. Agree to pursue a date each week, whether they are home dates or outdoor dates. Break down your schedules and pick a night that would work for both of you, and get ready for some fun!

Break each goal down into time increments to solidify the commitment you and your honey make. As you ring in the New Year together, keep in mind that your relationship is what you make it. Reaching these small goals will lead to something even bigger than the both of you could've imagined!

What are some New Year's resolutions you've made with your partner? Share them with us in the comments below!

Date Idea: Light Up Your Love





By Jessica Gomez and Kristin Mattern

The holiday season is one of the most beautiful times of the year – a time when people decorate their homes with twinkling lights, garlands, wreaths, menorahs, and even adorable penguins. Get into the spirit and spark some love this weekend by taking a romantic, moonlit drive with your sweetie as you cruise through your neighborhood checking out all of the Christmas and Hanukkah lights.

Rekindle the magic of the holidays with your babe and admire the beautiful displays with these dating tips for your upcoming <u>date</u> <u>night</u>:

Map your route: This is important, After all, not everyone decorates for the holidays. To get the most out of your night drive, scan the scene during the day before your date and find out what areas have really gone all out this year. This way, when you take your honey out for a spin, it will be through areas with the most decorations and stunning of displays. You can also conduct some brief research on Google. With a bit of planning, your date will be sure to delight!

If you live in or near New York City: Looking for something a little grander than your neighbor's twinkle lights and angle statues? Go to a professional public display instead. The Big Apple is a must see during this time, especially Rockefeller Center. New Yorkers and tourists alike go to see the tree and skate at the ice rink. Enjoy the time with your sweetheart as you swirl around in the rink and skate your way into each other's hearts beneath the huge Christmas tree.

Related Link: Date Idea: Keep It Exciting During New Venue Night

If you live in or near Los Angeles: L.A. offers its own unique displays that are not to be missed. Take a cruise down Rodeo Drive or through Griffith Park. See some truly spectacular lights while you take in the palm trees and vignettes in the store fronts. You'll feel like an old school celebrity as you snuggle up to your significant other and drive with the windows down through decked-out Cali. Professional light shows are sure to take your cutie's breath away as the two of you view illuminating lights accompanied by heartwarming Christmas carols and holiday music.

Decorate your place/s together: If you're feeling inspired from viewing all of those pretty lights, get together with your partner and go for it. Have a blast trying to recreate some of your favorite pieces, or try to top them and come up with something even better! This will be nice bonding time. Go nuts and have fun!

Related Link: Date Idea: Plan a Party

Chill at home: Of course, not literally chill, but hangout and stay warm during this time! After enjoying the sights and sounds of the holiday spirit and décor, make some more memories by warming up inside with hot cocoa and dancing with your darling to your favorite Christmas or Hanukkah tunes. End the night by relaxing together in front of the fire and roasting some chestnuts while you enjoy a classic Christmas movie.

What will you be doing as a Christmas date night? Share below!

Date Idea: Friendsgiving





By Carly Horowitz and Kristin Mattern

Have a Friendsgiving! This weekend, instead of having a oneon-one date with your sweetie, make it a group night and setup a belated Thanksgiving dinner. Invite your partner's and your closest buddies over for a fun and social date night. This date idea comes with all the trimmings for a good time.

Plan a Friendsgiving and have this <u>date idea</u> include your closest friends!

Make it a potluck and ask your friends to each bring a different dish. Not only does this cut down on the amount of cost and time for you spend, it allows you all to try a variety of dishes! Suggest that your friends bring their favorite Thanksgiving entrées and desserts. Sample your best friend's mom's famous pumpkin pie, washed down with your sweetheart's secret recipe for Irish cream cordial. You can impress everybody with your signature candied yams, a recipe passed down from your grandmother.

Related Link: <u>Date Idea: Best Shows to Binge-Watch With Your</u> <u>Partner</u>

Be sure to pick a theme! Ever had a true Southern Thanksgiving? You and your babe can research some southern comfort foods and traditional Thanksgiving dishes to serve. Cook up some deliciously decadent dishes like sweet potato casserole with marshmallows on top, cornbread stuffing, creamy collard greens and fried okras. Channel your inner <u>famous chef</u> inside you and make everyone's tummy smile. Bring all the warmth of the south to your Friendsgiving, or pick a different theme like Thanksgiving in New York City or Los Angeles.

Related Link: <u>Date Idea: Star in Your Own Romantic Comedy</u>

Discover you and your honey's inner connoisseur and have a wine or beer tasting with your friendsgiving dinner. Have each of your friends bring a wine or beer from a different region of the United States. See which region's drink really compliments certain dishes, or have a vote to see what beverage beats out the rest as everyone's favorite. At the end of the night, have a swap and let everyone take home his or her top choice from the tasting.

Related Link: Date Idea: Early Morning Ideas

To add more spice to your event, create placement cards that are also thankful cards. Relive childhood memories as you and your significant other trace each other's hand on white construction paper to make hand-turkeys. Color the front to resemble a traditional turkey or to go along with your dinner's theme. Write each guest's name on the colored front for the place card and on the other side write a simple question: What are you thankful for? Use the cards to set the table and place a crayon or pen nearby. Have your friends fill in the cards when they first arrive, and then before dinner, go around the table and share what everyone is thankful for this Thanksgiving.

Have you hosted a Friendsgiving or a holiday-themed dinner party before? Tell us all about it in the comments below!

Date Idea: Go To a Turkey Shoot





By Carly Horowitz and Kristin Mattern

If you can't wait for Thanksgiving and dreams of pumpkin pie and mashed potatoes are already filling your head, it's time to get into the holiday spirit! This weekend, take your significant other to a turkey shoot. Don't worry, no turkeys are harmed during this event! Take aim at love as you and your partner shoot at targets 30 feet away in this long-standing traditional competition. Whoever hits the center of the targets, or just gets the closest, wins a frozen turkey as a prize! It'll be the perfect addition to your Thanksgiving table.

Take part in this traditional <u>date</u> <u>idea</u> during this season of thanks!

Get in the mood for this date by wearing flannel shirts and horseback riding boots. If you're a skilled shooter, impress your babe with your marksmanship. And if you're a little gun shy (pun intended), a good tip to remember is to move with the recoil as the gun hits your shoulder to avoid bruising or discomfort. Always wear safety goggles and practice safe shooting. Don't point your rifle anywhere but the target and follow all the instructions provided by the event coordinators to ensure a fun and safe time.

Related Link: Date Idea: Feed Your Heart with a Sushi Sampling

When your turkey shoot is over, it's time to head back for a romantic home-cooked meal. Cooking is a fun activity that you can enjoy together. Grow closer with your sweetheart while swapping recipes or researching some new ones. For something simple, make a dish like pasta with red sauce and turkey meatballs. During your <u>date night</u> time in the kitchen, discover each other's favorite foods and types of cuisine. If you don't feel like cooking, order in! Opt for cheesy pizza or spicy Thai food, whatever the two of you are craving after your big day. Look into some <u>famous restaurants</u> near you and see if they offer take-out as well.

Related Link: Date Idea: Take In Some Cartoons

After dinner, make Thanksgiving-themed drinks like hot apple cider or cranberry and vodka and watch a Thanksgiving movie. You and your honey will laugh until it hurts watching a classic like *Trains*, *Planes and Automobiles*. Then, get a little sentimental and relive your childhood with *A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving*. Build a fire in the fireplace and really get cozy with the one you love as you prep for the upcoming holiday.

This date idea could be you and your sweetheart's new November tradition!

Ever been on a Turkey Shoot? Tell about your experience in the comments below!

Date Idea: Deck the Halls





By <u>Jessica Gomez</u> and Kristin Mattern

Deck the halls with the one you love! With November dwindling, it's time to pack up the turkey-inspired décor and look towards the end of the year. Spend quality time with your honey this weekend by decorating the house and stirring up some holiday spirit. Wear ugly sweaters, put some holiday tunes on, and get the garlands out for this heart-warming date.

If you're prepping for Christmas: Put on Santa hats and get ready to rock around the Christmas tree as your sweetie and you put up ornaments from your childhood. You can also make homemade ornaments that celebrate your relationship and add them to the tree. Get creative and cut photographs of each other into snowflakes, or decorate ornaments with each others names as keepsakes. Place snowmen statues, reindeer decorations, and whimsical elf figures around the house. Get the dinning room looking festive with a red tablecloth and green runner. Place candlesticks with gold candles on the table and an evergreen centerpiece in the middle to top off this chic holiday spread. Related Link: Date Idea: Take a Trip Down Memory Lane

If Hanukkah is right around the corner: Place the menorah where everyone can see. If you and your significant other are artistic, buy blank wooden dreidels and decorate them yourselves using wood paint. The two of you are sure to have fun as you craft and reminisce about playing with dreidels as children. Place your homemade dreidels on your table as decoration, add a blue tablecloth and silver runner to amp up the elegance. You can use a silver menorah as a centerpiece.

Related Link: <u>Date Idea: Indulge In a Night of Laughter</u>

While decorating: Listen to your favorite holiday music. Take a dance break from decorating and sway along together to the music for an intimate moment. Or put on a classic holiday movie to watch while your partner and you deck the halls. The background music will add to the ambiance and get the two of you in the holiday mood. Feel free to make some holiday goodies in the oven as well.

Ever decorate for the holidays with your honey? Tell us about your holiday dates in the comments below!

Date Idea: Get in the Game





By Carly Horowitz and Kristin Mattern

Nothing says November and Thanksgiving tradition like a friendly game of football with your sweetie. The two of you can throw around the old pigskin alone this weekend, or grab some family and friends for a game against other couples! Celebrate with drinks at a local spot or cuddle up for a football-themed movie at home. Get out there and tackle your way into love.

Check out these entertaining <u>date</u> <u>ideas</u>!

Put on your favorite team jerseys, step outside, and enjoy the cool fall weather as you play a game of catch. Gather your friends and family together for a game. Play flag football – there's no tackling necessary! Use cheap socks dyed two different colors that the players can tuck into their pockets to differentiate the teams. To take down an opponent, simply grab a sock from the players' pocket. Come up with a team chant or victory dance for whenever either you

or your sweetheart score a goal!

Related Link: Date Idea: Plan a Picnic with Your Love

After you're done tossing the ball around, go out for drinks at a nearby sports bar. To amp up the friendly rivalry, decide beforehand that the loosing team will buy the first round of drinks. Remember to set a price cap so that no one is ordering too many cocktails! Celebrate the winning team's victory and the fun times you and your partner shared.

Related Link: Date Idea: Fall in Love in New York

Wind down the evening by watching a sports movie. Enjoy Friday Night Lights for something stirring. If you're looking for laughs, pick Waterboy or Leatherheads. Finish your <u>date night</u> by snuggling together and just relaxing after your active day.

Do you enjoy playing football with your love? Let us know in the comments below!

Date Idea: A Day in the Hay





By Carly Horowitz and Kristin Mattern

October is finally here. Are you looking for some autumnalthemed fun for a date this weekend? You're in the right place.

Check out these fun fall weekend date ideas!

You and your sweetheart could take advantage of the crisp fall air and fiery foliage by heading out for a ranch adventure. Spend the day growing closer to your honey as you learn how to care for horses by cleaning out their hooves, brushing their manes and feeding them treats like carrots and sugar cubes.

Then, take off on a romantic trail ride. It's incredibly romantic to go horseback riding with the one you love. The setting is intimate, and you get to enjoy a serene moment while learning a new skill. And hey, even if you and your dearest aren't great horsemen, you can still enjoy some playful teasing as you get the hang of riding together. Laughter brings people closer, and you're sure to

have some as you bounce on horseback down the trail.

Related Link: <u>Date Idea: Best Shows to Binge-Watch With Your</u> <u>Partner</u>

After you're done spending time on horseback, keep the fun flowing by taking a hay ride. Enjoy the fall scenery while snuggled up with your partner in the wagon and take a moment to enjoy the smell of the grass and the gorgeous day the two of you are sharing. Have a candlelit barn dinner to polish off your Western experience with a romantic <u>date night</u>. Keep the mood going with a cowboy-themed spread surrounded by a rustic ranch setting.

Unsure where the closest ranch is? DudeRanches.com does the footwork for you by finding ranches across America. Some ranches even have more amenities than the great outdoors like spas, pools, tennis, bars and hot tubs. Find the one that best suits you and your significant other.

Related Link: Date Idea: Pucker Up While Putt-Putt Golfing

If you live near New York City, check out some of the ranches near the Hudson River Valley. For example, Rocking Horse Ranch is a fun place! After a ride through the beautiful Adirondack Mountains, you and your honey can travel a different trail – one through Hudson Vally Wine Country. Taste your way through a variety of vineyards to round out your date.

If you're close to Los Angeles, enjoy trail rides and cave exploration at Griffith Park Horse Rentals or discover you and your lover's inner cowboy at Sunset Ranch. Kick back in the California sunshine when your time on the trail is done, and learn about the rich history of the San Antonio Winery that has been in LA since 1917.

Related Link: Date Idea: Lift Your Love To New Heights

No matter how you and your sweetheart enjoy your 'day in the

hay', remember to just have fun!

Ever been horseback riding on a date before? We'd love to hear about it! Share your experience by commenting below.

Date Idea: Fall in Love with Falling Leaves





By Jessica Gomez Kristin Mattern

We bet you remember the sheer thrill of leaping into a pile of earthy leaves as a child, the joy of tossing the motley colors up into the sky over your head and watching them fall around you. Relive that magic this weekend with your sweetheart and rake your way to the perfect fall date.

Here are some <u>date ideas</u> that involve colorful, crispy leaves:

Offer to help your honey rake his or her yard…and then jump in: See who can make the biggest pile or who can rake the fastest — making things into a competition get some couples going. Rate each other's leaf jumps: Who made the biggest mess? Who fell in the funniest or more gracious way? Use your phone to record the jumps so you can compare. Maybe even post some awesome action shots to Instagram or Facebook.

Related Link: Date Idea: Keep It Exciting During New Venue Night

Make a scrapbook with the leaves: Leaves are for more than just jumping in. Document the different leaves you and your significant other find along the way. Compare colors, shapes, and sizes. Take a moment to marvel at the wonders of nature. Create a scrapbook together where you add all the really beautiful leaves you find or add photographs of the beautiful views. If the leaves are supple enough, you can even make leaf rubbings together. Take a piece of paper, place it over the leaf, rub a naked crayon the long way against the paper over the leaf, and voila! You have a commemorative etching of your fall romp.

Related Link: <u>Date Idea: Best Shows to Binge-Watch With Your</u> <u>Partner</u>

Cuddle up and enjoy the gorgeous fall foliage: After all the leaves are raked, the pile jumping has ended and your apple pie has been consumed, you and your honey can cuddle up under a blanket or recline against a tree in the yard and take it all in. Check out your state's peak foliage <u>here</u>.

Now it's time to get out there and make some magic fall moments with your honey! If you want to spread some extra love, help your parents or elderly neighbors clean up their yards too. Build up some good Karma together — and hey, you never know, the person you helped out might just give you an apple pie or some hot cider when you're finished.

Have you shared some fun fall moments with your love? Share below!

Date Idea: A Day with Your Pumpkin





By Jessica Gomez and Shannon Seibert

Sure, picking and carving pumpkins is a fun date idea, but sometimes we want to change it up. Outdo yourselves and head to a pumpkin festival or to a fall fair. Really breathe in the autumn air and experience the season's spirit together. Participating in this unique weekend date idea can do wonders for your relationship because of the bonding.

We have a date idea for you and your "pumpkin" this season. Check it out:

Go to a fall fair as a date! Fairs are a great date spot because there is something new to discover around every corner. Whether you view the festivities from the heights of the Ferris Wheel or chow down on goodies, it's always eventful. Hop on a hayride together and listen to ghost stories with your bae. Chase each other through a corn maze and challenge each other to some carnival games.Fall head over heels for your boo thing as you're both whipped around on the fair rides. Classics such as "The Twister" and bumper cars will bring out your sense of adventure and have the both of you laughing and screaming with joy.

Related Link: Date Idea: Keep It Exciting During New Venue Night

After you play, check out some of the fair's shows. Usually, there are monster truck rallies, tightrope walkers, and even magic shows that will captivate you and your love. Be sure to get good seats because you're about to be amazed!

At the end of your fair-a-polooza, have your partner pick out a winning pumpkin to take home. Together, carve out the insides and remove the seeds. Then, bring your pumpkin to life with creative designs. Related Link: Date Idea: Indulge In a Night of Laughter

For a delicious snack, gather the seeds and wash off the pulp. Preheat your oven to 350 degrees and place the seeds on some baking sheets. For a more classic snack, coat them in a light glaze of extra virgin olive oil and sprinkle them with salt. If your pumpkin is looking for a more tropical taste, glaze the seeds with coconut oil and a hint of pineapple juice. Heat the seeds for fifteen to twenty minutes or until golden. Yum!

Related Link: Date Idea: Take a Trip Down Memory Lane

End this date idea by grabbing a quilted blanket and a cup of hot cocoa and heading to your couch. Munch on your pumpkin seed goods and pop in a Halloween movie. If your honey is a horror fan, you can never go wrong with old classics, such as *Friday the 13th* or *Halloween*. These films will give you an excuse (not that you need one) to hold on tight to your other half because the films will scare you senseless.

How do you and your sweetheart get into the fall spirit? Tell us in the comments below!

Date Idea: Haunt Your Honey





By <u>Jessica Gomez</u> and Kristin Mattern

Halloween is the perfect day to shake things up a bit and have a date that fits the holiday! Get into the spirit with your sweetie and dress up as a couple: go for goofy, serious, or sexy. However you switch it up for this haunted holiday, take advantage of the spooky atmosphere and do something different together.

Halloween is an exciting time of year, and we have some love and dating advice. Here are some <u>date</u> <u>ideas</u> for those of us who love feeling the spooky spirit:

Get scary and venture into a haunted house: Looking for the scariest haunted houses around? Check out <u>America Haunts</u> or <u>Haunt World</u> for the freakiest attractions across America. Hold tight to your honey as you walk through enchanted rooms and

possessed houses. Share some laughs over who screams first or loudest.

Related Link: Date Idea: Get Out Of Your Comfort Zone

If fake horror isn't enough, find a real haunted property and check it out: Take photographs as you walk around – you never know when you might catch a ghost on film. However, remember to make sure you aren't trespassing. You can visit this <u>site</u> to find some real haunted houses to tour on Halloween. You can also opt to have a Halloween picnic at a nearby graveyard and enjoy the scary scenery; just remember to always be respectful.

Related Link: Date Idea: Indulge In a Night of Laughter

A romantic and scary movie date: If at home, curl up together on the couch and watch some horror classics or go for the recent and new. The choice is yours. If you want to do a real Halloweeny-flick, you should watch all three Halloween films by director John Carpenter. For more suspense and intrigue and less scare, put on The Twilight Zone. Discuss your favorite kinds of Halloween movies, and don't forget to bake some Halloween-themed snacks to enjoy. Feeling lazy? Buy the snacks. For more thrills and chills, make your way to your local theater. If you don't want to stay home, catch the latest horror flick or thriller at the movies, then sit back and prepare for the scare-a-thon as the cinematic magic takes you and your date on a roller coaster of gut-wrenching emotions.

Halloween is such an awesome holiday! Always remember to get a little wild and have a spooky good time with your sweetie!

Have you had a freaky date on Halloween? Share your chilling tales in the comments below!

Date Ideas: Be a Sweetheart





By Jessica Gomez and Shannon Seibert

The saying goes that the best way to a person's heart is through their stomach — and we agree! Take this weekend to satisfy your sweet tooth with some new recipes and fun in the kitchen. With these delicious date ideas, you and your significant other can indulge in sweet treats — and in each other. It's time to get sweet with one another! Get creative and bake something special. Surprise each other with samples of your favorite desserts and be sure to try them all. Remember all of those Pinterest recipes you've "pinned for later"? Well, now is the time to bust out your best Betty Crocker moves to impress your partner and add a new dimension to your relationship! Here are some yummy weekend date ideas:

If you need a little baking inspiration, you can never go wrong with chocolate: Brownies, cookies, cakes, or any other treat – chocolate is always the answer! You can bring a little extra something to your batch of brownies by putting crumbled Oreo pieces in the batter. You can also bury your honey's favorite candy bar in the cake batter for a sweet surprise. If you aren't a fan of chocolate, there are plenty of other sweet options on the web that you can whip up to satisfy that sweet tooth.

Related Link: Date Idea: Lift Your Love To New Heights

Play with your food: Consider this dating and <u>love advice</u>. Sure, you've always been told not to play with your food, but it's time to bend some rules. After all, we're adults! Make an assortment of yummy treats and blindfold your bae. Feed them one bite at a time and have them guess which one he's tasting or even the specific ingredients. If they get it right, then it's your turn to be blindfolded! If you're feeling a little adventurous on this weekend date idea, bring out your inner six-year-old and start a classic food fight. Flick a little flour their way, and before you know it, the both of you will resemble the inside of a mixing bowl. If you don't mind the mess, it's a fun way to pass the time while waiting for your goodies to bake.

Related Link: Date Idea: Stay Indoors

Decorate your tasty treats: After all, icing is just a step up from Crayons. Write your baby a sweet message on a decorative cake to show them you care. Something as simple as "glad you're mine" or the traditional "I love you" can make them smile. Afterwards, pair a glass of Sherry with your favorite dessert, and enjoy sweet conversation with each other.

Have any sweet secret recipes? Share with us in the comments below!

Date Ideas: Haunted History





By <u>Jessica Gomez</u> and Shannon Seibert

Black cats, haunted houses, and spooky ghosts — oh my! For those of us that love Halloween, these words excite us! Embrace the aura of that holiday with your love and dive into that Halloween spirit that brings you joy. Every town has their creepy histories, so discover your local haunts with your sweetheart for creative, fun weekend date ideas. Bond over scary and chilling stories out there or at home!

Here are spooky and fun date ideas for you and your partner outside and in the comfort of your own home:

Ghost stories have been around for generations to either scare or comfort the living. Research your town's history and immerse yourselves in its haunted mysteries. Some small towns have the best mysteries to tell. For example: Melbourne, Florida, has a haunted mansion on US Highway 1 that hosts a storytelling event at the edge of property each year. Rumor has it, Old Man Willis still hangs around the property and has made alleged appearances.

Check out local graveyards or town centers for ghost tales too: On Halloween, a lot of cities have public readings that tell the classic urban legends we all know and love. As the stories are shared aloud, hold hands — and hold on to your honey for extra protection from the spirits around you. *wink wink*

Related Link: Date Idea: Take In Some Cartoons

Together set up a spooky story sight of your own in the front yard: Dress up with your partner as a scary <u>famous couple</u>, like Morticia and Gomez Adams or Frankenstein's Monster and his bride, and read to the trick-or-treaters as they pass by. Not only is this date idea one you can enjoy with your partner, but you can enhance the night for the children too!

Related Link: Date Idea: Take a Trip Down Memory Lane

If you're staying in for the night, follow this relationship advice: Pick out some ghost stories and legends to test out for yourselves. Show Bloody Mary who's boss and confront her in the mirror with your lover at your side (spooky... and romantic?). No matter how old you are, there's always a voice in the back of your head that gives you the heebie-jeebies! For a more intimate date idea, prop up some blankets and create a makeshift tent in the middle of your living room. Turn off all of the lights except for a flashlight that you both pass back and forth while telling each other tales. Embrace your inner child and get cozy!

And finally, bust out Halloween's best tradition: the candy! Feed your sweetheart the holiday sweets — give your honey sugar. You and your love will be laughing the night away as you trade ghost stories and exchange candy-flavored kisses. What other cool things do you do for Halloween? Tell us in the comments below!

Date Ideas: Love is Magic





By Jessica Gomez and Shannon Seibert

Magic isn't just for kids, and it can be more than silly card tricks or a rabbit hopping out of a top hat. In fact, love is an indefinite form of unexplained magic. The feeling of love is a magical mystery that can give us reasons to believe in something greater than ourselves. This weekend, you and your sweetheart should leave your predispositions at the door and become enchanted by the power of magic all over again. Here are some magical <u>date ideas</u>:

Have a magic movie marathon: There are so many movies that will have you two love birds wanting to learn a few tricks of your own. Get some popcorn and other munchies to set the "movie marathon" mood and snag a couple of cheap bottles of wine while you're out too to prepare. Then, get ready to snuggle close together and watch recently released magic movies and the classics! <u>Netflix.com</u> has a whole category of enjoyable magic-based movies, so that you and your honey can have the pick of the litter.

Related Link: Date Idea: Lift Your Love To New Heights

Check out a local magic show: Buy some tickets or even go out and watch street performers in the park — magic can exist anywhere. Tour your local area to see if you can catch any of your city's hidden talent. There are also plenty of night clubs and venues that showcase magical talent. During the show, try to make guesses about how each trick is executed and compare theories. Some magicians incorporate the audience in their tricks, so get yourselves involved! Maybe being "sawed in two" will actually end up bringing you and your other half closer together.

Related Link: Date Idea: Indulge In a Night of Laughter

Look up magic trick tutorials: Do it separately, and then try them on each other. This will be a cute bonding experience and

you'll learn some new tricks – plus the ones you can teach each other as well. You give a little and get a little. Learn a couple, learn a bunch – up to you. Embrace your inner child and go nuts!

Have any other ideas on "magical dates? Share with us in the comments below!