

# Date Idea: Fire Things Up On the Fourth of July



Although Fourth of July is celebrated to commemorate America's freedom, its festivities make it a great day to plan a date. If you'll get the weekend off, as well as the fourth of July, spend your three-day vacation with the following ideas in mind:

- 1. Host a BBQ:** Plan on hosting a BBQ with your partner and invite a few friends over. Grill your favorite food and bake a fourth of July cake.
- 2. Beach:** Spend the following day at the beach and have a bonfire in the evening. Bring a blanket to keep yourself warm when you curl up next to your significant other. Don't forget to also bring along marshmallows, graham crackers and

chocolate bars to make S'mores.

**3. Picnic:** Spend Independence Day with your love by having a picnic in a park. Light up a few sparklers in the evening.

**4. Vacation:** Always stressed and no time to relax? Then take advantage of your three days off by taking a short trip with your partner. If you'll still be in America, make sure to check out the Independence Day parades that are taking place.

Live in Manhattan, New York? Macy's will kick off the world's largest fireworks display around 9 p.m. on July 4<sup>th</sup>. It's an event you won't want to miss.

Do you have any Independence Day date ideas? Comment below, and share with our readers. Enjoy the holiday!

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## 9 Frugal Dating Tips for Cost-Conscious Lovebirds





By Andrea Woroch

Summer is the season for romance as singles and couples seek magical moments amid the sunny and hot weather. However, creating a magical date can be a nerve-wrecking experience, depending on the dating situation. Thinking about what to wear, wondering if he/she will like you or stressing over what you will talk about is enough to make someone go crazy. With so much to think about, the last thing you need to worry about is your wallet.

Lucky for cost-conscious lovebirds, there are plenty of ways to spark a romantic connection without blowing your budget. Here are nine ways to enjoy a memorable yet inexpensive summer date:

**1. Time-sharing babysitting:** Finding a competent and dependable babysitter is often an expensive nightmare. It's almost enough to make a parent want to stay home. When you think about it, however, many others face the same situation. Why not swap services with neighbors, co-workers, family or friends for a free night or afternoon out? Otherwise,

consider sharing one babysitter among a couple of families and splitting the cost. Consider searching SitterCity.com for vetted babysitters in your area who will match your needs and budget.

**2. Avoid alcohol:** Even if you find a cut-rate meal (early bird special, anyone?), a couple drinks can greatly add to the bill. You might want to hit a restaurant that doesn't serve booze or make it an afternoon date. Otherwise, plan to drink and dine at a restaurant or bar that offers happy hour prices which is usually in the early evening. You can enjoy most drinks and food at very reasonable prices.

**3. Date with gift cards:** Buy a gift card at a discount from sites such as CardAvenue.com. They will save you anywhere from five to 50 percent on restaurants and other entertainment activities.

**4. Plan a freebie:** Dating doesn't always have to mean dinner and a movie. Some activities – like hiking, biking or visiting farmers' markets – don't cost a dime and tend to reveal more about your partner than a standard date.

**5. DIY date night:** Create your own dinner with a picnic in a local park. For a romantic touch, pack portable speakers with a pre-mixed playlist on your iPod as well as a bottle of wine and a few chocolate-covered strawberries for dessert. Not only is this DIY date an inexpensive alternative to a night on the town, but you'll score extra brownie points for taking the time to plan this special event.

**6. Get smart advice from smartphones:** Use your mobile phone to find local deals and date ideas. The Date Night iPhone app for example will help you find unique, interesting and affordable events that are sure to impress. The app randomly selects a "thing to do" for your next evening on the town, some of which won't bust your budget.

**7. Dial into daily deals:** Groupon, Living Social and other

group-buying coupon companies offer some great deals – up to 50 percent off – on such entertainment experiences as wine tastings, boat tours, museums and comedy clubs. If you're worried about appearing "cheap," redeem the offer when your date is in the restroom.

**8. Go cultural:** Many libraries and coffee shops offer free poetry readings and musical entertainment. Look for art gallery tours or free museum days to improve your cultural IQ while impressing your date.

**9. Create a thrifty movie night:** Instead of dishing out \$20 for two movie tickets plus cost of popcorn, candy and soda, plan a romantic movie night at home. Pick-up a free DVD from your local library or a new release for just a dollar from Redbox. Then dim the lights and serve some freshly popped popcorn or your date's favorite candy for a theater-like experience.

Consumer Savings Expert Andrea Woroch has been featured as a media expert source on NBC's Today Show, FOX & Friends, MSNBC, ABC News NOW and many more. For more savings tips follow @AndreaWoroch.

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## A Healthy Romantic Dinner for Two







By Brian Steele

Making a meal with your partner can be one of the most romantic things you can do. It's a fun and cheap way to enjoy yourself on a date night, and a simple way to get closer to your partner. The best part about this is getting a home cooked meal – and who can resist the simple pleasure of eating in the comfort of your own home?

However, you *do* want to make sure you're enjoying your meals, not suffering through them. Many individuals find it hard to maintain healthy dining habits because they don't want to sacrifice taste for a decrease in calories and fat. Luckily, you don't have to compromise taste for health, as it's possible to have a dining experience that satisfies both your taste buds and your body.

What's more is that it's simple and rewarding to cook a great meal at home and share it with that special someone. Your significant other will appreciate that you care about their health. In addition, dining together will go far in strengthening the romantic bond you already share with each other.

Make the meal with your partner and feed each other while you're cooking. This can be a very intimate and sensual experience, so get creative!

The following is a recipe for two that will not only satiate your hunger, but will provide a romantic evening at home:

**Ingredients:**

Four Portobello mushrooms

Shredded mozzarella cheese

8 tablespoons of tomato sauce

**Steps:**

1. Wash the mushroom and remove the stems. Once removed, the stems should be put aside as they will be chopped and used as a topping.
2. Place the washed and dried mushroom caps in a baking pan. Place two tablespoons of tomato sauce on each cap. Then sprinkle the mozzarella cheese over the sauce. When you are finished, set your oven to preheat at 350 degrees.
3. Take the stems that you had removed earlier and chop them up. Once chopped, spread evenly over the four mushroom caps.
4. Once the oven is ready, place the baking pan in the oven and let it bake for 30 minutes.
5. After 30 minutes remove and serve. The cheese may be really hot at first, so be careful!

**Wine:**

This dinner pairs well with red wine – in particular, a merlot or cabernet sauvignon. Red wine has two major benefits: It helps set a romantic mood and is also chock full of antioxidants, which research shows is advantageous to the promotion of good health.

**Dessert:**

This main course can be followed with a simple dessert of tea and Greek yogurt. Tea has additional antioxidants and Greek yogurt contains probiotics. Probiotics has been shown to aid in proper digestive health and no healthy lifestyle would truly be complete without them.

If you are looking for a great romantic evening in, consider trying this delicious, healthy recipe for two. Your partner (and body) will thank you!

*Brian Steele is a contributing writer at various sites like Probiotics.org.*

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## 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 no better 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?

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# Singles Event: Amazing Race and Scavenger Hunt



Need a new quest to help break the monotony in your life? If so, head out to the Amazing Race and Scavenger Hunt singles event this Sunday at 1 p.m., hosted by Meet Market Adventures.

Brought back by popular demand, this urban scavenger hunt will have new clues to figure out. Participants must collect as many items as possible – but can only use their feet or the MTA system. After the hunt will be drinks at a local pub.

They say life is a series of adventures; in this case, it's literal. Now get out there! Maybe you'll find someone to share your adventure with along the way.

**Who:** Meet Market Adventures

**What:** Amazing Race and Scavenger Hunt



**Where:** Stone Creek Lounge  
140 E. 27th St (between Third and Lexington)  
New York, NY 10016

**When:** Sunday, May 22 from 1 to 4:30 p.m.

**Cost:** \$19.99 + tax

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## 5 Fantastic Dating Tips for Cinco de Mayo



By Andrew Pryor

The Cinco de Mayo holiday was founded on May 5, 1862. On that

day, General Zaragoza led the Mexican army to defeat a French force nearly twice their size. It was one of the biggest military victories ever for Mexico, allowing the Union to build an unstoppable army. Today, America and Mexico both celebrate Cinco de Mayo each year to uphold the values of liberty and national pride.

In other words, there's no reason to feel out of place on Cinco de Mayo, no matter what nationality you are. Go out with someone you love (or go out looking for someone to love) and celebrate the holiday. In honor of the fifth of May, here are five ways to get into the *espíritu de la celebración*:

**1. Learn the language:** French may be the language of love, but Spanish is the language of seduction. If you want to spend time teaching yourself or your significant other a new way to say "I love you," learn a few new phrases from Supreme Spanish. For a real challenge, try going the whole day speaking Spanish to each other – remember to roll your R's!

**2. Try new things:** Cinco de Mayo is all about exercising liberty and freedom, and there's no better day to stretch your personal boundaries. Indulge in Spanish cuisine: anything from homemade *paella* or *enchiladas* to a night out for *tapas* will do. If you're not normally a romantic person, look up some poems by Federico Garcia Lorca and read them to someone you love. Watch a film about love, like *Y Tu Mama Tambien* or *Talk To Her*. Break out of your routine.

**3. Hit the dance floor:** If learning the Spanish language is wearing you down, communicate with your bodies through the language of dance. Again, it's a great idea to try something new with someone you love. Learning an exotic dance like the salsa will bring you closer together on more levels than one.

**4. The more the merrier:** While anything more than two is a crowd, Cinco de Mayo is meant for celebration and you can't throw a party without a mob. But if decking your house in



red, white and green isn't on your schedule, check if any of these famous festivals are happening near you.

**5. Fiesta today, siesta tomorrow:** May 5 only comes once a year, so take full advantage by making as many connections as you can, whether you're single and connecting with new friends or attached and bonding with the one you love. Cinco de Mayo is about loving your country – why not spread the love with others as well?

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## Singles Event: Flying Lessons



Single? Ever dreamed of flying? If you answered yes to both questions and you're free this Saturday, then maybe taking

flying lessons with Meet Market Adventures would be the ideal way to spend your weekend. Your day will include a preflight briefing, and of course, an opportunity to fly the plane. Never flown before? There are sure to be other novices on board – bond over this unique experience! Bring lunch, water and a camera to capture your moments in the sky.

**Who:** Meet Market Adventures

**What:** Singles Flying Lessons

**Where:** Meet at the NE corner of 73rd St. & Broadway

**When:** Saturday, April 16 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Cost:** \$179.99

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## Money, Honey: 5 Fun Ways to Spend Your Tax Refund with Your Sweetheart





By Breanna Olaveson

Spring is a magical time. The cold grayness of winter fades away into the freshness of spring, bringing clearer skies, brighter colors and warmer temperatures. And as if it could get any better, there's one more yearly miracle headed your way – the much-anticipated tax return.

This extra income comes as a pleasant bonus this time of year. There are a lot of ways you could spend the money, but what could be better than using it to make memories with your love? Here are a few fun, romantic ways to spend your tax refund as a couple:

**1. Splurge on better seats:** Use the extra money to get better seats to whatever entertainment you both enjoy most. Go see a play, a professional sporting event, or a concert, and give yourselves royal treatment: third-row seats, some snacks and a cab to take you home. It will feel good to not worry so much about money for one night.

**2. Play tourist:** Pretend you're visiting your town and go to all the local tourist attractions. Buy souvenirs at local

museums, historical sites, famous landmarks and local restaurants – and don't forget to take lots of pictures! This is a fun way to spend some extra cash while getting to know more about your city.

**3. Take a road trip:** With gas prices so high, this simple pleasure is becoming more of a luxury. Fill up the tank and hit the road. Bring plenty of snacks and make sure you have your favorite music. This is especially fun if you start driving without a destination in mind – just go wherever the wind blows you!

**4. Visit an amusement park:** April is a great time to visit local amusement parks because they're less crowded than during warmer months. Bring a sweater and enjoy having the place all to yourselves!

**5. Take a class together:** Learning new skills can be expensive, but that's what tax returns are for! Enroll in a pottery, ballroom dance, golf, or ski class. This is a fun way to spend your day together, and you can practice your newfound skills for future dates.

*Breanna Olaveson is a professional writer and editor and has been featured in various magazines, including Utah Valley BusinessQ, Utah Valley Magazine, Liahona, Ensign and MainStreet. She has a B.S. in communications and continues to write about business, entrepreneurship, marketing, success, lifestyle and more. Breanna is currently working with Professional Marketing International helping entrepreneurs reach their goals.*

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# Singles Event: White Water Rafting Class



What better way to celebrate the arrival of spring then by heading down class IV and V rapids! This Saturday, take a wild ride and go White Water Rafting on the Mighty Housatonic, hosted by Meet Market Adventures. Wet suits, life jackets, helmets and footies will be provided. After going down some of the biggest rapids in New England, you'll be driven to Bulls Bridge Inn, where a wonderful three-course lunch awaits you. Check out the site to see what you need to pack. Finding a new special someone is always an adventure! So this weekend, why not make it a literal one?

**Who:** Meet Market Adventures

**What:** White Water Rafting



**When:** Saturday, April 9 from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**Where:** Meet at the NE corner of 73rd Street and Broadway  
New York, NY 10023

**Cost:** \$169.99 (includes lunch, transportation and equipment)

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# Britney Spears Says She Has a 'Normal' Relationship With Jason Trawick



While most people are sitting around imagining the celebrity lifestyle as wild and crazy, Britney Spears is getting coffee

with boyfriend Jason Trawick. According to [UsMagazine.com](http://UsMagazine.com), Spears told Ryan Seacrest that her and Trawick's life "isn't that crazy" on his KIIS-FM radio show this past Friday. "We're really normal," the 29-year-old pop sensation insisted. "We work out a lot. We love to work out. We do stuff together like that. We take walks." The couple has been together since early 2009 and continue to enjoy each other's company ... even when Trawick is 'kicking her butt' in cardio.

**What are some everyday things you can do with your partner?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

Some people think you need to constantly 'one up' your previous date to keep a relationship interesting. On the contrary, Cupid thought of a few everyday activities that are just as special:

**1. Walk together:** Whether you walk to get in shape, to get to work or just to enjoy the weather, you can be doing so with your partner. It's a great way to just enjoy each other's company for an extended period of time, while relaxing and breathing fresh air.

**2. Eat together:** At the very least, share meals! There's no reason you can't dedicate at least one meal per day to your significant other. This will give you both a chance to compare days.

**3. Watch together:** Don't you just hate when everyone's talking about a movie or TV show that you haven't seen yet? Well, instead of looking at it as an experience you're missing out on, look at it as a suggestion for you and your beau's Friday night! It gives you something to talk about in addition to something to enjoy.

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# Is Taylor Swift Dating 'Glee' Star Chord Overstreet?



It looks like Taylor Swift has moved on from Jake Gyllenhaal. According to [UsMagazine.com](http://UsMagazine.com), the country singer was spotted at Thursday's L.A. Kings game with *Glee*'s Chord Overstreet. An Overstreet source said he called Swift up Wednesday to talk about writing a song together and following the game, the duo went out for food. "He will definitely pursue this," Overstreet's friend said. This isn't Swift's first date with a cast member of *Glee*; she was previously with Cory Monteith, who plays Overstreet's romantic rival.

**Do sporting events make a first good date?**

## Cupid's Pulse:

The first date is said to set the tone for the relationship. Here are some things to consider about a sports-related first date:

- 1. The person:** If your date has an interest in sports, then tickets to a game or team they enjoy is a good bet. However, if they don't care for sports, then you may have a tough time winning a solid first impression.
  - 2. The event:** If you have two tickets to a suite during the next Super Bowl or World Series, then no matter what your partner's interests are, you should be in for a winning date.
  - 3. The outcome:** Let's be honest. If your team wins, then it helps the overall morale of the date. A loss on the field doesn't necessarily mean you've lost the night, but it can be more difficult to come back afterward.
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## Penélope Cruz and Javier Bardem Find Time for Romantic Dinner







*Vicky Christina Barcelona* stars and now-spouses Penélope Cruz and Javier Bardem found themselves with some free time last week, reports [People](#). The couple, who just had their first child together, were able to get away for a romantic dinner in London at Gordon Ramsay. Onlookers say the two couldn't keep their hands off of each other and that they were looking very cozy.

**How do you find time for romance when you have a baby?**

**Cupid's Advice:**

It's easy to focus all of your attention on your new bundle of joy, but in order to main both your sanity and your relationship, make sure to take some time out to focus on romance:

**1. Schedule it:** It may not be the most romantic idea, but if you don't schedule some alone time, no one will. So make dinner reservations for two, and get a babysitter.

**2. Find a pattern:** Does your baby's nap time always seem to fall around the same time as when your partner gets home? Take advantage of it, and cuddle together in the rare



silence. Just make sure there's a baby monitor nearby in case both of you fall asleep.

**3. Create inside jokes:** Nobody will be spending more time around your newborn than you and your spouse. To create a connection during a less than private time, mention something that only your honey will understand. The inside information will bring a smile to his face.

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## Amanda Seyfried and Ryan Phillippe Spotted at Cozy Breakfast Date





Ryan Phillippe and Amanda Seyfried have been spotted together again, *People* reports. The pair were first seen at Kate Hudson's Halloween bash in October. Now it appears the duo have gotten more serious about their relationship and have taken it public, eating breakfast together at Los Angeles's Joan's On Third. Phillippe also stopped by the set of Seyfried's new movie, *Now*, where the two took a walk together during a break in filming. **What are casual type dates to go on at the beginning of a relationship?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

The great thing about starting a new relationship are all of the fun, quirky dates that come along with it. Low-key, zero stress and an opportunity to get to know a potential partner better; it's a win-win:

- 1. Outdoor fun:** When you first start to see someone, sometimes getting outside in an open environment can be less stressful than sitting inside a stuffy movie theater. Spend some time in a local state park and go hiking for an afternoon.
- 2. Hit the lanes:** There's a good chance neither of you have

picked up a bowling ball in quite a few years. Spend a Saturday afternoon alongside some young families laughing over the fact that you've been bowling more gutter balls than strikes.

**3. Movie madness:** If you clicked over the same love for a TV series or movie genre, hit up Netflix and spend a weekend afternoon with a movie marathon. Or play it old school and do a movie run to your nearest Blockbuster, making sure to pick up your favorite munchies on the way.

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## Date Idea: Plan a Snow Date



Looking for date ideas as Valentine's Day approaches? Make a

wintertime fantasy out of the coming weekend! As far as any of us are concerned, the magic of the holiday season lives on as long as it's cold. How else would we get through the low temperatures, right? So make the most out of the most romantic day of the year and spend some time basking in the beauty of winter before it's gone! Below, we share Cupid's [dating advice](#) for all the sentimentalists who just aren't ready to let the holidays go.

**Related Link:** [Dating Advice on How to Meet Someone for Valentine's Day](#)

Take advantage of your time off from work. There are so many outdoor activities that are going to expire come spring, so enjoy them before it's too late. Hit up your local ice skating rink before it's transformed back into a roller rink. For the more athletic, you can engage in a friendly game of hockey with your lover. If there's snow on the ground where you are, then have an end-of-season snowball fight. The playfulness is bound to bring the two of you closer together as you celebrate Valentine's Day.

## Dating Advice for an Unforgettable Valentine's Day Weekend

After all the wintry fun (or if you're just the indoors type!), you can stay warm and snuggle with your other half by engaging in one last round of sitting by the fireplace. Take some dating advice from famous couple [Reese Witherspoon](#) and Jim Toth, whose celebrity marriage makes staying home look like there's nothing more romantic in the world. Brew some hot chocolate and put on your favorite rom-com. If you'd rather *only* enjoy the company of your honey, then let your favorite love songs play in the background as you hang out.

**Related Link:** [Relationship Advice: How to Keep the Spark in Your Relationship After Valentine's Day](#)



If you're the festive type, try another date idea and have one last holiday decorating party: String up some lights and paper chains to get in the spirit. The decorations paired with a home-cooked meal will be sure to stir that home-for-the-holidays feeling all over again. If you really want to go back in time, the two of you can make cards for each other – just like the old elementary school days!

**What's your favorite V-Day date idea? Let us know in the comments below!**

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## **Date Idea: Bundle Up for Fun**



Just because the holidays are over doesn't mean the magic of



winter has to end. Cupid's got some date ideas for those who love to embrace the colder weather. Temperatures are ice cold, so there's still time to sport your chicest coat or get all toasty warm by the fireplace. As your toes freeze, as icicles form on your eyelashes, and as the snow falls outside your window, you may be tempted to stay inside, but there's nothing more romantic than taking your partner out for some fun in the snow!

## Relationship Advice to Enjoy the Winter Weather

**Related Link:** [Date Idea: Rent a Cabin in the Snow](#)

Sure, there are always the classics: snowmen, snow angels, and sledding. Why not try something a little more exciting this holiday season? Follow this [relationship advice](#) by adding a twist to the snow day classics while surprising your neighbors with your creative front yard. Instead of the traditionally white snowman, why not make a colorful one? Take some food coloring, mix it with water, and place the mixture in a spray bottle. Once you build your snowman, squirt the color on, and watch the snow change colors. Try layering different colors for a rainbow or ombré effect. You can also make your favorite fictional character come to life with just a bit of accessorizing: Use a lightning-bolt scar and glasses make for a great Harry Potter, or you can style your creation with a wig and a crown to create your favorite Disney princess.

For a more social activity, try starting a couples' snowball fight. Invite your neighbors and divide yourselves into teams. Whether you're playing couples against couples or girls against guys, you're sure to bond with your friends who enjoy a little wintertime fun. Building snow forts is another great way to get the competition rolling. You could also challenge each other to a snow angel contest or teach each other how to juggle snowballs.

**Related Link:** [Date Idea: Have Fun in the Winter Sun](#)

If you're feeling particularly athletic, take a cue from Hollywood couple [Jessica Simpson](#) and hubby Eric Johnson and organize a football game in the snow. All you need are some friends and a football! A game of tackle is no big threat when your field is cushioned with snow. Plus, it's a great way to enjoy the beautiful white winter but also stay warm. You'll get so caught up in the fun that you won't even want to keep score!

Share your best wintertime relationship advice in the comments below!

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## Taylor Swift and Jake Gyllenhaal Go on Another Coffee Date





Stock up, Starbucks! Jake Gyllenhaal and Taylor Swift have been spotted grabbing coffee together again, this time in Nashville, according to [People](#). The new potential couple made their second stop in a week at the Frothy Monkey for a cup of java. Gyllenhaal and Swift were also seen increasing their caffeine intake at Nashville's Crema on Monday and Fido last Saturday. All these coffee breaks haven't left these two strapped for cash, as it's been rumored that the duo tip well. **What's the advantage of a coffee date over dinner?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

If a dinner date has you panicked with thoughts of stuffy restaurants and a laundry list of table etiquette to remember, a laid-back afternoon coffee date may be right up your alley:

**1. Keep it casual:** Coffee dates are notoriously casual. You don't have to dress up, and you aren't pressured to order a smaller size with non-fat milk instead of your usual venti with a double shot of espresso.

**2. You have an out:** By scheduling a coffee date in the afternoon, you eliminate the awkward "end of the night kiss"

scenario. You have the opportunity to arrive and leave separately, and the stiff car conversation will never take place.

**3. Price point:** If nothing else, grabbing a cup of joe to-go is a lot cheaper than dinner for two. So if you'd like to impress on a budget, schedule an afternoon caffeine break coupled with a stroll in the park – the perfect fall date.

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## Seth Green Watches Wife Play Video Games for Hours on End



Newlyweds Seth Green and Clare Grant have been embracing each



other's silly sides since their May 1wedding, reports [People](#).

The self-proclaimed geeks spend their time together creating viral videos for Youtube and making each other laugh. This kind of behavior may not come as a shock from a pair who met in a comic book shop. "We might be together a long time before we think about kids," Grant admits, saying she and her husband are focusing on each other right now.**What are some unique activities to do with your partner?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

We all know that having one-on-one time with your beau is important. The question is, how do you keep it interesting?

Cupid has some special activity suggestions:

**1. Get out:** Are you outdoorsy and adventurous? Try something like rock climbing or sky diving. Find gyms or specialty stores in your area where you can practice on climbing walls before you attempt the real deal. If jumping out of a plane isn't your thing, perhaps a little white-water rafting is instead. These adrenaline-pumping dates will bring a smile to your faces and a spark to the bedroom.

**2. Movie night:** If you and your partner are more of a cuddle-up-at-home type, designate a night solely for yourselves: no calls, texts or other interruptions allowed. Rent a movie and play some board games, with special rules just for you. Or find a discount theatre in your area and catch a cheap flick.

**3. Wine tasting:** Take something you both are interested in and turn it into a hobby. Are you both self-proclaimed wine junkies? Find a local winery and take a tour together over the weekend. Afterwards, buy a bottle of the vineyard's own and enjoy it later on that evening.

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# Jessica Simpson Declares Her Love



Jessica Simpson is smitten with her longtime beau, football player Eric Johnson. The singer recently told [People](#) of her Thanksgiving plans with Johnson, saying, “...We’re all gonna be in New York. I’m gonna be on a [Macy’s parade] float. It’s not always the best way to spend a Thanksgiving, but it’s a great way to celebrate.” The couple started dating in May, and their relationship seems to be getting very serious.

“He’s the one for me right now! I’m very happy, I’m in a great place and if right now could last forever, I’d take it.” Simpson says Johnson is extremely supportive. “He went and got a sweater and a bowtie to try to lift my spirits

because I [had] been working extremely hard. I laughed my butt off!" she recalls. "I couldn't ask for a better man in my life right now."**What are some romantic/unique ways to make your partner laugh?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

Whether it be stress, routine, or boredom, a good laugh can solve a good many relationship problems. Here are a few ways to get a laugh:

**1. Sing together:** Try karaoke, or burst into song. The worse your voice is, the funnier you will be. Print out lyrics to an Adam Sandler song, and unleash your vocal prowess! Your neighbors may be in agony, but at least you and your beau will have fun!

**2. Be brave:** Consult Eric Johnson's play book, and be brave. Grab a funny outfit, and wear it in public. A sweater vest and a bowtie may make others look at you strangely, but your mate will find it hilarious.

**3. Movies:** If you're the worst comedian on the planet, grab your Blockbuster card. Rent a few funny movies, and spend the night watching them. You and your partner are sure to share a few laughs.

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## **Lamar Odom Plans Anniversary Surprise for Khloe Kardashian**



Lamar Odom has something special planned for wife Khloe Kardashian on their one-year-anniversary; he's just not sharing. "I kind of got to keep it a secret," explained Odom to [Us Weekly](#). Kardashian was also tight-lipped. "I don't know. I found out that there's a surprise happening, but I have no idea – and I don't want to know." The couple, who married after a quick one-month courtship, have faced scrutiny about the depth of their marriage. "I've never faulted people for [that]," says Kardashian. "I totally get it. I've always said from day one that it's real love, and it is, but I've never, ever was angry with anyone for thinking anything that way. I was only upset when people said we had a fake wedding." Despite criticism, the couple are standing strong and hope to have a child in the near future.

### **What are some creative ways to celebrate your anniversary?**

Sure, there are the obvious routes: romantic dinner, picnic at the park or a night in an expensive hotel. Try branching out



because your thoughtfulness will be appreciated. Here are just a few suggestions:

### **Cupid's Advice:**

- 1. Hot air balloon ride:** While finding a hot air balloon service may be difficult depending on where you live, the spectacular views and exhilarating experience will be extremely worthwhile.
  - 2. Play hooky:** Skip work for a day, and drive to the nearest city. Have fun looking around in shops and eating at interesting restaurants.
  - 3. Go to a florist/garden:** Instead of sending your partner flowers, take them to a florist or a garden and pick out your own flowers. Then, go searching for a vase to put them in.
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**Tori Spelling & Dean  
McDermott Give Each Other  
Mani-Pedis**





90210 star Tori Spelling and her family seem to always be making news. This week is no different, with Spelling's husband, *Home Sweet Hollywood* star Dean McDermott, recently telling [\*InTouch Magazine\*](#) all about his family's interesting hobbies. One of their favorites? Mani-pedis. "I call it 'Male Polish,'" said McDermott. "We started doing each other's nails, and I love it. I'm wearing blue right now on my toes! I don't know why everyone doesn't do it!" Spelling adds, "I wanted to paint my nails gun metal for the night, so I borrowed [Dean's] nail polish." The couple's young children also like to participate. "Whenever we can, they come get manicures and pedicures with us and they love it!" said McDermott. "Liam has blue and red on his toes like Spider-Man this week and green on his fingernails like The Hulk." **What are some fun bonding activities for you and your partner?**

### **Cupid's Advice:**

You don't always need a reservation at an extravagant restaurant to make your date memorable. Try partaking in some fun activities for easy laughs and quality one-on-one time. Cupid has a few ideas:

**1. Board game:** Open up your cupboard and fish out an old board game, like Monopoly or Risk. Though you may have to dust off the game pieces, you and your beau will appreciate the simple and amusing activity.

**2. Movie exploration:** Try finding some old movies neither of you have seen in ages. Funny 80s movies, like *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*, will have you laughing hysterically together.

**3. Video games:** If your partner is into video games, then he will have fun teaching you how to play. If you're the one crazy about them, then you'll enjoy watching him squirm as you repeatedly beat him. Your prowess in shooting zombies or braving the difficult stages of *Guitar Hero* will be sure to impress (or embarrass). Either way, you'll both be rolling on the carpet.

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## Renee Zellweger & Bradley Cooper Get Fit Together





Exercise for two? We'll take it! Renee Zellweger and Bradley Cooper recently signed up for short-term memberships at The Aquatics Fitness Club in Cooper's hometown (Abington, Pa.), the [\*New York Post\*](#) reported last week.

**What are some easy ways you can stay fit with your partner?**

**Cupid's Advice:**

Trying to balance work, home, and exercise can be a workout all on its own. Read on for Cupid's easy ways to spend quality time with your lover while also getting in a workout:

**1. Plan for it:** Sit down each week with your planners in front of you and find free time during your lunch break to take a bike ride through the park together. If the weather's being uncooperative, find a place where you can exercise in a fun and unique way, such as trying your luck at indoor rock climbing.

**2. Make it a date:** If you only have early or late hours free to work out together, check your area for 24 Hour Fitness Centers or similar businesses that offer round-the-clock fitness, or extended hours for night owls.



**3. Take the plunge:** Water sports are great for enjoying time together by providing closeness you just can't get from lifting weights! Venture outside the local pool and find places that offer outdoor water sports.

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## Date Idea: Cook a Romantic Dinner



Need a fun date idea for this weekend? Cupid's got you covered with some amazing [dating advice](#)! There's never been a better time to get creative in the kitchen. Cooking is a skill that

can relieve stress and bring people together. Not to mention, it's a useful talent at any event, any time of year. No matter how you choose to perfect your skills, you're bound to benefit greatly; taking a class will allow you to truly master the recipe, and cooking at home will ensure plenty of leftovers. You can take classes as a couple or in a group. No matter how you decide to go about it, you're sure to turn up the heat with this weekend date idea.

**Related Link:** [Prince William and Kate Middleton Take Cooking Class](#)

## Dating Advice for Culinary Enthusiasts

Look at local colleges or culinary institutes for classes. Some restaurants even offer them right in their own kitchens. Consider your favorite spot in town, and see if they offer what you're looking for. You'll be sure to utilize the skills in the future if you're learning to create your longtime favorite dish. If you're interested in learning how to pair meals with drinks, you can find a class that covers it all! Need help? It's ultra-easy these days to research affordable classes online.

If you want to stay in, there are plenty of ways to work your magic around the stove. Check out the recipes for couples on Cooks.com, or just look up ideas for your favorite ingredient. Remember to go grocery shopping for everything ahead of time, and take into account any significant preparation time. You also want to be sure to create a romantic ambiance, so that all your hard work can be truly appreciated. Reality TV star [Khloe Kardashian](#) is an expert on setting a pristine kitchen scene, so be sure to check out some of her tutorials in order to make sure the night is just right.

**Related Link:** ['RHONJ' Star Kathy Wakile Talks Desserts in Celebrity Video Interview: "Indulge. It's Not Going to Kill You!"](#)

In the NYC area? Check out the New York City Travel Guide for neighborhood restaurants that offer cooking classes and wine tastings for couples.

**Have a romantic recipe or hot spot you'd recommend? Comment below and share your dating advice with our other readers!**