

Celebrity Interview: 'High School Musical: The Musical: The Series' Star Frankie Rodriguez Talks Love and Reboot



Interview by Lori Bizzoco. Written by Ellie Rice.

Frankie Rodriguez is a young, rising actor known for his work on the *High School Musical* reboot, *High School Musical: The Musical: The Series*, and his guest appearance as Eduardo, on ABC's *Modern Family*. His groundbreaking role as Carlos on *HSMTMTS*, as an openly gay choreographer, has led him to center stage and into the hearts of many. A California native,

Rodriguez has always had a love for the entertainment industry and a passion for acting. When not on screen, he loves collecting sneakers and interior decorating! In our exclusive [celebrity interview](#), Rodriguez chats about the show and gives our readers some dating advice for those looking to make the first move.

In our [celebrity interview](#) with *High School Musical: The Musical: The Series* star Frankie Rodriguez, we get a glimpse into the world of young Hollywood, some dating tips, and insights on the *HSMTMS* series!

HSMTMS follows the students of the East High drama club as they are set to put on the school's first production of "High School Musical". Episodes feature musical numbers unique to the reboot, and some of the beloved melodies from the original. Relationships are formed as the students of East High embark on their high school journey.

Related Link: [Celebrity Interview: The Biggest Loser's Erica Lugo Talks Weight Loss and New Season](#)

As a member of such a beloved franchise and one that has been of constant relevance to popular culture, we asked Rodriguez how it felt to be a Wildcat. "I still pinch myself every morning. Getting to be a part of this franchise has been a literal dream come true." Citing Zac Efron and Ashley Tisdale as the only two original cast members he has yet to meet, he claims to be crossing all fingers and toes in hopes for an interaction with the pair!

We asked Rodriguez how he knew that a career in the film

industry was where he should be. He explained, "I always loved singing and dancing, so I think a career in entertainment was always in the cards. I remember watching the sunset on my first night living in Los Angeles and thinking this is exactly where I'm supposed to be."

Related Link: [Relationship Advice: Will Your Perfect Partner Vision Become Reality?](#)

And, with moving to a new city comes new relationships. Viewers watched as Rodriguez' character on the show, Carlos, found love this season after taking that leap of faith, and hopefully inspiring others to do the same. We asked Rodriguez if he had a special someone in his life to which he joked, "Does a cardboard cutout of Zac Efron count? Haha, KIDDING! Yes, there is someone very special. :)"

Diving into a new relationship can be scary, especially if you are unsure of the other person's feelings towards you. But as Rodriguez told us, "Take the chance! If they say 'yes,' AMAZING! But if it doesn't turn out your way, that's okay too! Have your BFF ready with your favorite ice cream and romcom". We think this is some pretty sound advice, as nothing heals a wounded heart quite like your friends and some Ben & Jerry's. Anything can happen, and you won't know until you take that chance, so be brave and bold!

After coming out to his friends and family at fifteen, Rodriguez has been very open about his sexuality. We asked him if he had any advice for teens ready to come out and express their own sexuality. He shared, "Even though coming out can be a little scary, it's so worth it! After coming out, I was able to put aside the fear of what other people would think, and I was able to live for myself. Life is way too short. Be YOU!"

The courage it takes to fully express yourself and be who you truly are is incredibly inspiring. Rodriguez explained that a standout moment during filming for him was the dance scene in

the “Homecoming” episode, where he is able to be himself with the boy he likes. “It was such a moment for Carlos and Seb’s relationship and history making for Disney. I’m so proud of that episode and to be a part of it”. This show serves as a huge step in the direction of inclusion for Disney, as featuring teens from all aspects of life is so important for viewers to see.

So what can we expect from Frankie Rodriguez in the future? With *HSMTMTS* back for a second season, Carlos and the Wildcats will be tearing up our screens once again. Beyond that, we hope to see this self-described Broadway nerd taking the stage one day! As Rodriguez shared with us, “I’m very inspired by nice people who work incredibly hard. I’ve had so many co-workers (including the cast of *HSM*) who inspire me to go above and beyond”. An inspiration to so many himself, we can’t wait to see where the future takes him.

Want to keep up with Frankie? You can follow him on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

Date Idea: Carve Your Way Into His Heart





By Emma L. Wells and [Bonnie Griffin](#)

This [date idea](#) begins at your local pumpkin patch, farmer's market, or supermarket where you and your significant other can pick out the perfect pumpkins to decorate for Halloween. Don't buy only two pumpkins; grab a bunch of different sizes so you can make your very own pumpkin patch. To strengthen your relationship and love on this date idea, all you need are some pumpkins and a little creativity!

Get Creative With This Pumpkin-Themed Date Idea

This date idea is a little messy but really fun. You can attempt all sorts of themes with your jack-o-lanterns. Try making scary and happy faces. If you're really artistic, pull out all the stops and carve your pumpkins into someone's likeness, like a celebrity or maybe even your beau. If you don't feel like making faces, you can dress up your pumpkin in fun patterns instead. You don't have to be skilled with a knife to make them look great! Consider decorating them with a

little glue and glitter or paint to make a glitzy jack-o-lantern. It doesn't matter how they turn out; the main thing is to give it your best shot and enjoy the time with your partner.

Related Link: [Top 10 Halloween Treats For Your Mate That Won't Ruin Their Waistline](#)

You two may have so much fun that you'll want to keep going! Spread your happiness around by buying smaller pumpkins and carving or decorating them to give as gifts to your friends and family. Place yours around your house, inside and out, to really get your home ready for Halloween.

Related Link: [Best Celebrity Couple Costumes for Halloween](#)

Carving pumpkins is also the perfect time for you and honey to discuss your Halloween costume ideas. Consider this dating advice and think about choosing a couples costume this year. Get into the spirit of this weekend date idea by munching on Halloween snacks and treats and putting on a Halloween playlist or movie to entertain and inspire you.

After you're done with the carving and clean-up, you can even try your hand at making delicious dried pumpkin seeds from the leftovers. You and your partner will have plenty to talk about – like your favorite Halloween memory – as you express your creative side!

Have you and your mate carved pumpkins together before? Tell us about it below!

Date Idea: Get Your Relationship Off the Ground



By [Mara Miller](#)

Are you getting bored with your typical date nights? There's only so many times you can do dinner and a movie before it becomes tedious. If you're looking for a way to spice up your relationship, then you should consider trying something unique and different to get your relationship off the ground with this dating advice and dating tips.

Check out this date idea for unique

date night plans!

Since it's still summer (just barely!), amusement parks are "just the ticket" for some a high thrill good time. From rides to live entertainment to great fried food, they have everything to make your date a memorable and adventurous one.

Scream your lungs out on a wild roller coaster ride, feed each other some cotton candy, stand hand-in-hand and exchange kisses in line or have fun laughing at each other trying to win that elusive prize!

Related Link: [Date Idea: Finders Keepers](#)

Check out the 10 Best Amusement Parks in America if you aren't sure which park to visit. If you live in Pennsylvania, Dorney Park is a great choice. It has fairly short lines, which means you'll have a better chance of getting on most of the rides. If you're a chocolate addict, you may want to visit Hershey Park, where there are both rides and delicious chocolate.

Related Link: [Date Idea: Mid-Year Resolutions](#)

After spending an entire day at a theme park with your partner, give your body a chance to relax from the major adrenaline rush by going on a boat ride the next day. Feel the cool breeze on your face and enjoy the tranquility of the ocean, while taking in the gorgeous views and sharing some bonding conversations – possibly about your date the day before.

Getting your relationship off the ground may not be as difficult as you anticipated, but more fun than you ever imagined.

Have any other ideas to lift your relationship off the ground? Share them with Cupid! And if you want other themed date ideas, drop a comment below!

Date Idea: Pop the Cork!



By Emma L. Wells and [Mara Miller](#)

While wine tasting at a vineyard is an excellent and romantic [date idea](#), it can also be costly and hard to arrange if you don't live near a winery or the savings for a trip. Even better: you don't need to head to Napa to enjoy a romantic and fun night with your beau for your next [date night](#)!

Let the wine and conversation flow

this weekend with this date idea!

Wine tasting can actually be an easy and cheap date idea in this [dating advice](#). Try visiting different restaurants and bars in your area. At each location, ask for a glass of your server's favorite wine. If you want to stick within a certain price point or have a preference of red versus white, it's totally acceptable to share when you order. Just say something like, "We'd really like to try a glass of your favorite white wine, preferably in the 10-20 dollar range."

Related Link: [Date Idea: Rain, Rain, Come Out and Play](#)

Ask your server why this particular wine is their favorite or where the grapes were grown; that way, you can learn a little bit about each wine you taste. Test your palate and see if you can taste what they're talking about. You might even consider bringing along a wine tasting guide. A simple Google search will bring up many options to get you started. Take notes on your phone to help you remember what wines you liked best (either the name of the wine or even just the region of the vineyard).

This date idea can be as flexible or planned as you want. You may prefer to scope out restaurants or bars ahead of time and make an itinerary for the evening. If you want to be a bit more spontaneous, just pick a starting point, enjoy your first glass of wine, and then stroll around the block until you find your next spot.

To make the most of this dating advice, think about heading out earlier in the evening so you snag the happy hour deals. After a few stops, find a good spot for a nice dinner. Consider switching it up by ordering your favorite wine for your partner to try. If they don't like it, you know it won't go to waste!

Related Link: [Date Idea: One, Two, Walk in My Shoes](#)

Making this date idea a success is easy; just be open to trying new things and having fun. As the wine flows, so will the conversation. Location hopping will help you get to know your hometown better, and you may even find a new favorite place to hang out.

Tell us about your favorite wine tasting adventure with your partner!

Dating Advice: Plan a City Scavenger Hunt





By Amanda Boyer and [Mara Miller](#)

If you're looking for a fun and active date idea, head into the city for a new adventure! Instead of doing the same old thing – shopping followed by dinner and a movie – change it up. A scavenger hunt is a perfect way to get to know your hometown even more. To turn this [relationship advice](#) into a competition, invite your friends and their partners to join you.

Follow This Dating Advice to Plan a Scavenger Hunt!

Look online for lists of items to search for during your scavenger hunt. Sites like Pinterest have great ideas that are catered to specific cities. If you want to get even more creative, you can combine different lists and make your own. You could even focus on a specific theme, like cultural activities or historical spots.

Related Link: [Dating Advice: 5 Online Dating Tips to Start the](#)

[New Year Right](#)

On the day of the event, assign certain items from the list to each couple. For this weekend date idea, distribute the lists and make sure each couple has a camera to document their finds. To give you and your partner an advantage, make sure you have a GPS and map. To be even more prepared, bring extra batteries for your camera and portable chargers for your phones in case of emergencies. Be sure to pick a place and time to meet up in a few hours too!

Related Link: [Dating Advice: How to Make Summer Love Last](#)

During your time in the city, don't just complete everything on your list; create memories too. Stop and take pictures together at fun areas around town. Hold hands and reminisce about your relationship and love. Once the hunt is over and you've met back up with your friends, share your findings over dinner and drinks.

Have you ever planned a scavenger hunt with your love? Tell us your best relationship advice below!

Dating Advice: What To Do When Online Dating Isn't Working For You





By Lisa Smith

Although online dating is one of the most common ways to meet someone these days, it doesn't work for everyone. There are several [research-based reasons](#) why online dating isn't actually the best way to meet someone.

For some people, online dating is frustrating because it's so easy for prospects to present themselves in a way that is much different from who they are in real life. It's incredibly easy to portray yourself as a great catch and hide your bad qualities in the online world.

Others claim the bigger problem is simply that online dating presents them with too much choice which is too overwhelming.

Overall, many of today's singles avoid dating apps and websites because they are a time suck. It requires so much time to sift through the bad matches and find someone worth talking to. A great way to waste your time is by chatting with someone online for ages, only to meet them in person and realize there is no connection.

Here is some [dating advice](#) if you're single, and online dating just isn't working for you.

1. Try Professional Matchmaking.

Working directly with a professional matchmaker is like having a best friend who is on a mission to find your Mr. Right. A matchmaker is a trusted ally who knows exactly what you're looking for in a partner and wants to find that person for you. By choosing to work with a reputable and [elite matchmaking](#) company, you'll experience what it's like to only be presented with desirable and appropriate prospects. A matchmaker will also help to remind you not to commit certain dating mistakes, and will basically give you a much-needed pep talk before your first date.

One of the greatest benefits of working with a matchmaker is the screening process. They sift out the inappropriate candidates for you, and screen everyone to ensure they're only introducing you to someone great. While online dating might overwhelm you with options and present you with an exhausting [paradox of choice](#), matchmakers effectively narrow it down. This saves you time and energy, resulting in a much more positive experience than online dating.

2. Get Set Up.

Getting set up by a friend who has a single friend can definitely work. It might not be as effective as using a professional matchmaker, because there is not the same screening process; however, it doesn't hurt to let a friend set you up with their single friend. If nobody is offering to do this for you, try asking a few of your friends if they know someone who is in your age group and single. You might spark the idea that there's someone great they can try setting you

up with.

3. Sit At The Bar Alone.

Although it takes some courage to go to a bar by yourself, sitting at the bar alone is a great way to meet someone. Whether it be your neighborhood sports bar or a more upscale venue, sitting at the bar alone makes you approachable. You'd be surprised at how many people will chat with you, as it's not intimidating for them since you're sitting there by yourself. You might mistakenly assume that this makes you look like a sad person with no friends. However, it actually makes you look confident and esteemed. You aren't afraid to grab a drink by yourself, and that shows a sexy confidence. Patrons won't assume that you have nobody to grab a drink with – they'll simply think that you're comfortable being alone. It's a great quality to be independent and comfortable in your own company.

4. Work On Your Confidence.

How many times have you noticed a beautiful stranger behind you in line at Starbucks, or seen someone who is totally your type in the produce section of the grocery store? By working on your self-confidence and realizing that you have nothing to lose, you might start getting comfortable approaching sexy strangers in real life. With the rise of online dating, fewer people are getting approached or flirted with in real life, and you'll stand out as being confident if you do this. Remember that the worse thing that can happen is a polite decline, which isn't so bad.

Date Idea: Pick Your Own Presents



By [Jessica Gomez](#) and Kristin Mattern

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

Here are a few dating tips for what

to do on your [date night](#):

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

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

Related Link: [Date Idea: Make the Perfect Playlist](#)

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

Chill out in the middle of your shopping extravaganza for a delicious lunch date: Splurge! Go to a really nice restaurant in the area or that high-end spot in the mall you normally avoid. If you can, make reservations ahead of time so the two of you can easily transition from your high energy shopping spree to a relaxing, romantic meal. Enjoy this calm moment by sharing tastes of one another's food and chatting about what each of you are most excited about for the upcoming holiday.

Related Link: [Date Idea: Couple Up with Game Night](#)

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

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

Date Idea: Light Up Your Love





By [Jessica Gomez](#) and Kristin Mattern

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

Rekindle the magic of the holidays with your babe and admire the beautiful displays with these dating tips for your upcoming [date night](#):

Map your route: This is important, After all, not everyone decorates for the holidays. To get the most out of your night drive, scan the scene during the day before your date and find

out what areas have really gone all out this year. This way, when you take your honey out for a spin, it will be through areas with the most decorations and stunning of displays. You can also conduct some brief research on Google. With a bit of planning, your date will be sure to delight!

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

Related Link: [Date Idea: Keep It Exciting During New Venue Night](#)

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

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

Related Link: [Date Idea: Plan a Party](#)

Chill at home: Of course, not literally chill, but hangout and

stay warm during this time! After enjoying the sights and sounds of the holiday spirit and décor, make some more memories by warming up inside with hot cocoa and dancing with your darling to your favorite Christmas or Hanukkah tunes. End the night by relaxing together in front of the fire and roasting some chestnuts while you enjoy a classic Christmas movie.

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

Date Idea: Fall in Love with Falling Leaves



By [Jessica Gomez](#) Kristin Mattern

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

Here are some [date ideas](#) that involve colorful, crispy leaves:

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

Related Link: [Date Idea: Keep It Exciting During New Venue Night](#)

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

Related Link: [Date Idea: Best Shows to Binge-Watch With Your Partner](#)

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

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

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

Date Idea: Take Love Lessons from School





By [Noelle Downey](#)

School's almost in session, folks – it's time to brush up on your romantic education, too! You can have some [date nights](#) that your favorite teacher from grade school would be proud of, and that you'll have a blast on as well. Cupid's got you covered from A to Z!

Take a tip from your school lessons with these fun weekend date ideas that will make studying a distant memory and love the first item on the assignment sheet!

1. Go Apple Picking: Looking for an apple so you can butter up your teacher? Do some apple picking! It's a fun and inexpensive way to get outdoors and walk home with a sweet treat... and maybe even snag a kiss amongst the apple branches.

Related Link: [Date Idea: Take a Risk and Be Daring](#)

2. Cheer at a High School Football Game: If sports are more your thing, head to a local high school football game. Get some buddies together and tailgate like it's the pros, and then head to the field to cheer on your true home team. After all, some high school games are an even bigger deal than the NFL, especially in small towns!

Related Link: [Date Idea: Learn a New Sport Together](#)

3. Read Something New Together: The best way to brush up on your school skills is to simply pick up a book. Join a co-ed book group, or make a date to read together in the park. Pack a picnic lunch and read on the grass.

Have a school days date idea of your own? Comment below, and share with our other readers. Hit the books!

Date Idea: Get Fit Together





By [Noelle Downey](#)

August is one of the hottest months in the US. Don't let the heat keep you in a sluggish mood: get up and go out! One of the best ways to stay fit is with your partner sweating next to you. In addition to being important to your health, staying in shape is a great way to bond with your loved one.

Ready to get fit and flirty this summer? Check out three great [weekend date ideas](#) when it comes to getting toned and tanned with your significant other this season!

1. Turn gym day into a date night: One easy way to work out together is to join a gym. Some places may offer discounted rates if you sign up together. Pick cardio machines next to each other. When you move on to strength training, take turns doing reps. Having someone there to spot you and watch your

form can help you exercise more safely than doing it alone.

Related Link: [Date Idea: Embrace a Physical Activity](#)

2. Take a fitness class together: Another way to get active is to take a class, either at the gym, or at a local hot spot. While activities like salsa classes are perfect for couples, try something you'll both be interested in, like martial arts, indoor-rock climbing, adult swimming, or other sports.

Related Link: [Up and Coming Fitness Trend: Indoor Rowing](#)

3. Stroll your way to success: Want a free way to stay fit? Welcome the morning with a walk around the neighborhood, or go for jog. Bring your dog for extra fun! After all, exercising together is a great way to spend quality time. Catch up with your partner, especially if the two of you spend a lot of time apart during the week because of work, school, and other responsibilities. Who's a better supporter than your partner or spouse?

To get the ball rolling, visit LifeMojo for inspiration, motivational tips, and learn about the benefits of working out together.

Have a fitness routine of your own? Comment below, and share with our other readers. Stay cool, and enjoy your weekend!

Date Idea: Get Your Game On!





By [Noelle Downey](#)

Summer days are meant to be spent outside, but cooler [date nights](#) can be spent inside, or out on the patio. The games don't have to stop once the sun goes down. Get your friends together and enjoy a game night – after all, there's nothing like Twister to get to know someone new.

Ready for a competitive date night with your favorite friends and cute crush this summer? Below are the three steps you'll need to take your game night party from lame to fame!

1. Set the Mood: The key to a successful game night is to set the mood. It should be light and fun, so keep the party area colorful and well-lit. An easy indoor fix is to throw some

confetti on the tables and add balloons. For outdoors, Christmas lights and tiki torches add to the atmosphere. Check out stores like Party City for deals.

Related Link: [Relationship Expert Talks Striking Up Party Conversation](#)

2. Serve Fantastic Food: For grub, think fun finger foods and fruity drinks. Walking tacos are easy to make for a group, and allow people to interact while they cook and eat. Plus, no one can resist a good taco! Ask single friends bring a platonic date; everyone can gather in the kitchen to heat things up before the games begin.

Related Link: [Date Ideas: Preparing in Advance for Game Day](#)

3. Pick Great Games: Pick games that require human contact to catch the eye – or elbow – of that special someone. Twister is an old favorite, but even games like musical chairs and Sardines allow everyone to snuggle up while still getting competitive. It's the ultimate get-to-know-you weekend date idea, all created by you.

Have a game night activity of your own? Comment below, and share with our other readers. Let the games begin!

Celebrity Couple News: Jenna Dewan Tatum Explains How She and Channing Began Dating



By [Mallory McDonald](#)

[Celebrity couple](#) Jenna Dewan and [Channing Tatum](#) have been celebrity couple goals for what feels like forever. [UsMagazine.com](#) learned what Jenna revealed to Ellen on *The Ellen DeGeneres Show* this past Tuesday. "I said, 'Well look, if you want to date other people and be free that's totally fine. But we're not gonna hang out and watch movies,'" she recalled to DeGeneres, 59. "'You have to figure out what you want because I want a relationship.'" Three days later Channing showed up at her hotel room saying, "He said he had the chance to be free and he couldn't stop thinking about me," she said, laughing. "He's in a sombrero, underwear and Ugg boots and said, 'Let's do this.'" The two had a [celebrity wedding](#) in July of 2009 and they've been inseparable ever since!

This celebrity couple news has us giggling, because sometimes it can take a grand gesture to show your interest in someone. What are some big ways you can show your crush you're into him or her?

Cupid's Advice:

Grand gestures are always a good idea for impressing that special [dating tips](#) for how to make your crush feel special:

1. Social media love: While this may not seem extremely grand, in this technology-filled world of dating, liking and commenting on your crushes photos and information can really notify them you are into them. Leave a heart eye emoji or a smiling face on their most recent picture.

Related Link: [Celebrity Couple Channing Tatum & Jenna Dewan-Tatum Celebrate 10th Anniversary of 'Step Up' with Epic Throwback Photo & Video](#)

2. Blind date: A little different from your traditional blind date, you can just show up at your crushes house with a bouquet of flowers and ask them out to dinner. This can be extremely nerve racking especially if you don't know how they're feeling but it can seriously pay off!

Related Link: [Channing Tatum Divorce Rumors Untrue](#)

3. Public announcement: Whether it is in class together, at work or any mutual place you and your brush go to, ask them out in an ornate and public fashion. Pull out all the stops to impress him or her and show them you're not afraid to let anyone know it.

What grand gestures worked for you in the past? Comment below!

Celebrity News: Gwen Stefani & Blake Shelton Joke About Her 'Makeout Playlist' on 'The Voice'



By [Mallory McDonald](#)

[Gwen Stefani](#) and [Blake Shelton](#) joke about aspects of their [celebrity relationship](#) in recent [celebrity](#)

[news!](#) [UsMagazine.com](#) reported that the two were joking about Gwen's 'makeout playlist' on *The Voice*. "The conversation began after Hunter Plake, a contestant on the No Doubt singer's team, sang Foreigner's 1984 power ballad "I Want to Know What Love Is" in his Knockout Round performance." Gwen responded by saying, "You took a song that's actually on my makeout playlist." She received comments from all of her fellow judges including her boyfriend Blake who said, "I told you I knew that song."

This celebrity news has us chuckling. What are some ways to set the mood when you're looking for a romantic evening with your partner?

Cupid's Advice:

Making your partner feel special often is important for a relationship to last long-term. Use these [dating tips](#) when planning a romantic evening for your partner:

1. Light candles: Candles while they may seem "basic" or "average" actually really provide the perfect lighting for an intimate [date night](#) that isn't as harsh as the bright overhead lights. They also let your partner know immediately the mood you are creating.

Related Link: [Celebrity Couple News: Gwen Stefani Gushes Over 'Love' Blake Shelton](#)

2. Drinks matter: A romantic evening calls for a more expensive drink selection for your partner. Take the time to find out their favorite wine or cocktail and go above and beyond to make sure every little aspect of the dinner caters

to your partner's desires.

Related Link: [Celebrity News: Miranda Lambert Stuns at CMA's with Boyfriend Anderson East](#)

3. No electronics: If you are having a romantic date night with your partner, make sure both of you know there are no electronics during the date. No tv in the background, no internet and definitely nothing to do with your phones!

What did you do for your significant other to set the mood for a romantic evening? Comment below!

New Celebrity Couple: Jennifer Lopez is Dating Alex 'A-Rod' Rodriguez





By [Mallory McDonald](#)

[Jennifer Lopez](#) has moved on from her [celebrity ex](#) Drake and is now in a [celebrity relationship](#) with Alex Rodriguez. According to [UsMagazine.com](#), “As first reported by Terez Owens and LoveBScott.com, Lopez, 47, and Rodriguez, 41, have been spending time together and were spotted in Las Vegas recently.” Despite the two both having a long list of famous exes, the seem to be enjoying spending time together. Lopez has even been liking his recent pictures on Instagram. We can’t wait to see how this relationship turns out and we hope that it is everything they both have been looking for!

There’s another new celebrity couple in Hollywood! What are some ways to approach your crush?

Cupid’s Advice:

Approaching the person you are interested in can seem

challenging but with these [dating tips](#), you can land your dream date:

1. Remain confident: Regardless of the outcome, make sure that no matter how they react remain confident. Making yourself seem like you're in control will keep the conversation from being awkward.

Related Link: [Celebrity Break-Up: Jennifer Lopez & Drake End Their Whirlwind Romance](#)

2. No corny pickup line: Unless you are naturally a funny person, it is best to stay away from the corny pickup lines. Come up with something original that will really make you stand out and show your true personality.

Related Link: [Celebrity News: Jennifer Lopez Opens Up About Dating Younger Men](#)

3. Stay open: Like remaining confident, despite rejection, stay open to what can come from approaching them. You'll know the worst it can be, you may make a friend and you never know if you will bump into them again and something could come from it.

How did you approach your crush? Comment below!

Relationship Advice: Is it worth it to try relationship counseling in the dating

phase, or is it a lost cause?



By [David Wygant](#)

I've been coaching for 17 years and I'm a firm believer in any type of counseling, therapy, or coaching that you can get will actually make your life far more fulfilling than just trying to get advice from friends and Google searches. As a [relationship expert](#), I've been asked this question many times: Is worth it to try relationship counseling in the dating phase or is it a lost cause?

Find out if you and your loved one could benefit from some counseling

with the following relationship advice.

Here's my take on it. It all depends on what the counseling is all about. To me, when I look at couples come into my office, I always look for the foundation of their relationship. Is the relationship based on mutual values? Do they have the same language of love? Meaning are they understanding each other's desire and need to be loved? How are their communication skills when it comes down to crisis management? How are their communication skills when they have to ask each other for needs, wants, and desires? What is their sex life like? Are they able to understand and fully satisfy one another in that way? There's a lot of other things that I can list here. But when it comes down to couples, you need a foundation in order to go and actually counsel through periods of roughness.

Related Link: [Relationship Advice: Post-Engagement Behavior](#)

There's not one couple out there that I've not met and seen that have all the tools in the tool chest to be able to negotiate through every relationship issue. So you need to look at your relationship and ask yourself this. What seems to come up over and over again between the two of you? Because anything that comes up over and over again is a dynamic that you don't have the tools to fix or change. Take a look at your argument history. Are there arguments that you're having on a regular basis? And is it always about the same thing? A couple once came into my office and they were having the same dynamic over and over again. He didn't feel like he was being heard. She kept cutting him off whenever he said that because she went into defense mode. So he felt frustrated and wasn't able to express his needs and desires in the relationship. And this perpetual cycle kept going on and on and on. I was able to counsel them through that. I was able to get them to understand one another. I was able to get her to listen to him

more clearly. And he was able to express his needs, wants, and desires to her without feeling cut off or shamed; and this was achieved with only a few [dating tips](#). So you need to take a hard look at your relationship and find the source of your problems.

Related Link: [Relationship Advice: Why Isn't It Easy to Say Goodbye?](#)

Once again, if there's one or two dynamics that seem to be repeating over and over again and you can't seem to come up with a solution or find a way to make each other satisfied and happy, then couple counseling is fantastic. Especially if you really desire to be in a long-term partnership and/or relationship with this person. But if it's a list of things and you're not understanding each other on many levels, then you're in the wrong relationship in the first place and you haven't done the work on yourself to really figure out exactly what you're looking for or need. However, with an open mind and a good counselor, you can learn worthwhile [relationship advice](#). You never know when you can apply these tactics to another relationship.

Related Link: [Relationship Advice: Understand What You Don't Want](#)

So I'm all for couple counseling to negotiate through some of the tough journey through things that you can't negotiate through yourself. And it doesn't matter if you're in the dating phase or if you're in the romance stage or whatever stage you're in. If you're committed to that person, counseling is telling that person I'm committed to understanding you on a much higher level and I'm committed to making this relationship work out fantastic. And I know I don't have the skills or the tools to get past some of the bumps that we have coming up in the road. So it's great to be able to talk to somebody. I'm all for it. It's healthy, it's fantastic, and I appreciate when people have the guts to stand

up for the one they love in effort to avoid [relationship problems](#).

David Wygant is an internationally-renowned dating and relationship expert, author of the book Naked, and speaker. Through his boot camps, personal coaching, and his [website](#), his love advice has transformed the relationships and love of hundreds of thousands of people from every corner of the globe.

For more expert relationship advice from David, click [here](#).

Let Your Partner Be Your Inspiration To Getting & Staying Fit





This post was sponsored by Altar'd.

By [Mallory McDonald](#)

When you are in a relationship with someone, it can be easy to let yourself go and pack on some extra pounds. But, this is the worst thing you can do for not only your relationship but also for yourself. You aren't the only one who is guilty of doing this when getting comfortable in your relationship. [Z Living Network](#) has a new original television series, [Altar'd](#), which features real life stories blending [fitness](#), health, love, and relationships. The worst time not to feel your best is when your [wedding day](#) is approaching and you still haven't lost the weight you planned on. *Altar'd* features real life soon-to-be-married couples who are separated for 90 days as they each complete their individual wedding weight loss transformation, guided by the hosts and fitness experts, Chris Marhefka and Erin Stutland. Their journeys are both inspiring and emotional as they get ready to reveal themselves to each other on their wedding day.

Watch [Altar'd](#) with your spouse to motivate each other to get into shape & stay in shape for yourself & your relationship!

In an episode airing on Valentine's Day, February 14th, a young couple Natifah and Reggie work hard to battle their previous bad habits. Their unhealthy eating habits have begun to cause tension within their relationship. With a history of high-blood pressure and diabetes in both of their families, they both feel that this challenge will greatly improve their relationship and have a massive impact on their overall quality of life. Instead of going out with your loved one this Valentine's Day, stay in and watch *Altar'd*, and begin to make the changes in your own relationship. This way, next Valentine's Day you and your partner can look back on this show, your decision to make a change, and celebrate your success!

Here are some [dating tips](#) on why you and your partner should work together like the couples in *Altar'd* to get fit & stay in shape:

1. Accountability: When you work out on your own it can be hard to keep yourself accountable. If you work out and make healthy meals with your significant other it keeps you both accountable.

Related Link: [Fitness Advice: Which Boutique Fitness Studio Is Right For You?](#)

2. Support system: Your significant other is supposed to be your support system in all aspects of your life, so why not your health? Use each other to not only get in shape but also build the strength in your relationship by leaning on each other.

Related Link: [Make Your Love Soar On Date Night With Aerial Classes In NYC](#)

3. Strengthening communication: Working out together and motivating each other can only be done through communication. So not only will you be getting in shape for yourself and your relationship, but you will also be strengthening the key to a good relationship, communication.

Tune into *Altar'd* on Tuesday's at 8 p.m. ET/PT on Z Living Network to inspire you and your partner to live a new and healthy lifestyle together!

Celebrity Wedding: 'The Bachelorette' Alum Jillian Harris Is Engaged to Justin Pasutto





By [Mallory McDonald](#)

Former *Bachelorette* alum has found her knight in shining armor! [UsMagazine.com](#) has confirmed that Jillian Harris is celebrating her [celebrity engagement](#) to longtime boyfriend, Justin Pasutto. Harris shared the news on Instagram, "Well THAT was SOME Christmas morning!!!! OH MY GOD my heart cannot handle this much LOVE! @slipperygoose you've made me the HAPPIEST girl in the world. #Finally #ISimplyAskedForOneThingForChristmas." In the photo, a new engagement ring can be seen on Harris' hand as she plays with baby Leo. Following the first post, she continued to add photos sharing her joy and engagement with all of her followers. Her love life wasn't always easy after multiple [celebrity relationships](#) from the *Bachelor* shows, however, all of that is over and we couldn't be happier for her!

There's another celebrity wedding on its way now that Jillian Harris

is engaged! What are some ways to encourage your partner to propose?

Cupid's Advice:

When you are ready for an engagement, but you aren't sure if your partner is getting the hint use these [dating tips](#):

1. Be clear: While you shouldn't come right out and demand an engagement, it is important that your relationship is an open one communication wise so you should share with them that when they are ready you think the relationship is ready for that.

[Related Link: 'Bachelorette' Alum Jillian Harris Welcomes Celebrity Baby Boy](#)

2. Wedding planning: A good way to encourage an engagement is to begin discussing the details of your wedding. What kind of drinks or food they would want or who would or wouldn't be invited on the guest list.

[Related Link: 'Bachelorette' Alum Desiree Hartsock Gives Birth To Celebrity Baby Boy](#)

3. Drop little hints: Sometimes our partners can be oblivious to what we are looking for. If you don't want to flat out tell them you are ready for an engagement you can start leaving hints around the house like wedding magazines or ring brochures to plant a seed.

What ways did you hint to your partner that you were ready for an engagement? Comment below!

New Celebrity Couple Avril Lavigne & Ryan Cabrera Heat Things Up



By [Mallory McDonald](#)

[EOnline.com](#) has the scoop on new [celebrity couple](#) Avril Lavigne and Ryan Cabrera's [date night](#)! The two were seen enjoying a night at Chalk Point Kitchen in New York City. The pair enjoyed a nice romantic and quiet evening doing their best to spend alone time together in a corner booth. A source shared the couple "snuggled up" at their table. "Avril was extremely affectionate to Ryan, giving him cute hugs in the booth and kisses," the insider added. "They seemed in love." They shared some white wine and enjoyed a round of appetizers

and dinner. The source also added, "They were really friendly to everyone," the insider noted. "Ryan was very bubbly and sweet to all the wait staff." These two were friends for a long time before making things intimate!

This new celebrity couple is heating things up! How do you know when to take your relationship to the next level?

Cupid's Advice:

Deciding when to take things to the next level can be tricky. But with these [dating tips](#), you can make the right decision:

1. Carefree: When both partners are relaxed and easygoing in the relationship and are not worried about the future, that may actually be the perfect time to take the next step.

Related Link: [New Celebrity Couple? Avril Lavigne Goes on Romantic Dinner Date with Ryan Cabrera](#)

2. Communication: It doesn't matter how passionate or how close you are in a relationship if your communication is lacking. When communication becomes freely flowing, it is the perfect sign to keep moving forward.

Related Link: [Avril Lavigne and Chad Kroeger Announce Celebrity Break-Up After Two Years of Marriage](#)

3. Sympathetic: Even the little things that go wrong in our daily lives can throw us off track. If your partner is sympathetic, understanding and patient when these things frustrate us, they may be a keeper!

When do you take your relationship to the next level? Share your thoughts below.

Celebrity News: Joel Madden Wishes Wife Nicole Richie a Sweet Happy Birthday



By Mallory McDonald

Nicole Richie is a lucky girl! In recent [celebrity news](#), Richie's husband Joel Madden wished her a "happy birthday" in the sweetest way! According to [UsMagazine.com](#), Madden wished his wife a happy birthday with a cute picture and a caption that had our hearts swooning. It read, "Best Mom, Best Friend, Best Wife. Happy Birthday Nicole, You keep us all laughing ...♥️." He then followed up with another Instagram post showing

off Richie in a stunning floor-length gold gown. The [celebrity couple](#) has been together since 2010, and could not be more in love. They recently shared on Oprah Winfrey's, "Where Are They Now?" that, "We met and we were partners from day one,"

Richie said. "And from the second we found out we were going to be parents together, we looked at each other and we said, 'OK, both of our parents are divorced. We both have had ups and downs with our parents and we don't really have a strong example of what a healthy family life is.'"

This celebrity news has us swooning at such a cute relationship. What are some special ways to wish your partner a happy birthday?

Cupid's Advice:

Birthdays can be the perfect opportunity to show your partner how special they are to you. Here are some [dating tips](#) on how to make your significant other's birthday the best one yet:

1. Listen up: The best way to make your partner's birthday feel special is by listening to what they want for their birthday. A lot of times, people's birthdays become what their loved ones want it to be. Try to really listen to what your partner is looking for from this year's special day.

Related Link: [Nicole Richie and Joel Madden Celebrate Second Wedding Anniversary](#)

2. Go big: Unless your partner is introverted, going big is always a way to make their birthday one to remember. Especially if you haven't done a lot in the past, use this as the year he or she will never forget!

Related Link: [Celebrity News: Ryan Reynolds Had Ridiculous](#)

[Birthday Message for Wife Blake Lively](#)

3. Surprise them: Most people say they don't like surprises, but a good surprise is never a bad thing. This could be a surprise party or even a surprise to your significant other's favorite restaurant and concert. Be creative in how you surprise them so they won't be able to sniff out what you are planning!

What do you do most recently for your partner on their birthday? Comment below!

Rumors Shot Down! Adriana Lima & Ryan Seacrest Are Not a Celebrity Couple After All





By Mallory McDonald

Recent [celebrity news](#) claimed that Adriana Lima and Ryan Seacrest were Hollywood's newest celebrity couple, but [UsMagazine.com](#) sets the record straight. "They're good friends," a source said. "She's still dating Julian Edelman." Julian Edelman is a wide receiver for the New England Patriots, and the two have been together for a few months. As for Seacrest and Lima, "They became friends and then they went out to dinner in NYC, but it's not romantic." It can be so easy to think relationships are forming when pictures surface and assumptions are made. This rumor has been debunked, and we are happy the two are at least good friends!

We're sad to see this celebrity couple isn't a reality! What are some ways to keep rumors from affecting the beginning stage of

your new relationship?

Cupid's Advice:

In this digital age, rumors emerge every day about new relationships. It can sometimes prevent what may have been a new relationship from forming. Cupid's here with some [dating tips](#) in order to keep rumors from affecting your relationship:

1. Be honest: Be honest to the right people. If rumors come out that you are in a new relationship, just talk with that person, and come to an agreement on your title. Don't let rumors define the stage your relationship is at.

Related Link: [New Celebrity Couple: Ryan Seacrest & Adriana Lima Are Dating](#)

2. Set the record straight: If the rumors are really affecting your relationship and causing an unnecessary strain, set the record straight. If the other person is comfortable, inform people on where the relationship is now and where you see it going.

Related Link: [Find Out Victoria's Secret Angel Adriana Lima's Valentine's Day Wish](#)

3. Hang out: Instead of worrying about the rumors, enjoy your new relationship. Spend time together talking about anything other than the latest gossip about your new relationship. What is most important is that you and this person are both clear about where the relationship is and are both happy about it.

What do you do when rumors affect a new relationship? Comment below!

Relationship Advice: How to Stop Dating Bad Boys



By Creshawna Parker-Davis

Find yourself going after the same guy time and time again? You know the type: the guy who doesn't make you better, yet does an awesome job at stringing you along, but you have no idea where your relationship stands? Yeah, that can be confusing. It's like craving a highly carbonated and artificial soft drink. It's no good for you, but you want it anyway. Hey, no judgement here; however, while it's satisfying at the moment, it can be detrimental in the long run if you form a bad habit.

What do you do if you find yourself stuck dating these same type of guys over and over? Cut it off, and kick 'em to the curb. Here's some [relationship advice](#) to help you stop dating bad boys for good.

Realize you can't change him.

Men, or people in general really, aren't projects. While you may be able to teach him how to wash dishes or to turn the TV off once he's finished playing his video games, don't attempt to do a man-over, as it may not go so well.

Be with someone who loves you for you.

Just as you can't, or shouldn't, attempt to change someone, don't be with someone who wants to completely change you. Growth is no doubt a good thing, but if your significant other is trying to change your style of clothes, your friends and make you into someone you're not or don't aspire to be, leave.

Related Link: [Relationship Advice: What NOT to Do In Your Marriage, Thanks to Celebs](#)

Be realistic.

If you're not happy with the way things are currently going in your relationship, especially during the early stages, that's a good sign that you should leave. If things aren't going too well now, don't assume placing an exclusive label on the relationship will make it any different.

Related Link: [Dating Advice: 10 Things You're Over-Analyzing In Your Relationship](#)

Make a list of what you want in a man.

Make a list of the qualities you want in a man. Do you want someone to take you on a [date night](#) every week? Write it down. Do you want someone who calls you to say goodnight instead of just sending a text? Yep, you guessed it ... write it down. Once you create this list, keep it handy to remind you of what it is that you'd like to have in a man, and make changes as necessary.

Step outside of your comfort zone.

There's nothing wrong with having a type, but sometimes going outside of your safety zone can be a good thing. If you've never considered dating someone who typically isn't the bad boy you'd go for, try it out. Not only does this get you one step closer to leaving the bad boys alone for good, but it also allows you to learn something new.

What are some ways you ditched bad boys for good? Share your comments below.

New Celebrity Couple? Demi Lovato Allegedly Hooking Up with UFC Fighter Luke Rockhold





By Mallory McDonald

A new [celebrity couple](#) may be in the making. Demi Lovato recently ended a long term relationship with Wilmer Valderrama, but she seems to be ready to jump back into dating. According to [UsMagazine.com](#), she is ending her summer in a new [celebrity relationship](#) with UFC fighter, Luke Rockhold. An insider said, “She’s just trying to have fun right now. They’ve been talking, hanging out and hooking up, and they like each other.” The same source shared that Rockhold has no desire to settle down at this time, and Lovato is happy where their relationship is. It sounds like the perfect end of summer fling that could turn serious!

Rumors have it that there’s another celebrity couple in the works. What are some good ways to meet someone with similar interests?

Cupid's Advice

One of the strongest ways a new relationship can begin is by meeting through a common interest. Finding that person may seem difficult, so Cupid's here with some [dating tips](#) for finding a connection with someone new:

1. Get out: We always seem to put our passions on the back burner and focus on things that demand our attention. Try to get out once a week and do something that interests you. Mr. or Mrs. right may be there, but you will never know if you don't go.

Related Link: [Celebrity News: Wilmer Valderrama Posts Sleeping Demi Lovato Selfie on Social Media](#)

2. Be open: Sometimes when we are passionate about something, we only focus on that. Make a conscious decision that when you are doing something you love, to not focus your attention solely on that activity because you may be missing out on that special someone you have been searching for.

Related Link: [Demi Lovato Denies Rumors She's Getting Back Together with Joe Jonas](#)

3. Attend events: Most likely there are going to be events happening around you that are in line with your interests. This is the perfect opportunity to not only attend something fun and that you may enjoy, but is also the perfect place to mingle with people you already have something in common with.

What ways do you meet someone who shares your interests? Comment below!

Celebrity Couple Lauren Conrad & William Tell First Met When She Was 16



By Mallory McDonald

People can come into our lives at the wrong time, but if it's meant to be, they may just come back around at the right time. According to UsMagazine.com, Lauren Conrad was only 16 the first time she met her now husband, William Tell. In sharing 25 things her fans didn't know about her to *Us*, Conrad shared, "I met my husband when I was 16 and sitting on stage at one of his concerts. Ten years later, we were set up on a blind date." After their [celebrity wedding](#), both Conrad and Tell are settled in together as a happy [celebrity couple](#).

This celebrity couple has known each other for longer than expected! What are some benefits to dating someone you've known since your teenage years?

Cupid's Advice:

There is something to be said for a person who has known you for almost all of the important stages of your life. Here are some [dating tips](#) on dating someone from your past:

1. Open Book: Odds are that if you have known someone since you were a teenager, there isn't too much they don't know about your past and present. This can alleviate a lot of the awkwardness that often comes when you first start to date someone. You can skip having to share all of the things from your past.

Related Link: [Lauren Conrad Celebrates Girly Bridal Shower](#)

2. Trust: The longer you know someone, the more trust the relationship will have. There won't be any one else who will have that level of established trust right from the beginning other than someone you have known for years.

Related Link: [Lauren Conrad Ties the Knot with William Tell](#)

3. Get to be yourself: You have known this person since you were a teenager, and there are probably not many people out there who know you better. Being yourself comes naturally, so don't try to impress anyone by being someone you're not.

Would you date someone from your younger years? Comment below!