Rumor: Britney Spears Could Be Engaged After Her Tour Ends





Apparently three times really may be the charm in this case. Britney Spears may be walking down the isle with her boyfriend and manager, Jason Trawick. Rumor has it that when Spears wraps up her Femme Fatale tour, Trawick will finally pop the big question after years of dating. According to RadarOnline, Spears is under a conservetorship, which simply means her father is in charge of her financial assets and well being. If Spears decides to get married, her father's lawyer will have to sign off on the union. Spear's family and two sons, Sean Preston and Jayden James, love Trawick and can't wait for him to join the family.

How do you know when to pop the question?

Cupid's Advice:

Proposing can be nerve racking, no matter how long you've been dating your partner. Fear of rejection and long time commitment can put an engagement on hold. Here are some ways to know you're ready:

- 1. Family: If your family is crazy about your partner, then he or she is likely a keeper. Do either of you have children? If you have already begun to raise kids as a team, it might be time to make it official.
- 2. You find yourself looking at rings: Talking about marriage and kids is one thing, but actually window shopping or surfing the net for a ring may mean that your ready to take the next step in your relationship.
- 3. Commitment: An engagement means a commitment to each other, and the ring lets other men and women know that your partner is happily taken. Some couples decide to stay engaged and forget marriage, while others enjoy a long engagement before sealing the deal. Whatever you and your partner choose, if you're in love and ready to make a commitment, its time to pop the question.

When did you know it was time to ask, "will you marry me?" Share your experiences below.

Fame, Fortune and Love: The

World's Wealthiest Celebrity Couples





By Whitney Baker

Hollywood's It Couples outshine us regular folks in more ways than one: they're happily in love; they live extravagant and fame-filled lives; and they have more money than they can possibly spend. With a total of over \$535 million divided among them, the celebrity couples on our list better have some shopping to do — or they're going to be carrying around quite a few hefty wallets. Here they are:

1. Beyoncé and Jay-Z: This celebrity couple is not only the wealthiest couple on our list — raking in nearly double the next-richest duo — but perhaps the busiest as well. Pocketing nearly \$124 million, they earned their paychecks from music

sales and singing gigs, as well as endorsement deals and clothing lines.

Related: <u>Celebrity Couples You Just Might See at a Sporting</u> Game

- 2. Harrison Ford and Calista Flockhart: Ford owes Indiana Jones a big thank you: the most recent installment, *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*, earned the action star over \$66 million. Flockhart starred in the ABC drama *Brothers & Sisters* (cancelled earlier this year after five seasons), bringing their collective income to over \$70 million.
- **3. Gisele Bundchen and Tom Brady**: These pretty faces earned a combined \$63 million last year. *Forbes* ranked Bundchen the world's highest-paid model for the third-consecutive year, stating that her runway work and cover photos earned her \$45 million. During football season, Brady receives his \$18-million-a-year paycheck.
- **4. Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie**: Reports from *The Sun* reveal that this famous couple spends \$10 million a year on their six children alone, accounting for only a fraction of their combined yearly salary of \$55 million. Another big chunk of their paycheck? They are currently renovating the \$56 million French Chateau that they call home.
- **5. Will and Jada Pinkett Smith**: With wife Pinkett Smith focusing her efforts on behind-the-scenes work (both writing and producing), there's no doubt that Smith makes his mark on the big screen. Grossing over \$5.8 billion at worldwide box offices and commanding \$20 million per film, Smith is the primary contributor to the couple's joint \$50 million a year income. With a paycheck like that, it's no wonder the couple is raising their family in a 25,000 square foot mega-mansion in Calabasas, Calif.

And now for the runner-ups:

6. David and Victoria Beckham: It looks like their 2007 move from London to Los Angeles is paying off, with the couple earning \$46.5 million in 2010. David's soccer career is supplemented with a few highly lucrative product endorsements, such as Armani and the after-shave and fragrance line called David Beckham Instinct, and Victoria has found chic success through her self-titled fashion line.

Related: Celebrity Couples Who've Made the World a Better Place

- 7. Ellen DeGeneres and Portia de Rossi: With Oprah running her own television network instead of hosting her show, DeGeneres is sitting pretty as the queen of daytime talk shows. De Rossi has been busy with her recent acting on Better Off Ted and sales from her memoir, Unbearable Lightness: A Story of Loss and Gain, making the couple's combined income \$36 million.
- 8. Gwyneth Paltrow and Chris Martin: Currently raising their two children in London, this overseas couple brings in a joint paycheck of \$33.5 million per year. While Martin depends on the worldwide success of Coldplay, the Oscar-winning actress's recent accomplishments include her performance in *Country Strong* and her guest appearances on *Glee*, as well as her family-focused cookbook, *My Father's Daughter: Delicious, Easy Recipes Celebrating Family & Togetherness*.
- 9. Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew Broderick: The New York City-based couple brings in over \$29 million a year, with Parker as the unequivocal breadwinner. She recently left her position as chief creative officer of Halston Heritage, but has plenty of other lucrative projects to fall back on, including that of movie star, perfumer and spokeswomen, not to mention her starring and producing roles in the Sex & the City television series and movies. Broderick has switched gears

since his teen heartthrob days (circa Ferris Bueller's Day Off) and now focuses his acting efforts on Broadway.

10. Tim McGraw and Faith Hill: Thanks to the talents of these two country superstars, they brought in a combined income of nearly \$28.5 million. McGraw has enjoyed 21 number one singles on the Billboard Hot Country 100 charts and recently ventured into acting, appearing in hit movies such as *The Blind Side* and *Country Strong*. Meanwhile, Hill's musical prowess has earned her a Grammy Award, American Music Award and the People's Choice Award.

Who is your favorite wealthy celebrity couple? Share your thoughts with us below.

Tough Love Miami: Steve Ward Talks About A "FunSexyCool" Way To Find Love In The Digital Age





By Andrew Pryor

Simply put, Steve Ward knows his way around the human heart so well it's a wonder he's not a cardiologist in his spare time. Having joined the family matchmaking business straight out of Drexel University, he's currently the CEO of Master Matchmakers, working alongside his mother, JoAnn Ward. They also co-host the breakout VH1 series Tough Love, now in its fourth season.

Being a co-host of *Tough Love* helped Steve share his relationship expertise with a much wider audience, and the show itself provided VH1 with a reprieve from the stigma of past shows like *Flavor of Love and Rock of Love*. "The executives over at VH1 were looking for more transformative programming," says Steve, "so that was kind of our hook." And that "hook" turned into a successful program that brought him and his mother into the limelight.

Related Link: VH1's Flavor Flav Says Keep it Real to Make Your Relationship Work

So what's a big part of their success, both on-and-off-camera? Well, in Steve's opinion, a lot of it has to do with the way their business melds hands-on relationship advice with new technological developments. "I really enjoy being on the cutting edge of technology, especially when it comes to the dating world," he says. "We just have to keep up with the times. Dating and mating are evolving faster than we are." This particular subject made its way onto a recent episode of Tough Love, where the women were taught how to text responsibly and were ambushed during dates with photos from their Facebook pages.

And Steve's newest innovation: a smartphone app named FunSexyCool. It combines technology and matchmaking in a way that's accessible and fun to use. It's an app that let's you upload a photo of yourself, look at the photos of other users, and rate them as Fun, Sexy, or Cool, hence the name. It's also one of the few social romance networks that actually rewards you for being active—the more pictures you rate, the more conversations you can have with other members of the site. It also includes a feature where you can contact a user in your general vicinity and chat with them.

Related Link: Five Reasons Why Men Text Instead of Call

"Me and a couple of tech developers I know were talking about how people seemed frustrated with the options that were out there for finding love, so we worked together to come up with something new," he says.

Interested daters can sign up for the app at funsexycool.com. And for those who want more of Steve Ward, visit MasterMatchmakers.com or watch *Tough Love* at 8 ET/7 CT.

Steve may be a practitioner of tough love, but it's definitely not difficult for people to fall in love with all that he's done to better people's lives.

'Twilight' Star Kristen Stewart Talks Love and Relationships





Actress Kristen Stewart has had a lot of experience with love, playing half of one of the most tumultuous on-screen relationships in the movie saga, *Twilight*, and being in love with her co-star, Robert Pattinson. *UsMagazine.com* reports that her advice on relationships was pretty simple. "Don't be an a-hole. Don't be mean. Don't take s-t. Don't settle," she said. The star continued on to say, "Good relationship advice for me tends to being honest and knowing yourself." Although Stewart is very into all things *Twilight*, she reveals

her boyfriend does not have the same appreciation. "Me and Taylor [Lautner] are actual *Twilight* fans, so we can sit there and be so totally into it! Whereas I sit there with Rob...He likes it, but he has just such a different energy."

How do you know when you're settling for a mediocre relationship?

Cupid's Advice:

When settling in a relationship, you mind may be saying, "yes," but your heart is definitely saying, "no". Be sure to take notice of the signs that you're not happy in your relationship:

- 1. No conversation: Communication is key in every relationship. If you and your partner's conversations are rare, take this as a warning that maybe you aren't clicking like you should be.
- 2. People take notice: If others can see the tension and awkwardness in your relationship, then you probably should take some time to analyze your connection.
- **3. No feelings:** If you feel nothing for your significant other when you kiss, touch or even look at them, you're most likely settling. It's probably best to move on.

How do you know when you're settling? Tell us your story below

Taylor Armstrong's Life Coach

from The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills Offers Tips for Today's Relationship and Finding Mr. Right





By Ashley DelBello

"I teach women to be ladies and men to be gentlemen," says model turned relationship coach, Melanie Mar who has worked with Hollywood's most elite celebrities and couples to help them find love in their life and more importantly, within themselves.

Melanie Mar is the founder of Melanie Mar International and a partner of Patti Stanger's Millionaire's Club Matchmaking

Agency. You may also recognize her from last night's episode of *The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills*, where she is seen coaching Taylor Armstrong about her marriage to Russell Armstrong. We had the chance to catch up with Mar and get her advice for couples in a relationship, as well as for those who are navigating the single scene. She offered some amazing insight. Ladies take note.

One of the most common dating challenges for single women who live in big cities like LA or NY is that they find it too hard to meet a man. "Women have become much more independent and now they're competing with men," says Mar. "There's a lot of masculinity out there these days and it takes so much courage for today's man to approach today's woman. He has no idea what reaction he'll get," she explains.

Mar continues by noting that anytime women are working, it means they're using their left brain, which is their logical and doing mode, it's the one that's needed to do a job successfully. The opposite lobe is where our emotions lie. Interestingly, the left brain is also the lobe that men use, hence where the competitiveness comes into play.

"There are four people in every relationship because we're all masculine and we're all feminine. You know when you're being one or the other. In fact, one of the things that I tell my women [clients] when they're struggling with this is when you've finished work, come home and take one hour and do something feminine. I don't care if it's taking a bath, walking the dog, or playing music. I don't care what it is, but get into that feminine side."

A Harvard study on why we marry found that approximately two-thirds of women marry for status and stability and the other 33 percent marry for sensual and sexual pleasure. However, the study found the exact opposite for men — where two-thirds of men marry for the sensual and sexual. When these men come home after work, they want to come home to a sensual home —

meaning they don't want to work or compete once they've walked in the door.

"If you're a woman who wants a "real" man, turn it off when you get home," Mar advises. "It's so crucial to take that one hour — and you should tell your partner that you need to do this to become a better girlfriend, wife, or significant other. It's so important for women not to compete, control or conquer their men because you won't respect them and the men if they're real men, won't tolerate it. You'll be banging heads every time you open your mouth."

Mar's generously offered some tips for those looking to find that special someone:

- Stop going out in groups: It takes a lot of guts for a guy to approach a woman, much less a group of women. Mar advises if you're specifically going out to meet a guy, then don't go out with more than one girlfriend. If a man does approach you, remember to be nice to him even if you're not interested (unless he is a drunk or a creep of course!), since he mustered up a lot of courage to come talk to you.
- Make your body language very clear: Look around. Find a guy you're interested in. Make eye contact, hold it and SMILE. Melanie calls that "dropping the hanky" and men need a hanky dropped! It's very difficult for men to understand what women are doing so Mar always says to "drop the hanky," hold the look, smile, and be open and inviting because he's taking cues from your body signals.
- Do not sit there, huddled in a deep conversation with your girlfriends: Enough said.
- Do not go up to him: Let him come to you. And if he still doesn't approach you, then you know that you did your part. He's either in a relationship, not interested or gay.
- Keep the ball in his court: If he gives you his business

card, turn it over, write your number on the back, and hand it back to him.

- Let him chase you: "That's another mistake today's woman is making," says Mar. "Women are calling, texting, inviting making it far too easy for men. He doesn't want it to be that easy. He might think he does, but he doesn't. He wants to work for it."
- Flirt five times a day for five minutes: Practice on guys that you're not interested in. Smile at a guy at Starbucks. Catch the eye of a guy in the grocery store. Wherever you go practice. You may not be into them, but you're practicing flirting. Some of them will come up and want to talk to you, but that's more practice (just don't forget to be polite when exiting the conversation). Eventually, you'll see a guy who you like and it won't be difficult because you've done it so many times.
- Ask yourself what type of guy you like and go where they would go: If you want a business guy who is worldly then go to an elegant hotel bar like the side bar at Beverly Wilshire. If you want a younger person who is more hip, then go to a trendy restaurant like Boa. If you want a church guy, then go to church. Make sure you've answered these questions before you step out the door.

Not wanting to leave anyone out, Mar's also offered advice for those who are already in a relationship:

- Get a verbal contract: "I'm not a moralist, but when you decide to sleep with a guy, it does make a difference." Mar says that having a verbal contract is important so that you both are clear about what you're doing. "I don't care what that contract is. I don't care if you have one that says this is a one night stand but you need one. "There's nothing worse than a woman having sex with a man and presuming that they're in a monogamous relationship. Just because a woman spends a

month or two getting to know a guy doesn't mean he isn't dating other people. A verbal contract will let you know where you stand so that you're both clear on your expectations.

- Negotiate time, sex, money and space: Take "time" for example. You say it's important to have a certain amount of time to yourself negotiate with your partner how much time that is. For each of these categories, you should also negotiate "I," "We," and "Us." The "I" is time by yourself, the "We" is what you guys do together, and the "Us" is what you're doing together with other people. "It's really important to negotiate these things in order to keep the lines of communication open. If you do this, then the arguments are less and the peaceful atmosphere is more." Melanie advises couples to negotiate often: every two months during the first year, every three months during the second year and every six months after that.
- It always comes back to communication: "If you can't communicate, you're in trouble. If you can logically communicate with each other, then you're already ahead of the game."
- Sex is important: You need to negotiate what's right for each of you and find that middle ground that you're both happy with. "If it happens more than what you negotiated, and you both were in mutual agreement, then that's great. If it's less, then you need to work on it," says Mar.
- Reconnect with your feminine side: Take a bubble bath, drink
 a glass of wine, do your nails just do something feminine.
- Communicate clearly and often: "What I teach is so important because verbal communication only takes up 15 percent of our communication ... so you better make sure what comes out of your mouth makes sense."

To learn more about Melanie Mar and where she's taking her

'Bachelorette' Winner J.P. Rosenbaum Loves Ashley Hebert's Dog Boo





At the end of the seventh season of the reality TV show *The Bachelorette*, <u>Ashley Hebert</u> chose <u>J.P. Rosenbaum</u> and accepted his heartfelt marriage proposal. Now that the <u>celebrity couple</u> is preparing to walk down the aisle, Rosenbaum has one last family member to win over: Hebert's pet yorkie, Boo. After they met for the first time earlier this month, the pint-sized

puppy got better acquainted with Rosenbaum and the two seemed to be well on their way to a great relationship. "They're good. They will be best friends," the former Bachelorette told People. With plans to relocate Boo to the Big Apple as soon as possible, Hebert is excitedly basking in what seems to be the start of her celebrity love story.

Bachelorette winner Rosenbaum gets along fine with Hebert's pet, Boo. What do you do if you don't get along with your partner's pet?

Cupid's Advice:

Introducing your new partner to your pet can be a big step in your relationship and love. Pets can sense emotions like fear and anger, so you need to be sure to relax and enjoy yourself. Here are some tips to consider when your love meets your pet:

1. Go on a date that includes the pet: It doesn't have to be anywhere fancy. A nice picnic at the park along with a few games of fetch is a perfect example. Pack some sandwiches for you and some treats for your furry friend!

Related Link: Dating with Dogs: Picking Out a Pet Together

2. Spend a little one-on-one time with them: Just like people, pets need uninterrupted attention as well. Offer to take them on a walk for 15 to 20 minutes so they can get used to you without your partner present.

Related Link: Dating with Dogs: What to Discuss Before Getting a Pet

3. Bring them treats: No pet can resist the temptation of a

new play toy or a delectable treat. A few of these will have them happy to see you in no time.

How did you get your partner's pet to like you? Share your experiences below.

Love Lessons We Can Learn From the Classroom





By Vince Scebbi

Now that school's out and has become a distant memory, you may be tempted to forget the important lessons you learned while sitting at your desk in math class, such as adding one to one makes two, that all right triangles equal 180 degrees, and, more importantly, how to subtly check out the girl two rows over, who vaguely reminds you of Emma Watson.

Everyone knows that students are not only absorbing what's written on the chalk board, but also the world around them...and that includes the dating realm.

So now that those days of puberty, driver's education, and prom are in the rear view mirror, true students of the dating game know how to take their classroom lessons and apply them to their current adult relationships. A big part of this process involves self-reflection on your past mistakes, while at the same time realizing that making wrong moves is how you improve your game.

Let's be honest — everyone learned lessons about "love" in health class, and I'm not talking about the physically taxing kind, but rather the lessons of your heart. Here are some worth remembering:

- 1. "Don't let the drama bring you down": It doesn't matter how old you are, because drama will always find a way back into your life. Of course, there's no easy way to cope with unwanted drama— you just need to accept that it's there, and keep your distance from those who cause it. Chances are that those who cause problems will end up with issues of their own.
- 2. "It's the subtlety of sexiness": One of the most important lessons you learned in school was how to interact socially. In relationships, this plays a huge factor at events, such as making the first move when approaching that Emma-Watson-looka-like. In high school, a conversation could easily begin with a discussion about homework. Now that you're older, don't over think it. Find common ground with your potential love interest, and hopefully both a discussion and a future date will result.

- 3. "Love is a reaction": With each relationship you make and break, you take a step closer to finding true love. Most likely starting in school, you began discovering what love meant to you, and how a solid relationship worked. Now, you can analyze your successes and failures, what you liked versus what annoyed you, and why you were attracted to someone in the first place. Chemistry class taught you what didn't work: some couples were like ionic bonds one atom giving, and the other taking. Although the theory seemed simple, that scenario rarely worked effectively, as sometimes other atoms were thrown into the mix (or, other people). The lesson you took with you is that the strongest relationships are the ones that tend to share and compromise.
- 4. "Farewell! God knows when we shall meet again": Shakespeare knows best! Whether you dated someone for four hours or four years, break-ups hurt and in high school, it always seemed to hurt worse. Between the first love experience, the drama that comes in the aftermath, or perhaps the idealistic view of relationships we have when we're young, it's just something we get through and learn from in order to grow up.

Similar to graduation, what we learned in school were the basic love lessons we carried into the adult world. But the work is never over when it comes to learning about love and relationships. It's an ongoing process that we're sure to get better and better at as time goes on.

Melissa From 'Bachelor Pad 2' Says She's Not Emotional Off-

Camera





Bachelor Pad 2 drama queen Melissa Schreiber insists she's not nearly as emotional off-camera as she was on the show, according to <u>People</u>. The reality star, who ended up getting played by Blake on season 2 of the show after falling for him very quickly, says she no longer has feelings for him. "My friends and family have been so supportive. They know that I'm not that emotional outside of the <u>Bachelor</u> world," said Schreiber. "It's so funny. Every episode, I get like 50 text messages saying, 'Who are you? We don't recognize you on TV.' For some reason, when in the <u>Bachelor</u> house, I'm overly emotional."

How do you avoid falling for someone too quickly?

Cupid's Advice:

Sometimes you can mistake lust for love and fall for someone you're interested in too quickly. This can often lead to heartache. Cupid has some advice on how to avoid falling fast:

- 1. Make personal rules: One of the best ways to keep yourself in check is to make a personal set of rules to follow in the dating world. For instance, make a rule that you won't kiss someone until the second date or you won't go on more than two dates in a week. Sometimes the beginning of a relationship is the most exciting part, so taking things slow will prolong it!
- 2. Stay logical: This is easier said than done. Sometimes our emotions get the best of it and we follow them with a blind eye ... or head, as the case may be. Make sure to think things through logically before making any drastic decisions or statements.
- **3. Cover multiple topics:** Falling for someone before you actually know him or her well is often a mistake. Prolong the "getting to you know you" process by asking multiple questions and covering many topics.

How do you avoid falling for someone too fast? Share your experiences below.

Fishing For Mr. Right — Types of Guys to Throw Back





By Kelly Rouba, GalTime.com

How to Navigate the Rough Seas of Online Dating

If you're like me and haven't found Mr. Right yet, chances are you've tried or may consider trying an online dating site. Over the past few years, I've created profiles on a few sites and never had so much as one date come of it. In fact, I decided to give up on online dating altogether last year after I discovered the one guy I was planning to go out with had a girlfriend.

However, I recently decided to jump back in the online dating pool after my housemate and best guy friend encouraged me to keep at it, so I gave it a try on one of the popular free sites.

To my surprise, my inbox has seen a steady stream of invitations from my male counterparts. I've also actually gone out with a few of them — the first of which I thought had real potential until he revealed his true colors a month into dating. As stunned as I was to see his alter ego emerge, I realize now that the signs were there and I should have

proceeded with greater caution.

Since then, I've vowed to guard myself and created a list of men and equated them to various types of 'fish' as a reminder of who to watch out for during my quest to find love. To all the lovely single ladies out there who are also searching for their soul mate among a vast sea of fish, I hope this list will help safeguard your heart as well.

The Blowfish-

This guy wants one thing and that's to get in your pants! He will come on fast and strong and may even disguise himself as Mr. Nice Guy on the first date or two before he reveals his kinky side. In fact, one guy I dated did just that. He went out of his way to charm me and win me over — even having his mom bake me cookies twice — before his conscience finally kicked in and he decided he had too much respect for me to use me for sex.

Moral of this story: Take it slow. All will reveal itself in time, and the real deal will stick around because he knows you are worth waiting for. So if you catch a blowfish, toss him back!

The Clownfish-

Everything is a joke to this guy, including dating you. If you go out with him, expect to be embarrassed as it's likely he will be surrounded by his drinking buddies and will succumb to their typical childish antics and rowdy, obnoxious behavior. The good news is a clownfish is easy to spot thanks to his goofy and drunken profiles pictures, so steer clear!



The Starfish-

Every woman deserves to be treated like a princess — and by that I mean adored and respected. A starfish will never do that because he is too into himself. While his narcissistic personality may not always shine through online, it will on your first date.

My last date was a mild version of the starfish, and he dominated the evening with conversation about himself. He never even asked me one question about myself and, in the process, he revealed too much about himself. I quickly learned he is 8 years sober, broke and doesn't really have the job title he proclaimed. The guy later texted me to let me know he was nervous on our date and will be "calmer" on the next date. Umm, what next date?

The Clam-

This guy may seem friendly at first, but as things start to heat up and you want to get to know him better, he will quickly "clam up." Dating someone secretive and tight-lipped only breeds suspicion and that's no way to lay a foundation for an honest and open relationship. Move on quick!

The Mussel-

Anyone got a mirror? This guy will need it since he will be

more into himself than admiring you. It's easy to spot Mr. Mussel, though, since all his profile pictures will feature his abs and biceps (and are often devoid of his head for some odd reason). If you don't let yourself get caught up drooling over his brawn (remember, you need a guy with brains too!), you'll look for smooth sailing.

The Shark-

Beware of sharks! These guys are ruthless and tough, and there's not a romantic bone in their bodies. Fortunately, sharks are also easy to detect since their profile names often have the word "death" or "dark" right in it and their image is equally as frightening. Need I say more here?

The Snake-

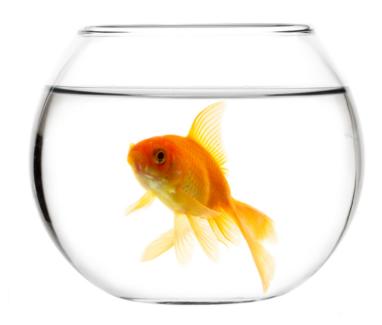
The snake is a guy who is looking to create trouble in your life. As a prime example, my housemate's crush found me online and asked for my number so he could text me contact information for some contractors who could repair my basement wall. After I gave him my digits, he instead hit on me via text and asked for more of my pictures. (He never did give me the contractors' contact information, either.)

Not wanting my housemate to find out from someone else about what had occurred, I felt obligated to tell her what happened so she wouldn't think I was trying to steal her crush. Sadly, she bought his bs response hook, line and sinker after she confronted him. The good news is that you can be spared this type of agony if you keep an eye out for snakes!

The Hammerhead—

You will find yourself beating your head against the wall with this guy. He always wants things his own way and will pout or whine until you give in — or he'll just walk away. And let him because there's no reasoning with him and all relationships should involve compromise so both parties are

happy.



The Goldfish-

This guy likes the finer things in life and will blow through his entire paycheck to get what he desires — from sports cars to gold chains (Notice I didn't say your heart?). It's all about making him look good and there likely won't be much left to spend on you, if he even wants to spare some change. Instead, look for a guy who is willing to pamper you too!

The Guppy-

New at dating, this guy just wants to play the field. He is unsure of what he wants, except for sex of course, and he is nowhere near settling down or even interested in a monogamous relationship. Fortunately, on some dating sites, you can tell when another user is online. So if the object of your affection is still on the prowl or barely setting aside time for you, move on!

Now that you've read these pearls of wisdom, hopefully you'll know who to avoid during your search. As a helpful hint, look for "the oyster." There's a treasure inside this guy that is worth waiting for. Happy fishing!

Jim Carrey Professes Adoration for Emma Stone in a Video





For actor Jim Carrey, age is only a number. The *Mr. Popper's Penguins* star posted a video on his official website declaring his love for Emma Stone, reports *People*. The 49-year-old told Stone, "Emma, I think you're all the way beautiful. Not just pretty, but smart and kind-hearted. And if I were a lot younger, I would marry you." Carrey went on to say how he wished he was "the appropriate age" for Stone so that they could have "chubby little freckle-faced kids." Carrey ended his video by stating, "I think you're very special and I wish

you continued success and artistic fulfillment. But most of all, I wish you love and contentment."

How do you tell your partner you love him or her?

Cupid's Advice:

Saying "I love you" is one of the biggest milestones in a relationship. Here are a few suggestions as to how to go about it:

- 1. Go out: Take your mate out for a nice dinner or a romantic date on the beach. The classic romanticism of the night will make for a memorable revelation.
- 2. Be casual: If overly romantic dates aren't your style, then be casual. Have your partner over for a movie night and profess your love as you fight over the popcorn. The casual atmosphere will be romantic in its simplicity.
- 3. Wait: If you can't gather the courage to tell your significant other how you feel, wait for him or her to tell you. There's no rule that says you have to be the first to speak up. While you may be holding on to your secret for a while, it's best not to feel pressured into telling your partner how you feel before you're ready.

How did you tell your partner how you felt? Feel free to share a comment below!

New Dating Apps to Manage

Your Love Life





By Rebecca VanderMeulen, GalTime.com

Is your smartphone the first thing to greet you in the morning and the last thing you see at night?

"If you're a power user of your smartphone, you should definitely use it in your dating life," says Laurie Davis, founder of online dating consultant eFlirt Expert. Given how indispensable mobile apps are these days, it's no surprise that there are tons of applications to help you find a dating partner and plan a rendezvous. Pretty much every dating site has its own mobile app, Davis says. Besides that, you can download apps designed just to manage your dating life. "More people are spending time on their smartphones," author and online dating expert Julie Spira tells us. "Mobile dating apps make it more convenient to meet someone while you're on

the go and are rapidly growing in popularity."

Our experts say there are so many to choose from, but here are some of the newest choices:

HowAboutWe

Instead of scrolling through ubiquitous profiles of singles who like baseball and long walks on the beach, why not vet them based on what they suggest doing for fun? Spira says this app does just that. Here's how it works: Post "How about we ..." and use your imagination to complete the sentence. Recent examples include, "How about we sit on a park bench and make up conversations for the people we see?" and, "How about we go see a band that neither of us has heard of?" Someone nearby post something that sounds fun? Send a message. That's it! HowAboutWe's iPhone app, launched in June, integrates with Foursquare — useful if you're looking for a happy hour nearby.

Bizzy

Looking for a new place to take that guy you met online? Davis advises checking out Bizzy, a new app (in Beta) available for Android and Apple devices. Like Foursquare, you check into that new coffee shop down the street and rate it. But Bizzy takes things one step further by asking you for your favorite places — like your thoughts on the best food truck, best live music and best salon. The app recommends places you might like based on your answers to these questions, ratings of places you've checked out before and preferences of people who share your taste.

PinPointsX

Spira says this is the app for when you're looking for a hookup. It shows you other members who live nearby, displaying information like their names, ages, height and weight. Of course you can also make a profile complete with a

photo and brief, tantalizing bio. Find someone who looks like fun and you can send a message or give him a call. PinPointsX lets you search for men, women and couples. Plus, the app helps you find bars and hotels once you figure out who you want to meet. PinPointsX is available for Apple devices and in the Android Market.

DatingCRM

Ever meet John during happy hour at that funky dive bar, only to confuse him with Jake from the hot club you checked out last weekend? Then you may want to check out DatingCRM, an app that keeps notes on all the potential dates you meet. While a new guy thinks you're texting, store tidbits about where you met, his favorite beer and what he does for a living. "It's like a digital black book," Davis says. Right now DatingCRM is only available in its private beta version since the developers are still working on the details. But this means you have a chance to give them feedback.

Got any others we should know about? Let us know your tip on managing your love life ... we want to hear from you!

'The Bachelorette' Contestant Constantine Says He Did Not Want to Marry Ashley Hebert





One of Ashley Hebert's final three suitors walked away during last week's episode of *The Bachelorette* in Fiji. Although it was clear that there was no spark between Constantine Tzortzis and Hebert, it was still shocking to find out that he wanted to call it quits. The 30-year-old restaurant owner openly admitted to *People* in an exclusive *Men Tell All* taping that he wasn't ready to get married to Herbert. He said, "You either have a feeling or you don't... My feelings were not strong enough at that point to justify sticking around and possibly going through with that next step of getting engaged." Tzortzis' family fully supported his decision.

How do you know when your relationship is headed toward marriage?

Cupid's Advice:

You and your partner both hold very strong feelings of love for one another, but how do you know he or she is the one? Cupid has some ideas:

1. Clarity about the future: A good indicator that your

relationship is moving toward that next serious step is that you talk about your plans for the future together. So, for example, you might discuss the intention to move to a new city and then have children together. You should both be able to paint a vivid picture of the future and see yourselves together in it.

- 2. Part of the family: Perhaps you've heard the saying, 'When you marry someone, you marry into his or her family.' Before you move onto marriage, you should feel a sense of belonging to your partner's family and vice versa.
- 3. In the friend circle: Not only is it important to be well integrated into each others' families, but it's also essential to share your buddies. It's okay if you don't get along with a few of your partner's friends, but it's important that the majority of them consider you a part of the pack. This will prevent you from having to make compromises about friendships during marriage.

What are some indicators that you're moving toward being more than boyfriend and girlfriend? Share your ideas below.

10 Ways To Be A Beach Bum With Your Beau





By Vicky Sullivan of Aspiring Socialite

During the hot months, the beach is the perfect place to go, either as a couple or while on a group date with mutual friends. Regardless of whether you're in a relationship or not, this location is the perfect place to enjoy a romance in the summertime — no wonder so many people choose to have beach weddings or visit exotic beach-side resorts on their honeymoon! If you're itching to head to the sandy shores, here's a countdown of the top 10 ways to be a beach bum with your beau this season:

- 10. Sex on the beach: It's not just a drink. But, make sure you don't get caught.
- **9. Take a stroll:** A long walk on the sand or the boardwalk is an ideal way to bond with your partner in the summer sun.
- 8. Have a picnic: Eating on the beach together is a sweet way to share a meal, whether it's during the day or under the stars. Bring a large blanket to sit on and watch out for those seagulls. They may be hungry too.

- **7. Ride horses:** Many beach resorts offer seaside horseback riding, which is both a romantic and unique experience to share as a couple.
- **6. Steal a kiss:** The beach is as good a place as any to grab a smooth from your beau. Plus, it creates an excellent backdrop for a passion-filled day.
- **5. Apply sunscreen:** Helping your partner apply sunscreen is amorous in two ways. Not only are you watching out for your partner's well-being, but you're also giving them a sensuous rub down and no one can criticize you for getting touchyfeely in the name of good health.
- **4. Relax in the breeze:** Try visiting the shore during a slightly windy day. The breeze and soothing sound of the waves are bound to cool you off.
- **3. Create a photo shoot:** In the dead of winter, you'll want to remember the fun times you spent frolicking in the sun. Take a moment to snap some cute shots of you and your partner, beaming and tan on a sunny day. Grab some shells to glue to a frame and voila instant home décor.
- 2. Take a scenic boat ride: Sail out into the ocean for a peaceful and relaxing ride. Or, if you want to pick up the pace, rent jet skis instead. Or, rent just one jet ski and share the ride together. Just remember to play nice and take turns letting your partner drive.
- 1. Watch the sunset: Stay until the early evening to enjoy one of nature's most beautiful gifts. A sunset over the ocean is a view you won't soon forget, and it's a picture perfect way to end a day you spent bumming around with the one you love.

What's the most romantic thing you've done with your partner at the beach? Let us know below!

Five Tips to Help Your Partner Feel Comfortable Around Your Friends





By Ashyia Hill

You've managed to make a romantic spark turn into a comfortable relationship, and now you want to bring your new partner around to meet your friends. Meeting your closest friends and family could be a make-or-break moment—especially if he doesn't connect with them or even like them for that matter. Thankfully, there are steps you can take to help make your lover feel more relaxed about the meet and greet. In

fact, many of these tactics are ones that we see celebrities using in their relationships. So, let's take a cue from a few famous couples with the following five steps:

1. Don't force your friends on your partner

Some independence in a relationship is healthy. AskMen.com put profile o f Tom Bradv together а and Gisele Bundchen's relationship that shows how the celebrity power couple has maintained independent careers that take them all over the world, while still cultivating a sizzling relationship. This independence can also be applied to your friendships. One way to do that is by scheduling time to meet up with your friends separately. That way, when it's time to plan a get-together, you can focus on helping your partner feel at ease instead of trying to catch up on your friends' lives.

2. Give them talking points

Just as celebrities prepare for their TV and magazine interviews, you can help your sweetie feel a little more prepared around your pals with a little prep time. Give them some background on the people they'll meet and match up any commonalities they may have with your friends. Another idea is to provide them with some fun factoids that will help get the conversations rolling and break the ice.

3. Plan a double date

Arrange a double date with another couple you know. This way, your honey can socialize one-on-one and get to know your friends better. Of course, you'll want to steer clear of double dates with friends whose partners you don't care for or you think your significant other won't get along with!

4. Take a trip together

You see celebs doing this all the time. Of course, you don't

need to fly off on a private jet to a world-class resort to get the same effect but a weekend away can bond people immediately. If you're tight on budget, keep it close to home.

5. Steer clear of friendly exes

Tabloids often publish pictures of celebrities remaining friendly with their exes. But getting your current flame together with a fizzled out one isn't the best idea. Instead, focus on life-long friends who have always been and will forever remain platonic.

How do you make your partner feel comfortable around your friends? Leave a comment with your perspective.

Ashyia Hill is a social media advocate at the cash back credit card website, CreditDonkey.

10 Cool Summer Date Ideas to Heat Up Your Relationship





By Andrew Pryor

It's a known fact that opposites attract, but even those destined for each other need to find common ground. So this season, if you can't stand the heat while your partner is soaking up the sun — or if you're basking in 100 degree temps while your lover is counting the days to December — try switching things up a bit. Here are five fiery and five frosty things to do with your significant other this summer:

- 1. Schedule a hot stone massage for two: Heat is a natural tension reliever, so enjoy this relaxing experience together. Give your stressed out muscles a rest and take your mind off of your problems, whatever they may be.
- 2. Indulge in exotic and spicy cuisine: Thai, Indian, Moroccan, Cajun pick your picante poison and indulge in a fiery mouthful. Spicy food is an aphrodisiac, so don't be afraid to stimulate your senses.
- 3. Throw it on the grill: Whether it's charcoal or gas, bring some sizzle to your summer with a delicious barbecue. Cook up

- a feast, and have an outdoor date together.
- 4. Light some fireworks: Watching sparks fly and explode across the night sky is the perfect way to ignite the passion in your relationship. Brighten up your evening with a fireworks display and hope for a bright and engaging future with your loved one. Just be sure to check whether setting off these bad boys is legal in your state!
- **5. Catch fireflies in your backyard**: Sure it's a childhood pastime, but sometimes, old traditions are the best ones. Stumbling around in the twilight, holding hands and grasping at blinking lights is a perfect way to work up a sweat and make great memories.
- 6. Make homemade ice cream: This is another traditional pastime that deserves to be brought back. Dump sweet cream and sugar in a bowl and whip up a cool and tasty treat for your sweetheart. Then sit on the porch and watch the sun set, one hand holding a cone while the other arm is draped around your partner's shoulder. How sweet it is indeed!
- 7. Take a refreshing swim: It's the greatest way to beat the heat in the summertime what more needs to be said? Just try to stay away from crowded public pools and beaches. Find your own private spot if you can.
- 8. Keep cool with a water balloon fight: Why not make keeping cool fun? Instead of standing in front of a fan or sticking your head in a freezer, get your playful aggression out with a water balloon barrage.
- **9. Celebrate Christmas in July:** The summer isn't known for snowmen and sleigh bells, but you can bring some holiday spirit to a summer climate. Dig out that plastic tree from the attic, sing carols to each other and exchange gifts 'just because.'
- 10. Go skydiving: It's a radical suggestion, but there's

nothing more invigorating and life affirming than feeling the wind whip past your face while you're thousands of feet above the ground. Try it with your loved one and you'll always have a story to tell your friends.

Do you have any hot or cold weather ideas to stir up a relationship? Share them with us in a comment below.

Top Five Reasons Why Women Fall Out of Love





By Julia Slovich

Although stories of cheating men have been dominating the news

lately and falling out of love seems to be happening a lot more frequently than people are falling in love, the situation isn't exclusive to men. Losing those loving feelings for your husband or boyfriend can happen just as easily to women. If you've experienced this in the past or maybe you're going through it with your partner now, the first step is to be aware of why it's happening. Follow these five reasons your fairy-tale romance could be slipping away:

1. Feeling Adored

It's important that a woman feels appreciated by her partner. Men are usually good at this in the beginning of a relationship when it's still new, but as the novelty ends, the attention may die down, too. Just look at Jennifer Aniston and John Mayer. She broke up with him because he was obsessed with Twitter, telling her that he was too busy for her, but in the meantime, his Twitter page was saturated.

2. Bored to Tears

We want excitement! And, if we can't have that, give us variety. If a relationship gets into a rut and you end up doing the same things every weekend or having sex in the same positions every time, a woman can get bored and lose interest altogether. Both people need to put some work into the relationship or they'll find themselves quickly falling out of love.

3. Honeymoon is Over

Sometimes, we can be completely unrealistic and think that our relationship will turn out alright because "we love each other so much." Unfortunately, that's not always the case. Once the honeymoon phase is over, the reality of the relationship can be a slap in the face. Pamela Anderson and Kid Rock were married for a mere four months before they called it quits. Both agreed that it was time to end it, and Pam said that they

just weren't meant to be together. It's easy to ignore all of the red flags when you're caught up in romance and passion.

4. Lack of Chemistry

Most women are looking for that spark that makes them feel all tingly and giggly whenever their man touches or looks at them. However, a relationship can't be built on sparks alone. Eventually they will fade if the relationship doesn't have substance.

5. Emotionally Disconnected

Poor communication (or no communication at all) is one of the main reasons women fall out of love. We need to feel connected to our partners emotionally as well as physically in order to love and be loved. When there's little communication, some women will shut down. Maria Shriver was extremely unhappy in her marriage to Arnold Schwarzenegger. Apparently, they hadn't been spending much time together in the last few years, and she was frequently absent from Sacramento where Arnold was the governor. If that doesn't signal a problem, nothing does.

It happens to the best of us. Sometimes we just fall out of love, but if you don't want to be another divorce rate statistic and want to make it work with your partner, use these five signs as a starting place to determine what may be going wrong and see if there's a way to fix it before it's too late.

Julia Slovich is a writer passionate about health, fitness & blogging. When she's not running with her dog she can sometimes be found writing about <u>laser liposuction</u>, cooking and a myriad of other topics.

Lady Antebellum's Hillary Scott Is Engaged





There was yet another reason to celebrate on July 4th, as Chris Tyrrell proposed to Hillary Scott during a romantic sunset on Independence Day. "Chris proposed exactly the way I've always dreamed. Our families were close by, but it was just us out on a beautiful deck overlooking a lake in East Tennessee," the Lady Antebellum lead singer told <u>People</u>. The proposal was romantic, yet casual, as it took place during a hike and the couple was wearing work-out attire. Although the wedding date is not yet set, the couple looks forward to "forever together."

What are some laid back yet memorable ways to propose?

Cupid's Advice:

It can be tricky to strike a balance between simple yet special ways to propose to your loved one. Cupid has some advice on how to make your engagement low-key, yet a memory you will treasure forever:

- 1. During your favorite activity: Do whatever you enjoy doing together, whether it's going for a hike, like Hillary Scott and Chris Tyrrell, or watching a movie. What matters is that you're surrounded by a serene atmosphere, so that you can tune in to each other.
- 2. At home: When your sweetie gets home after a day at work, surprise him or her by laying out some rose petals in the bedroom and playing some soft music. Then get down on your knee and pop the question. This is a romantic way to propose, yet it doesn't involve anything extravagant.
- **3. During a meal:** Presenting the sparkler over dinner at home or at a restaurant can be a spontaneous way to ask the question. You don't have to follow the scripted ring-in-the-food technique. Just go with your instincts.

Do you have any ideas for a creative proposal? Share your thoughts below.

David and Victoria Beckham Celebrate 12th Wedding Anniversary





July 4th is a day of extravagant celebration that's incredibly hyped every year. Not only is it America's Independence Day, but it also marks the day that David and Victoria Beckham said "I do." This year, the couple celebrated twelve years of marriage. The soccer star told RadarOnline.com, "It's a special day for us, it always has been and always will be." The couple has all the more reason to be ecstatic, with a baby girl on the way.

How do you make your anniversary special after a number of years together?

Cupid's Advice:

Your wedding anniversary is such a special day. It's a commemoration of the meaningful moments spent between you and your partner and your future together. Here's how Cupid thinks you can make your day truly unforgettable:

- 1. Relive your first date: Rekindle the romance and go to the same place where you spent your very first date together. Relive the day that marked the first of many special moments together.
- 2. Make a wedding day scrapbook: Gather up all the photos from your wedding day and arrange them into an album or scrapbook. You can also add new images by going for an anniversary photo shoot. Mark the passing time with a smile.
- **3. Prepare free love coupons:** Be romantic and make some free love coupons to give to your partner on your anniversary. It's a sweet idea. Just be creative!

What are some things you can do to make your anniversary extra memorable? Share your thoughts. Don't be shy!

5 Ways to Reignite the Spark In Your Relationship





By Andrew Pryor

There are always moments in a relationship when the sizzle fizzles out, the passion becomes predictable and burning desire turns into yearning for a simple spark. This weekend, take the initiative and find a new way to strike a match with your perfect match:

- 1. Light a bonfire: Keep your passion for each other from going up in smoke by lighting a roaring fire, whether you're at the beach or in your backyard. Nothing inspires and creates a warm and soulful connection like sitting together in front of a bonfire.
- 2. Take a camping trip: If you're super outdoorsy, try living off the land for a few days. Not only is it the perfect opportunity to be at one with nature, but you'll also be close to your significant other. Sparks are sure to fly when you're cuddled up by the fire, roasting marshmallows and making s'mores.
- 3. Have dinner by candlelight: If neither of you like to get

your hands dirty, why not spend the night in? The flickering candlelight allows you to see your partner in a new, smoldering light. Just make sure you've picked a designated dish washer before getting too cozy.

- **4. Go to a rock concert:** Sure it may be crowded, but when you hold your lighters up during that one special song, you'll each know whom your flame is burning for.
- **5. Revisit the past:** The best way to reignite a dying flame is to take each other back to a time when your love burned bright. So take her to an old movie, play an old song for him on the piano, or drive to the hangout where the two of you first met. Remember why you fell in love, and hopefully, your engines will roar back to life.

What's your favorite way to get your relationship's spark back? Let us know in a comment below!

Sponsored Post: Healthy Relationships Inspire





This post is sponsored by AOL and Jeep®.

Love, a simple four-letter word, is what inspires us at CupidsPulse.com. However, the simplicity of the word is contradicting, because real love is certainly anything but easy to achieve. We see the difficulty of relationships staring at us from the newsstands, television screens and when we turn on our computer. Now, more than ever, we need to focus our energy on positive relationships and re-frame our thoughts about the negative ones, turning them into lessons we can all learn from instead. When we see a celebrity pair that has survived the odds or decided to work it out, we grow anxiously inspired:

- 1. Jay-Z and Beyonce: They are hip-hop's power couple. Working in an industry where it's "in" to be single, these two fell for each other and believe in ever lasting love.
- 2. Kelly Ripa and Mark Consuelos: Kelly is America's sweetheart and has shown us that it's possible to balance marriage, children and a career.

3. Prince William and Kate Middleton: The royal wedding of the century definitely inspired us!

Love takes time, patience and a lot of work despite the fairy tale stories in the media. That's why CupidsPulse.com has teamed up with AOL and Jeep® to encourage single women everywhere to follow their dreams by creating an online inspiration board at http://www.jeeplegendarylife.aol.com/.

The **Inspiration Board** is a custom destination that gives you a chance to chronicle all the things that represent you and what you inspire to become — a forum to express your individuality and share with your friends on Facebook. Every woman who creates her own original Inspiration Board is entered to win a weekly random sweepstakes for a \$50 gift card, and all users are entered for a chance to win the \$4,500 Grand Prize — a great way to jump-start your legendary life! So what are you waiting for? Click here to get started.

Summer Lovin': 10 Ways to Heat Up Your Relationship





By Diamon Hall

Relationships require just as much attention as a newborn baby. While they start off sizzling with love and affection, they can easily fizzle out if they aren't handled with care. Since summer is almost here, the heat under your relationship's fire should be kicked up a few notches! Here are 10 tips to keep the blaze alight:

- 1. Reminisce: Go back to the very first moment you met each other and the feeling that came with it. Remember the fire in your partner's eyes when they were first laid on you? Bring back that fiery moment time and time again.
- **2. Hold the phones:** Turn off your BlackBerry. Shut down the laptop. Cut off all outside communication and focus on your significant other.
- 3. Surprise, surprise: Men, you can never go wrong with sending flowers to her job. Ladies, light some candles and put on his favorite lingerie for when he returns home from a hard day at work. Occasional, unexpected treats keeps the suspense and

awe alive in any relationship — even long-term ones.

- 4. Communication is key: No partnership can sizzle without it.
- **5. Plan a getaway:** A weekend trip by yourselves, especially if you have children, may be just what you need. Alone time gives a couple the opportunity to tune the world out and bond.
- **6. Thank your partner:** Let your better half know how much you appreciate him or her. Whether your mate has done something for you recently or not, just thank him or her for being a part of your life.
- 7. Spoil your companion: Without spending too much money, pamperyour lover in the comfort of your own home. Massage his or her back. Bring out the strawberries and whipped cream and feed it to your guy or gal. Have fun showering your partner with some extra love and affection who knows, you might get some extra lovin' in return!
- 8. Compliment your helpmate: A praisecan go a long way. Tell your loved one how hot he or she looks today. If your significant other changes hairstyles, make it known that you've noticed it. A simple positive may be just what your partner needs to boost his or her confidence.
- **9. Little things:** Pack a lunch for your beau or gal the night before work with a love note attached. Wash the car and cross that extra thing off his or her to-do list. Prepare a hotbath to soak in after a long day. Sometimes it's the little things that can make a big difference.
- 10. Three simple words: Last, but certainly not least, let the three words "I love you" roll off your tongue every single day. These words are the fuel that keeps every relationship afire.
- If you follow these 10 tips for summer lovin', your relationship should be one of the hottest!

'Teen Mom' Maci Bookout Says New Beau Is Her 'Perfect Lover'





Teen Mom star Maci Bookout may have had relationship problems in the past with her baby daddy and ex-boyfriend Ryan Edwards, but things seem to be looking up with her new beau, Kyle King. According to UsMagazine.com, Bookout twetted, "I love my perfect lover, Kyle King!" last Sunday. Bookout gave birth to her son, Bentley, 2, in October 2008. She moved in with her then-boyfriend Edwards, but bitter fights and drama led to her moving back in with her parents in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Shortly after moving back, she became reacquainted with her

childhood pal, King ... and love spawned from there!

What makes your man the "perfect lover"?

Cupid's Advice:

There may not be an absolutely perfect lover, but some couples mesh so well that it may seem that way. Cupid has some ways to know you've landed a good one:

- 1. Butterflies: If your stomach churns every time you're around him, and your mushy thoughts center around him when he's not there, it's definitely a good sign.
- 2. Sweet gestures: Your man buys you flowers "just because" and is thoughtful when it comes to things that count.
- 3. Chemistry: There's definitely something to be said for chemistry. If it seems like he's your other half and you're a better person when you're around him, he might just be the perfect guy for you!

What makes your beau the "perfect lover"? Share your thoughts below.

5 Memorable Summer Fling Movies





By Andrew Pryor

It's true that movies take inspiration from real life, but real life can also take inspiration from a good movie. So if you're not looking forward to this summer because you think the passion's gone away, get inspired by these five movies about summer romance. These tales of fair-weather flings are sure to raise your temperature and make you want to go looking for your own co-star — or create a love scene with the one you already have:

- 1. Grease: Starting off senior year with some passion-filled "summer lovin,'" there's no way this movie wasn't going to top our list. John Travolta is greased lightning in a bottle all throughout this rocking tribute to Rydell High, and his duet with Olivia Newton-John is the perfect ode to all that is loved and lost in the summer months.
- 2. Dirty Dancing: The movie that launched a thousand dance programs, this sizzling dance-floor drama defined Patrick Swayze's career through his dynamic moves, along with his chemistry with his dance partner (and future Dancing With the

Stars contestant and winner), Jennifer Grey. Watch it and be amazed at how much grace and passion is in one summer movie romance.

- 3. Body Heat: William Hurt is a womanizing lawyer and Kathleen Turner becomes his vice. When they meet, sparks fly and things begin to burn including their chemistry. A reminder of the all-encompassing and sometimes dangerous nature of passion and romance, Body Heat depicts what happens when a torrid affair turns into "all is fair in love and war" during a dry and unforgiving summer.
- **4. How Stella Got Her Groove Back:** For every woman who needed a vacation and found so much more, *How Stella Got Her Groove Back* centers around Stella's (Angela Bassett) summer fling with an exotic islander (Taye Diggs). It's a reminder to every lady that love can be found in the most unexpected places.
- **5. The Notebook:** This tried-and-true tale of mismatched love between Noah, a lowly country boy with a modest upbringing and Allie, a girl from the upper-crust of society with the world at her feet, is a movie-interpretation of romance king Nicholas Sparks' bestseller. This 2004 hit proves that happiness with your soul mate trumps sticking to class ranks any day!

5 Tips for Making Your Memorial Day Memorable





By Andrew Pryor

Though Valentine's Day gets credit for being the biggest day of love, Memorial Day should be known as the day of fresh beginnings. Although it's not officially summer, its presence symbolizes the new season and puts immediate energy back into dating, relationships and celebrations. It's the kickoff to so many great memories of the past and more to make in the future — backyard barbecues, laying out at the beach and summer travel.

Whether you're settled down with someone or fired up and looking for love, here are a few ways to make sure you have a Memorial Day (or weekend) to remember:

1. Head to the beach: There's nobetter way to enjoy a long weekend than by spending time soaking in the warm weather, especially if you live near an ocean or lake. If you're

landlocked, don't despair — just get creative. Create a beach theme in your backyard, or find a local swimming pool where you can soak and sun yourself simultaneously. If you're single, strike up a conversation with the hottie two chairs over. After all, you'll need someone to rub suntan lotion on your back.

- 2. Take a road trip: If you don't want to spend Memorial Day with sand stuck between your toes, fill the car with gas and spend a day on the road. Try traveling through a state you've never had the chance to explore. Search special attractions, or just see where the highway takes you. If you're coupled up, make this an experience you'll remember for a long time to come.
- 3. Pack a picnic: Summertime is the perfect for packing a picnic and heading to the park. Grab a comfy blanket and bring the cheese, crackers, fried chicken, or homemade sandwiches with a nice bottle of Riesling to relax the day away. If you're watching your weight before summer is officially here, don't worry today. After all, you can always take a bike ride or jog around the park before you head home. This is a perfect low-budget way to spend valuable time with a loved one.
- 4. Watch a parade: Parades are the thing to be a part of on Memorial Day, so don't mess with tradition embrace it! If you're dating, take your significant other to experience the colorful and patriotic event filled with blaring fire trucks, marching veterans, wonderful songs, kids throwing candy, flag bearers and scout troops all kinds of excitement. Spend time celebrating America, not only because of what it represents but because the person you love lives here, too.
- **5. Get out there:** Yes, red, white, and blue are important colors on Memorial Day, but another important one to recognize is the color green. Green means "go," so get out there and do something fun! Seriously, what are you still doing online?