

'The Fosters' star Sherri Saum is Expecting Twin Boys



By April Littleton

During the Television Critics Association press tour, Sherri Saum told [People](#) that she is expecting twin boys with her husband Kamar de los Reyes. The couple are “kicking around some names,” but won’t reveal anything until the babies are born. “I just want to meet them first and see if the ones we’re thinking of match them. We’ll see!” the mom-to-be said.

How do you prepare your family for twins?

Cupid’s Advice:

The arrival of one new baby is hard to deal with, but imagine having to prepare for two newborns at the same time. Don’t overwhelm yourself with the thought of having to raise two babies – it won’t be as difficult as it seems if you prepare

yourself now. Cupid is here to help:

1. Double trouble: Twins require twice as much love and affection. You'll also need to stock up on double the necessary equipment. Two cribs, two strollers, twice as many diapers, etc. Brace yourself for the amount of money you'll have to spend in order to take care of your new family. Being responsible for two new lives instead of one won't be an easy task, but it'll all be worth it once you see their faces.

Related: [Evelyn Lozada is Expecting a Son](#)

2. Mental prep: You and your partner will need to emotionally prepare yourself for what's to come. Both of you will need to be extremely hands on. Don't expect to get any sleep for awhile. You will spend hours feeding TWO babies, changing TWO diapers, etc. You'll be exhausted, but if you ready yourself now, you and your significant other should handle the pressure with ease after awhile. Read some pregnancy books and/or take a few birthing classes to help with the process.

Related: [Hugh Grant Fathers Third Love Child with Swedish TV Producer](#)

3. Get others involved: During the first few weeks of your newborns' lives, you'll need as many additional hands as you can get. Ask your family and close friends to help you and your honey out for while – at least until you get into a routine you can handle on your own.

What are some other ways to prepare your family for twins? Comment below.

Top 3 Non-Negotiable Questions You Need to Think About Before Filing for Divorce



By Mark Baer

Families come in all shapes and sizes. Some married couples live together with their children. When those children grow up and move out of their parents' home, does that mean that they are no longer a family? Some married couples with children don't live together because of their work commitments and for other such reasons. Does that make them any less of a family? Religious beliefs aside, some couples such as Goldie Hawn and Kurt Russell have children together, but were never married. Aren't they still a family? Married couples with

children sometimes divorce. Does that mean that they are no longer a family? If you think about it, the nature of their relationship changed from being married with children to being unmarried with children. I'm afraid that when a couple has children together, their marital status does not control their status as a family.

Many may define a "perfect" family as one in which the parents are married and in love with each other. I opted to use the word "perfect" because that was the term and definition used by a minor child of divorce, who was interviewed in a documentary film by Ellen Bruno titled "SPLIT." While his family may not be "perfect," as defined by him, I promise you he still considers it a family.

What do you want your family to look like in the future?

Like it or not, if there are children of the relationship (regardless of their age), the family still exists after the relationship ends. The manner in which you end a relationship determines whether your family will be functional or dysfunctional from that day forward. Life is like physics – for every action there is a reaction – cause and effect. As I like to say, outcomes are determined by the way in which the "game" is designed.

Parents are correct in the notion that causing the children to take sides can be extremely useful in their divorce game of chess. However, unlike chess, divorce is not a game and children are not pawns. Parents need to understand that what they do, say and how they act toward the other parent has long-term consequences. The things people do with or without the assistance of their attorneys have consequences that will last for generations to come. "When you start a court case, you are starting a war," says Justice Harvey Brownstone. Parents should always remember that the casualties in such a war are the members of the family itself, including the

children, who become collateral damage.

Related: [5 Ways to Turn Your Relationship Around](#)

What type of attorney, if any, do you want?

While it may be expressed in many different ways, the selection of an attorney is the most significant factor in determining how a case will proceed. While an attorney's competency is extremely important, the selection process should not be limited to that aspect. After all, the attorney's personality and overall philosophy with regard to family law are of great importance.

It is not prudent merely to consult with an "experienced family law attorney." I have been trying desperately to educate the public that they need to consult with "competent and caring" family law attorneys. By the way, assertiveness is part of their competency. However, they should not be seeking out lawyers described as "sharks," "pit bulls" or "aggressive." The involvement of such attorneys typically leads to suboptimal results, destroys families and costs a great deal of money in the process. People must never confuse aggression and assertion. Words have meaning.

Remember, while you might win the battle, you can still lose the war. When families are involved, destructive behavior has consequences that can be felt long after the "case" is over. Is it the attorneys or the clients, their children and their families that get to live with those consequences? The personality and philosophy of the attorneys involved in a case have far more impact than people realize. Please keep this in mind when selecting your "teammates."

Related: [Five Secrets Truly Happy Couples Know](#)

Which divorce process is right for you?

When people think of divorce, they typically think of

litigation, which is the “default process.” What that means is that their case will be litigated, unless they “opt out” of that process. Other available processes are DIY (do it yourself), mediation, collaborative divorce, lawyer-to-lawyer negotiation, arbitration (keep in mind that certain types of matters may not be arbitrated in family law), private judging (if permitted in any particular jurisdiction). Unfortunately, family law is not spandex and there is no “one-size-fits-all.” However, people should consider certain things before making a decision regarding process.

First, litigation is an adversarial process in which both parties play to “win.” When a family is involved and both spouses are playing to “win,” the family dynamic is destroyed. An unfortunate byproduct of litigation is that it exacerbates the level of conflict, increases distrust and breeds paranoia. Doesn’t it make more sense to resolve family matters in a process that is designed to reduce the level of conflict and rebuild trust?

Second, a significant problem with mediation is the fact that the term itself is vague. Mediation could be evaluative, facilitative or transformative. Which of those approaches does one mean when they refer to mediation? It should also be noted that mediation is unregulated in most places, including California. Thus, a person can practice as a ‘mediator’ without ever having received any formal training. It is therefore strongly advised that you do your homework before selecting a mediator.

Third, collaborative divorce is an interdisciplinary team approach to family law. It is based upon specialization of labor, not duplication. In addition to the parties themselves, the team consists of attorneys, mental health and financial professionals. Collaborative teams are no different from any other team in that they are only as strong as their weakest member. Collaboration only works when the professionals involved are like-minded individuals who actually trust one

another.

Related: [Finding Your True Destiny After Losing Love](#)

Fourth, lawyers do serve a necessary and useful purpose in family law matters and for society as a whole. For one thing, they warn of unforeseen “what- ifs.” Furthermore, words have meaning and the difference between “may” and “shall” could substantially change the meaning of a provision. Lawyers are wordsmiths in that regard. Moreover, divorce is a legal process.

Fifth, unless a matter is decided by a judge or arbitrator, the couple involved makes the ultimate decisions. According to a new study conducted at UC Davis, people had a clear preference for mediation and other forms of consensual dispute resolution over those forms of dispute resolution in which they relinquished their decision making authority.

Mark Baer assists people in becoming independent of their spouses or significant others with integrity, by evaluating and facilitating solutions that are respectful to each other and their families. He accomplishes this by providing a thoughtful, creative, and caring environment. His vision and experience equip people with a new set of skills that strengthen and empower them to better cope with future challenges.

Philip Seymour Hoffman Had Plans to Visit His Children

on Day of Death



By April Littleton

Actor Philip Seymour Hoffman died suddenly during Super Bowl Sunday. He was supposed to pick up his three kids on the day he passed away, but never showed up. A source told UsMagazine.com that family members began to worry when Hoffman didn't pick up his children. The incident was "uncharacteristic of him" the source said. The actor was 46 and had a son, Cooper and two daughters Tallulah and Willa.

What are some ways to tell your children that a loved one has passed?

Cupid's Advice:

Dealing with a death in the family is a struggle – especially when there's children involved. Breaking devastating news like this to someone so young will be tough, but telling a child exactly what's going on is a step in the right direction.

Cupid has some tips:

1. Be honest: Your children need to hear the truth about the situation, and that needs to come from you before they hear it from anywhere else. You need to be up-front about what happened and you also need to make sure you maintain sensitivity over the topic. Spare them any gory details and talk to them in a calm manner.

Related: [Hilary Duff and Mike Comrie Announce Their Separation](#)

2. Let them ask questions: Once you let your kid(s) know about their loved one passing away, you will need to let them have some time on their own to sink in the information. They'll have questions for you, so try your best to answer them as clearly and concisely as you can.

Related: [Ashley Olsen and Boyfriend David Schulte Call it Quits](#)

3. Be there: Don't hide your own feelings. Your children will need you now more than ever. Don't refuse to grieve with them. You need to be strong for them, but you also need to make sure they know that you feel the exact same way they're feeling.

How did you let your children know that a loved one passed? Share your experience below.

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Staying Warm With Family



By Maria Darbenzio

With temperatures remaining on the low end of the thermometer, it's easy to want to stay snuggled by the fire drinking hot cocoa. Although that sounds like a pretty great way to spend your day and night, it's smart to have some other ideas to help you stay warm with your loved ones this winter. Take a look through these articles from our partners for some great suggestions:

1. Take a trip: If the weather is getting to you and you've just about had enough, take a break from the cold winter air. Considering how busy you are between work and family, you deserve a vacation! Try somewhere warm where you can bask in the sun while your children play in the sand. Check out these famous families that have been doing just that. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

2. Be careful: You're off to the beach and ready to spend your day soaking up the sun. Even though Valentine's Day is right around the corner, not everything has to be red. So make sure to keep your skin and eyes healthy by lathering on that

sunscreen and wearing your shades. (GalTime.com)

3. Arrange your gear: If you can't take a trip to somewhere hot, be sure to bundle up before going outdoors. Stay organized this season by keeping all of your cold weather gear sorted neatly. The last thing you want is to be headed out the door in a rush with only one glove. (GalTime.com)

4. Stay happy: No matter what your plans are, spend each moment with your family in pure happiness. Let them know how much they mean to you. Taking time to have fun and get away from a hectic schedule is the perfect way to spend this winter, whether it be in your own backyard or on a sunny beach somewhere. (YourTango.com)

5. Appreciate the little things: Eric Micha'el Leventhal once said, "There is no greater treasure in this world than somebody who loves you as you are." Learn to fully appreciate where you are in life and celebrate your relationships. Check out some of these other awesome quotes about gratitude. (YourTango.com)

How do you plan on staying warm for the rest of winter? Tell us in the comments below!

Kristin Cavallari Shows Off Baby Bump #2





By April Littleton

According to UsMagazine.com, former *Hills* star Kristin Cavallari showed off her second baby bump via Instagram Jan. 18. "Gym selfie...baby bump getting big!" she captioned the photo. Cavallari married Jay Cutler last June. The couple are already parents to son Camden, 17 months.

How do you prepare for a new addition to your family?

Cupid's Advice:

Congratulations on your growing baby bump! Family is important. Adding to something that already means so much to you is a special thing. You're ready to include a new life in your already amazing family, but how do you get them to feel the same way? Cupid is here to help:

1. Communicate with your child/children: One of the first things you should do when you find out you're expecting another baby is share the news with the child/children you already have. If they're old enough to understand what it means to be a big sister or brother, just let them know when you let the rest of your family know. If they're too young to full grasp the meaning, keep reassuring your love for them and get them excited about the new baby. Let them help pick out

toys, clothing, etc. When the newborn finally does arrive, allow them to help out with small things involving their new younger sibling as well.

Related: [Chris Hemsworth and Elsa Pataky Are Expecting Twins](#)

2. Budget: How much money you're spending on your family now versus how much you'll have to spend when the baby comes will differ greatly. Be prepared for a new budget. A new child also comes with new responsibilities and a bigger family means higher expenses.

Related: [Olivia Wilde Shows Off Baby Bump at Golden Globes](#)

3. Look through old baby items: Before you go out and buy unnecessary baby items, look through some of the things you already have from your previous pregnancies. Depending on the sex of your newborn, any of the old clothing you have will do just fine until your child grows out of it. You can choose to update other items such as a crib, stroller and toys, but if you'd rather save your money for the things you can't reuse (diapers), your loved ones and your newborn baby won't hold it against you.

What are some other ways to prepare for a new addition to your family? Comment below.

10 Celebrity Couples That Would Make the Cutest Babies





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Jessica Biel and Justin Timberlake

With the actress's luscious lips and the sexy singer's sultry eyes, there's no way their kid would fall short of beautiful. Hopefully, JT's dance moves can carry over to the next generation too! Photo: GG/FameFlyNet

Will Arnett and Katherine Heigl Talk About Their Children and New Animated Film



By Maria Darbenzio

Will Arnett and Katherine Heigl walked the red carpet joyfully on January 11th at the Los Angeles premiere of their new animated comedy, *The Nut Job*. This family movie follows the story of an independent squirrel named Surly, who is banished from his park and forced to live a city life. Celebrity Baby Scoop had a chance to catch up with Arnett and Heigl to discuss the movie as well as their children. Arnett is the father of two sons, Archibald William Emerson and Abel James.

Heigel is the mother of two adopted daughters, Nancy Leigh and Adalaide Marie Hope.

Tell us about work life balance. Is there such a thing when you're a parent who works?

Will: "Anyone who's a parent knows that it is a balance and that you're always trying to find a way; I try to reverse engineer it, to look at what my family demands are and what my kids need and then kind of work backwards from there, and then retro fit everything into it. I feel very blessed when you get to work on something like this that doesn't take you away from the kids. Anything that takes me away from my kids, I dislike."
"

Related Link: [Celeb Dads Who Are Doing It Right](#)

Did having kids impact your decision to take this role and how you played your character?

Katherine: "I just really wanted to do something that I could show my kids, that we could watch together. We watch movies every night, so hopefully, we won't have to watch this one over and over again. "

Will: "Yeah, it did for me. I also watch a lot of these animated films, and I'm a huge fan of a lot of it. There's a lot of really good stuff out there, and it is important to me at this stage in my life to do stuff that I can share and enjoy with my kids and that they can watch. That's much more important, and now that's what I kind of want to do. "

Related Link: [Will Arnett and Katie Lee Dating, Kiss and Hold Hands at Dinner](#)

Are there any animated films you remember as favorites from when you were growing up?

Katherine: "*The Little Mermaid*. I have a 5 year old and a 1- $\frac{1}{2}$

year old. The little one is more of a tomboy, but the bigger one is obsessed with princesses – to the point of exhaustion.
“

To read the rest of the interview, check out celebritybabyscoop.com.

New Dad Jesse Williams Says Fatherhood Is ‘Amazing’



By April Littleton

Jesse Williams and wife Aryn Drake-Lee welcomed a daughter named Sadie in December. “It’s hard to describe. It’s wonderful – a new discovery every day. It’s great and I’m loving it, the actor told [People](#).

What are some ways to keep your relationship romantic post-baby?

Cupid's Advice:

When a baby is added to the picture, spending quality time with your significant other can be tough to do. Yes, the well-being of your newborn should be the most important thing to you, but you also want to make sure your honey knows the love is still there. Cupid has some tips:

1. Spend time together: For the first few weeks of your newborn's birth, spending some alone time with your partner might be a little impossible to do. When things start to calm down and you feel more comfortable in your new routine, try to spend at least five minutes with your honey. Give him/her a hug, or just chat for a little bit. Any time you share with your significant other from here on out is precious and shouldn't be taken for granted.

Related: [Rachel Zoe Welcomes Her Second Son](#)

2. Leave notes: Leave notes around the house for your partner to see. You'll probably be in and out of the house at random times, so it'll be nice to show your companion you're still thinking about them throughout the day.

Related: [Kate Winslet Welcomes a Baby Boy](#)

3. Dine together: When you find the opportunity to do so, eat dinner with your significant other. The meal doesn't have to be anything expensive or huge, but the few minutes the two of you share together while dining will mean the world to the both of you. You can choose to cook together, or simply order takeout if you're too exhausted from handling baby duties all day.

What are some other ways to keep your relationship romantic post-baby? Comment below.

Keep Talking to Your Kids After Divorce



By Rosalind Sedacca,

CCT for [Hope After Divorce](#)

It can be tough – but necessary!

As a divorced parent, you can never pay too much attention to your communication skills with your children. It keeps the doors open for a healthier, more positive relationship with them. It makes you more sensitive to issues of concern early on, so you can nip them in the bud. It also encourages your children to talk about what they are feeling, questions they have, and situations that are creating conflict for them.

Related Link: [Solo Parenting: Reconsidering Your Ex](#)

Don't sit down and say, "Let's talk." Instead, find a comfortable time and place where conversation can flow naturally and easily. Then, bring up related subjects in a casual way. Watching television or movies at home can often be a catalyst for valuable conversation. Driving in the car together is another great time for discussion, questions, and sharing feelings.

Consider Bruce Willis and Demi Moore. Despite being divorced for over a decade, they're often seen at red carpet events with their three daughters, Rumer, Scout, and Tallulah. By maintaining a friendly connection with each other, these exes ensure that they both have a positive relationship with their kids and that their family unit stays intact.

Here are some tips that can help you ease into more productive communication with your kids.

- Asking *why* can be intimidating and close off your conversation. Instead ask *what happened* questions, which keep the dialogue open. Then, move into talking about *feelings* which provide insights into what's *really* going on with your child. Validate their right to their feelings, even if you're uncomfortable hearing about them. When they feel safe in expressing their emotions, you'll get real clues as to how your divorce is affecting them – and whether there are changes taking place worthy of your special attention.

- Be patient. Don't react or respond until you get the full message. Sometimes, it takes some meandering for your child to reach the crucial point of what they want to say. Don't coax – or shut them off too soon!

- Remember that preaching, moralizing, or "parenting" comments can put up barriers to clear communication. Listening is your most valuable skill and tool. Paraphrase back what you're hearing to make sure you're getting it right. "So you were annoyed at dad for forgetting to call you last night" is far

different from saying “I don’t blame you for being angry at dad. He’s so undependable.”

– Watch your judgments and put-downs, even with upsetting information. Don’t belittle your children, call them names, or insult their behaviors. Talk to them – not at them. The difference is felt as respect. Be careful never to put down or disrespect your child’s other parent in your conversations...as tempting as that may be at times. Keep your kids out of the divorce drama as much as possible. That’s when real emotional damage is done.

Related Link: [How to Cooperatively Co-Parent After Separation or Divorce](#)

– Acknowledge your children for coming to you or sharing with you. Praise their braveness. If you were at fault, apologize honestly and discuss how you can make changes for the future. Sometimes, post-divorce parent-child communication can be a very slow process as you rebuild trust and a sense of security.

– Show that you accept and love them – even when their behaviors are not acceptable. Help them come up with some acceptable solutions they can understand and feel good about. Support and positive role modeling go a long way toward influencing your children in the right direction.

Put yourself in your child’s place, and you will likely make wiser decisions when it comes to talking about sensitive areas in their life. Afraid to talk about touchy subjects? Get some help from a counselor. Good parents know it’s essential to talk to your children and be there for them when they need you – especially when they’re reluctant to start the conversation. Don’t let them down!

For more information on Hope After Divorce, click [here](#).

✘ *Rosalind Sedacca, CCT is a Divorce and Parenting Coach and*

author of the ebook, How Do I Tell the Kids about the Divorce? A Create-a-Storybook Guide to Preparing Your Children – with Love! Acclaimed by divorce professionals, the book provides fill-in-the-blank templates that guide parents in creating a family storybook with personal photographs as an ideal way to break the news. Rosalind is a contributing expert at HopeAfterDivorce.org, DivorceSupportCenter.com, FamilyShare.com, and CupidsPulse.com. For her free ebook on Post-Divorce Parenting: Success Strategies for Getting It Right!, her free ezine, articles, coaching services, and other valuable resources, visit Rosalind's [site](#).

‘Supernatural’ Star Jared Padalecki Welcomes Second Son



By April Littleton

According to [People](#), Jared Padalecki and his wife Genevieve Cortese Padalecki welcomed their second son Sunday, Dec. 22. "My amazingly strong wife home-birthed a happy and healthy baby boy last night. Please send love," the *Supernatural* star wrote on his Twitter. The couple are already parents to Thomas Colton, 21 months, and married Feb. 2010.

How do you prepare differently for your second son than your first?

Cupid's Advice:

Preparing for a second child is just as difficult it was the first time around. Not only will you have to find a way to manage your money to fit the needs of four people rather than three, but you'll also have to prepare your first child for what's to come as well. Cupid is here to help:

1. Communicate with your first child: If your first child is old enough to understand what's going on, let them know about your new bundle of joy. Create a sense of excitement for your daughter/son so they won't feel threatened by the idea of having a sibling. Let them know that when the baby comes, they'll be able to help out by reading bedtime stories, changing diapers and just being the best older brother/sister they can be.

Related: [Rachel Zoe Welcomes Her Second Son](#)

2. Look through the closet: Before you go out and buy new baby items, look through some of the old clothes and toys you already have from your previous pregnancy. If the baby is the same gender, you can reuse almost everything you already have.

Related: [Bruce Willis Prepares to Welcome His Fifth Child](#)

3. Budget: You already have a little family. You're just bringing in a new addition. To prepare yourself for the added expenses a second child will bring in, you need to come up

with a set budget. Along with the everyday items you spend money on, you will now need to figure in diapers, bottles, etc. to the equation.

What are some other ways to prepare differently for your second son than your first? Comment below.

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Tips for Having a Fun Family Holiday



By [Whitney Johnson](#)

The holidays are meant to be spent with the ones you love most: your family. Whether you're a newlywed spending your first Christmas with your husband's family or new parents

trying to survive those sleepless nights, it's important that you soak up this time together. With this thought in mind, CupidsPulse.com has pulled together these great articles from our partners, filled with the tips you need to have a fun-filled holiday with your family:

Related Link: [Drew Lachey Talks About Spending Time with His Family](#)

1. Bond as a family: It's no secret that your kids won't be little forever, so why not enjoy this time before it's gone? Take a look at these gift ideas to bring your family even closer. (GalTime.com)

2. Show your bestie you care: Many women find a BFF in their sister or mother, but even if you're not related to your best friend by blood, you probably still view her as family. These 37 friendship quotes will remind you how special your bestie is. (YourTango.com)

3. Celebrate your loved ones: Making people feel loved and special is important all year long, not just during the holidays. Here are four ways to show your family and friends just how much you care. (GalTime.com)

4. Embrace your inner kid: Take a cue from Alyson Hannigan and her husband of ten years Alexis Denisof and be a kid at heart. We promise you'll enjoy the holidays even more through the eyes of a child! (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

Related Link: [Make Your Holiday the Best One Yet](#)

5. Tell your partner you love her: With the needs of your little ones filling you and your wife's days (and often your nights), it's easy for you to feel like you're missing out on time as a couple. Use these 15 tips to make sure your actions show your sweetheart just how much you love her. (YourTango.com)

Cupid wants to know: How will you bond with your family during the holidays?

Surviving Holidays as a Stepparent



By Michele

Sfakianos, RN, BSN for [Hope After Divorce](#)

It doesn't have to be difficult.

A stepparent who has different holiday traditions from the rest of the family, especially a stepparent with no child of their own, can feel left out of the celebration. *All* family traditions matter, and it's vital for everyone to be considered when planning holidays.

Actress Megan Fox is stepmom to hubby Brian Austin Green's son, Kassius. Word has it that she is a stepmother to the fullest extent. She has happily looked after Kassius since he was three years old. Fox is a good example of a stepparent who most definitely includes her stepchild in all holiday celebrations as well as every aspect of their family's life. It should be this way for all children in blended families.

As a stepparent, here are a few things you should consider when planning holidays:

Related Link: [Reinventing Home for the Holidays](#)

Who is going to spend the holiday where? Holiday plans can be predetermined by custody or shared parental agreements. If you have the flexibility of options, discuss them with the children and keep their desires in mind. Some families split up the holidays each year: "I'll take Halloween and you take Thanksgiving." Or some try to do both: "I'll take Christmas Eve" (Mom) and "I'll take Christmas Day" (Dad). Several people celebrate twice, once with each parent.

Where will the gifts be opened? Parents who purchase presents for their children like to see their reactions when the child is opening the gift. How would you feel if you didn't get to see their surprise? Make sure you think of all parties involved when making plans.

Watch out for trouble on the stepsibling front when the kids have other plans. Stepchildren can feel left out if there are "whole" kids in the picture. Try to keep the presents even and have the major festivities take place when all the children are present.

Don't expect holidays to be as you had in the past. Be aware the loss of the old ways of doing things is a disappointment for the kids *and* for you. Discuss how holidays were for each of you and have each person define which rituals are most important to them. This can be hard to hear, but it's

important. Incorporate a few of these old rituals into your new holiday.

Create new holidays. If all the holidays seem to be taken up with stress and other people's claims ("But Thanksgiving is mine!"), you can always select another day (Cinco de Mayo, Arbor Day, Stepparents Day) to become an annual blow-out holiday. Acknowledge you are starting from scratch. There is a new excitement about having the opportunity to create holidays as you would like them to be. Aim for creating your own holiday spirit (with additions) and welcoming kids into it.

If you won't have the children for the holiday, create an alternate festivity for yourselves. Don't stay home and mope. Don't force false cheer. Make new memories. Get creative. Plan ahead and don't let yourself feel lonely or disappointed.

Related Link: [How to Cooperatively Co-Parent After Separation or Divorce](#)

Here are a few more simple tips to keep in mind as well:

- The first few years, try to lower your expectations.
- Don't assume holidays will be calm and peaceful if daily life is full of conflict. There is no holiday from mixed feelings, and you cannot force fun, laughter, and family spirit.
- The winter holidays are traditionally a time of family togetherness. You and your partner can have private time too, but always take the children and stepchildren into consideration.
- Take into account the religions of those involved. It's important to keep family traditions alive with certain cultures.
- Be flexible and encourage flexibility.

– If things are tense, do not force get-togethers or minimize the amount of time spent together.

No matter the holiday, remember to celebrate. You are a real family!

For more information about Hope After Divorce, click [here](#).

Michele Sfakianos, RN, BSN, is a Registered Nurse, Life Skills Expert, Speaker and Award Winning Author. She is the owner of Open Pages Publishing, which includes her series of “The 4-1-1” books on Life Skills, Step Parenting, and Surviving Teenhood. Michele is a contributing expert for HopeAfterDivorce.org, DivorceSupportCenter.com, FamilyShare.com, and CupidsPulse.com.

Drew Lachey Talks About Finding Balance Between Wife and Kids





By Priyanka Singh

Former 98 Degrees band member, Drew Lachey, recently talked with Celebrity Baby Scoop about how much life changed for the better when he became a father. The singer revealed how his two children, Isabella, 7, and Hudson, 3, learn about values from the example him and his wife set in their household. Even though the kids are his number one priority, he still manages to keep the romance alive in his marriage to his high school sweetheart. Read on for more of his interview!

CBS: How are your kids Isabella and Hudson doing? What do they like to do for fun these days?

DL: “This morning we were just throwing snowballs. For the most part, they’re just active kids. My daughter loves to perform and my son’s a little tornado. They love music and love dancing. I don’t know where they get that from. [laughs] They just naturally want to do that. They’re fun-loving, compassionate, and artistic kids. I’m sure every parent thinks their kids are the best in the world, and I’m no different. I have some great kids.”

CBS: If we ask them what kind of father you are, what would they tell us? What is your parenting style?

DL: “That’s a good question. I try to be fun but I also try to be no-nonsense. Manners are very important in our house, such as respecting and being compassionate towards other people. At the same time, you don’t have to be hard-lined with that. You can have fun and make things entertaining. I try to be a good balance. Would they say that? I don’t know. But that’s what I try to be.”

Related Link: [Keith Urban Says Marriage and Family Takes Work Every Day](#)

CBS: How has fatherhood changed you?

DL: “Over the past seven years, fatherhood has changed me completely one hundred percent. Everybody says it changes your life, but it ultimately flips your life one hundred and eighty degrees and changes it massively, but all for the better. Your values, what’s important to you, how you look at life, and how you view yourself changes. You have to take a look at yourself and see how these little eyes are going to remember you and how they’re going to imitate you and what they’re going to take away from you as they grow up. My daughter’s sees how I treat her mom and that’s how she’s going to gage how every guy’s supposed to treat her. You want to make sure you’re setting the right example for your kids.”

CBS: You married your high school sweetheart. How do you keep the romance alive amidst diapers and carpools?

DL: “Luckily, my kids are out of diapers now so it makes it a little easier. It’s something that every couple has to make the effort to do. Your number one priority becomes making sure that your children are happy, healthy, and safe. At the same time, you have to still give each other enough attention and love to keep the marriage strong and healthy as well. Everything is about finding that balance between having time for your spouse and your marriage and also time for your kids. Calling a babysitter and going out on date night is not a bad

thing. It's something that we definitely try to do. Being here in Cincinnati, we also have family that can come and help out and babysit. We definitely try and take advantage of our date nights."

Related Link: [Ben Affleck Says Wife Jennifer Garner Is 'the Most Important Person to Me'](#)

CBS: Can you tell us about your holiday plans? Do you have any special holiday traditions?

Drew: "We have lots of traditions. Luckily for us, now that we're back in Cincinnati, most of our family is here. As opposed to having to fly across country to spend the holidays with our family, we can literally just drive down the road now, which makes it a little bit easier. We're foodies, so we definitely stuff our faces for three days straight during the holidays. We have Thanksgiving, and then we have leftovers, and then we have leftovers of the leftovers. It's a big deal for us, and the Christmas holiday is huge too. Ultimately, it just comes down to spending time with family. My wife has a huge family, so it's always a fun time."

CBS: What's up next for you? Are you working on any musical projects?

DL: "Right now, I'm taking the holiday off. It's been a busy year with the tour and all that fun stuff. I'm sure I'll get back to auditioning come pilot season and see what's out there. I continue to work and audition, but while I'm here in Cincinnati my wife and I teach at the school we graduated from and run our art camp, so between jobs I'm still working. There's never a dull moment."

For the rest of the interview, visit www.celebritybabyscoop.com/2013/12/08/fatherhood-hundred-degrees.

Ben Affleck Says Wife Jennifer Garner Is 'the Most Important Person to Me'



By April Littleton

According to [People](#), Ben Affleck only has one person to thank for all of his success – his wife, Jennifer Garner. “She is by leaps and bounds the most important person to me in that respect,” Affleck said in an interview with *Playboy* of Garner’s resolute support. “Over the past 10 years she has allowed me to have a stable home life while accomplishing my professional goals.” The couple married in 2005 and have three children together, son, Samuel, 21 months and daughters Violet, 7 and Seraphina, 4.

What are some ways to show your appreciation for your partner?

Cupid's Advice:

After awhile, it can be hard to find different ways to show your partner you still love and care about them. Sometimes, the smallest gestures can make your loved one feel over the moon. Cupid has some tips:

1. Thank them: The simplest way to show your appreciation for your significant other is just by thanking them often. Does your partner take out the trash everyday? Does he/she cook and clean the most out of the two of you? Sure, a sweet "thank you" will do the trick, but think about giving your partner a nice gift. Surprise your love with a special meal or take them out for a night out.

Related: [Newlyweds Ace Young and Diana DeGarmo Start Holiday Traditions](#)

2. A day out: Plan out a day where you and your partner do everything he/she likes to do. Whether it be going swimming, seeing a movie or simply lounging at home all day – let them pick out the activities for the day. When the day is over, your honey will feel appreciated and know you care about their wants and desires.

Related: [Adele and Boyfriend Flaunt PDA at Lady Gaga Concert](#)

3. Physical contact: Make sure you shower your significant other with hugs and kisses. When your partner does something nice for you, show your love with a sweet kiss and a hug. A little physical contact can mean the world to your love and it will also keep the spark between you and him/her alive.

What are some other ways to show appreciation for your partner? Comment below.

Get Ready to Celebrate the Holidays with 'A Madea Christmas'



By April Littleton

A small town gets ready for their annual Christmas Carnival as Madea (played by Tyler Perry) gets persuaded by an old friend to help surprise her daughter with a visit over the holidays. Past relationships are put to the test and new secrets are revealed, while Madea celebrates Christmas her way.

Should you see it:

Obviously, you'll be seeing *A Madea Christmas* if you're a Tyler Perry fan. If you're not familiar with any of his plays

or movies, you might know some of the actors/actresses who will appear on the big screen with him (Chad Michael Murray, Tika Sumpter and Eric Lively). You could also go see the film simply because you're in the Christmas spirit.

Who to take:

Bring a family member along or a couple of friends. You'll probably end up crying and laughing through the entire movie, so bring someone who can sympathize with both emotions.

Related: [Family is Everything in 'Homefront'](#)

What are some ways to bring a family together for the holidays?

Cupid's Advice:

You might not be feeling any of the Christmas cheer just yet, especially if you can't seem to get all of your family on the same page. Are you having trouble getting all of your loved ones involved in the festivities? Cupid has some tips:

1. Family project: With the holidays vastly approaching, this would be a great time to bring all your loved ones together for a Christmas-related project. Have all of your family members decide on a Christmas tree and decorate it together, or think about doing some secret Santa shopping as a group. Little activities like this will bring all of you closer and help you figure out ways to work as a team.

2. Family dinner: Pick one day out of the week where every member of your family can be free to meet up for dinner. Keep communication open during the meal. Share your feelings and listen when your loved ones want to discuss any important issues or just normal, everyday topics.

Related: [Jennifer Lawrence is Back in 'Hunger Games' Sequel 'Catching Fire'](#)

3. Just relax: Trying to plan a big family get together can be very stressed, especially if your loved ones haven't been in the same room with each other for a long time. Instead of giving yourself anxiety, sit back and let things fall into place. When your family arrives for the holidays, watch television together, have a dance-off competition in your living room or eat ice cream and stay up all night catching up with each other. Christmas isn't about how much money and time you spend getting everything ready – it's about family and being thankful for what you have.

What are some other ways to bring a family together for the holidays? Comment below.

Kim Kardashian Defends Parenting Decisions in Face of 'Ignorant' Tweeter





By Kerri Sheehan

Kim Kardashian revealed that her five-month-old daughter, North West tried out swimming for the first time this weekend. Both Kim and fiancé, Kanye West were present for the occasion. Kim posted about the family swimming day on her Twitter page and one commenter said that it was nice that Kimye's baby girl "got to see her parents for a change!" According to UsMagazine.com, Kim fired back calling the commenter ignorant and saying that she did not know how much time Kim and Kanye spent with their daughter.

What are ways to compromise on parenting techniques with your partner?

Cupid's Advice:

Parenting is tough work. Make sure you're working with your partner and not against them by compromising on parenting techniques.

Related Link: [Kanye West Calls Kim Kardashian 'the Most Beautiful Woman of All Time'](#)

1. Figure out your styles: It will be easier to mesh your two parenting techniques together once you both identify which

technique you prefer. The three types of parents are generally authoritative, passive, and democratic. Once you and your partner pinpoint your styles you can figure out how to make them work effectively together.

2. Take turns: No one parent should be in full control of the children. Both should take turns dealing with any problems that arise so that both parties are involved in the children's upbringing.

Related Link: [Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Parenting and Marriage After a Second Baby](#)

3. Compromise, not compete: If your children see you and your partner disagree when it comes to raising them then the kids will start to think that they have some of the control. Sure Daddy may say no to buying me a new tricycle, but Mommy is sure to say yes. Parents should work together, not against one another.

How do you and your partner compromise? Share below.

Maria Bello Reveals She Has a Long-Term Girlfriend





By Kerri Sheehan

Actress Maria Bello revealed that she has been dating her best female friend. When the *Grown-ups* actress decided to read through her old journals she learned that she often pinned people as her soul mate and when they broke her heart that made the fall all the worse. That's when she decided to give a relationship with her best friend, Clare a try. According to UsMagazine.com, Bello said, "It didn't occur to me, until that soul-searching moment in my garden, that we could perhaps choose to love each other romantically." Her family and friends have been supportive of the relationship so far.

How do you come clean about a long relationship to family and friends?

Cupid's Advice:

It can be hard to share a long-term relationship with those who you don't think will approve. Let Cupid help you come clean.

Related Link: [Macaulay Culkin Kisses New Girlfriend Jordan Lane Price in Paris](#)

1. Explain yourself: If you've been hiding the relationship

for some time then there is bound to be a specific reason. Explain fully to friends and family why you didn't want to tell them at first and they are likely to be more understanding.

2. Remember that it's your life: In the end those close to you may not approve of your lifestyle choice, but it's important to remember that it's your life, not theirs. Ultimately the relationships that you choose to be in affect you the most so if you're happy then that's all that matters.

Related Link: [What to Do When Your Mother Doesn't Like Your Partner](#)

3. Listen to their perspective: Sometimes friends and family will disapprove of whom you are dating. Although this is no reason to call off the relationship, it is okay to hear out your loved ones' concerns.

How would you tell your family and friends about a long-term relationship? Share below.

Miranda Kerr and Orlando Bloom Reunite in NYC with Son Flynn





By April Littleton

According to [People](#), Miranda Kerr and Orlando Bloom seem to be getting along just fine despite the fact that they're separated. The pair were spotted in N.Y.C. Saturday with their son, Flynn, who turns 3 in Jan. The couple announced their split in October after three years of marriage. "We love each other. We're a family," Bloom said about Kerr days after their announcement.

What are some ways to keep your post-breakup relationship civil for your children?

Cupid's Advice:

1. Let the relationship go: Many couples try to stay in a dying relationship for the sake of their children not realizing that they're actions are actually making it harder on the family. Put your kids first. Naturally, they would love to see the you and your former partner together, but they also want to see you both happy too – even if that means the two of you aren't an item anymore.

Related: [Malin Akerman and Husband Split Months After Son's Birth](#)

2. Communicate: Your children shouldn't be treated as messengers. If you have anything to say to or about your ex, tell them directly. Your kids don't need to be put in a situation that's already hard for them to understand.

Related: [Exes Ashlee Simpson and Pete Wentz Reunite for Son Bronx's Birthday](#)

3. Establish a schedule: Set up a schedule that works for both you and your ex. When it comes to visitations, try to be consistent on who gets to see the kids on what days. It's OK if you need to switch it up every now and then as long as your ex agrees on the terms.

What are some other ways to keep your post-breakup relationship civil for your children? Comment below.

Malin Akerman and Husband Split Months After Son's Birth





By April Littleton

According to [People](#), Malin Akerman and husband Roberto Zincone have decided to end their marriage. The *Trophy Wife* actress, who married Zincone in 2007, gave birth to son Sebastian in April. “[Motherhood is] amazing, the biggest love you have ever felt in your life,” Akerman said after having her baby.

What are some ways to remain civil post-breakup for your child?

Cupid’s Advice:

Breakups are difficult to deal with – especially if children are involved. Maintaining some type of relationship with an ex is crucial if both parents plan on staying in their childrens’ lives. Cupid has some tips:

1. Communicate: You and your ex will be in each other’s lives for a long time because of your child, so avoiding each other isn’t an option. During the time when you do have to communicate with your former flame, keep things short and simple. Remain respectful of each other’s boundaries and only talk about the kids.

Related: [Brody Jenner and Girlfriend Bryana Holly Split After](#)

[4-Month Romance](#)

2. Keep negative comments to yourself: Don't talk bad about your ex in front of your children. Keep in mind that your kids love the both of you, so bashing each other around the children will hurt and confuse them. Don't make them choose sides. Keep them out of all of the drama that surrounds you and your ex.

Related: [Richard Gere and Carey Lowell Call It Quits](#)

3. Be the bigger person: Your former partner may be the type of person who wants to make the situation harder on you once the two of you finally decide to call it quits. Keep your cool and walk away from any potential fights that may arise. You need to keep your composure for the sake of your children. If your ex doesn't want to follow suit, maybe he/she shouldn't be involved with the parenting for awhile.

How did you remain civil post-breakup for your child? Share your experience below.

Family is Everything in 'Homefront'





By April Littleton

Directed by Gary Fleder, *Homefront* stars Jason Statham as former DEA agent, Phil Broker. He is widowed father who decides to retire and move to a small town for the sake of his 10-year-old daughter. The film also includes James Franco, Kate Bosworth and Winona Ryder.

Should you see it:

Jason Statham is known for starring in some pretty action-packed thrillers and this film will be no different. So, if you're a fan of the action genre or you're familiar with any of the actors you'll see on the big screen, take a chance on *Homefront* – you won't be disappointed.

Who to take:

Don't be surprised if this movie is the first one on your boyfriend's list of must-sees. If you're flying solo over the Thanksgiving holiday, grabbing a bunch of your friends or family members to see this film won't be too out of the ordinary – just make sure they don't mind the fight scenes.

Related: [Jennifer Lawrence is Back in Hunger Games Sequel](#)

[Catching Fire](#)

How do you help a child get over the loss of a parent?

Cupid's Advice:

The loss of a loved one is hard on anyone, especially if that person was a parent to a child. For children, a death is harder to understand and it may become more difficult for them to grieve properly and eventually accept that their mom/dad is gone. Cupid is here to help:

1. Help them understand: Whether your daughter/son is old enough to understand or not, the actual death of a parent will take him/her by surprise. When the time comes, it's important that you take the time to answer any and all questions your child might have. You need to help them understand why and how the loss of their family member happened. Acceptance won't happen over night and you shouldn't expect it to – be patient.

2. Don't punish: After the loss of your loved one, your child might act out. The sudden change from good to bad behavior is normal in this situation. He/she is just trying to work out all of their feelings and they don't really know how to react at a time like this, especially if this is the first death in the family. Give your son/daughter some time to try to work out their emotions on their own. If you noticed that nothing has changed for the better after awhile, think about seeing a professional therapist.

Related: [How to Support a Partner Whose Ex Passed Away](#)

3. Support them: Your child will need the support from you and the rest of your family now more than anything. All of you will need to be behind each other 100 percent. You can grieve together, help each other accept what's going on and stop each other from doing anything harmful to one another. Being supportive won't just benefit your child, but you as well. Remember, you'll be dealing with the loss just as much as

anyone else.

What are some other ways to help a child get over the loss of a parent? Comment below.

'Bachelorette' Trista Sutter Talks About 'Happily Ever After': "Ryan and I Make It Work for No One But Ourselves"



By Kristin Mattern

Reality TV viewers know Trista Sutter from the first season of *The Bachelor* where she grew to be a fan favorite on the show. When she ended as runner-up, ABC chose her as the first star of their new show, [The Bachelorette](#). It was there that she met and fell in love with her husband, firefighter Ryan Sutter. Defying the bleak love statistics of the popular ABC franchise (as of 2013, only three famous couples have gotten hitched out of 25 seasons), Trista and Ryan married in 2003 and have since welcomed two beautiful children – Maxwell Alston and Blakesley Grace. Family life hasn't slowed down this stay-at-home celebrity mom. She regularly contributes to several blogs and most recently wrote a book about the power of gratitude.

Related Link: [Reality Stars Who Found Real Love: Trista and Ryan Sutter](#)

Celebrity Interview with Former *Bachelorette* Star Trista Sutter

Happily Ever After: The Life-Changing Power of a Grateful Heart was inspired by Sutter's desire to write about a topic she could speak to authentically and realized that the subject most important to her was gratitude. "It's kept me uplifted during the hard times and grounded during the high times," she says in our celebrity interview. "I truly hope I'm able to encourage happiness in my readers by writing about its value through the stories of my life, others' lives, and the incredible scientific research proving its positive effects." The title stems from the reality TV star's Disney-like romance, but her book also showcases that life isn't perfect. Sutter believes that "if you embrace a grateful heart, your fairy tale will reveal itself through a happier life."



With Thanksgiving only a few days away, the release of Sutter's book is fitting. The mother-of-two says she is most thankful for her relationships with family and friends and the experiences in life that have taught her to cherish her blessings. "Moments full of sadness or strife have made me realize how short life is and helped me to appreciate it," she says.

Related Link: [Five Bachelor and Bachelorette Couples We Can Learn From](#)

Trista Sutter Opens Up About Her Relationship and Love

When it comes to her celebrity marriage, Sutter says her relationship with husband Ryan is based on true love. Asked if they ever feel pressured to stay together because of their reality TV past, the starlet candidly responds, "I wouldn't say that we are pressured to stay together, but I'll admit that I would never want to disappoint our hopeful fans if we were to ever decide that our marriage wasn't healthy anymore. We love each other and make it work for no one else but ourselves." This December, the happy couple will be celebrating their ten-year anniversary, but they're keeping their plans a secret for now!

Over the last decade, their relationship and love has evolved simply because they've become parents and have "two tiny humans to concern themselves with." The charms that keep their fairy-tale marriage under a love spell are simple: "communication, love, respect, trust, honesty, fun, humor, adventure, commitment, friendship, forgiveness, and faith." Quite a long list, but it works for them!

The Sutter's haven't told their son and daughter about their unconventional romance but will do so when the kids are older. When the parents do share their love story, the Colorado natives plan to give this relationship advice: "Be yourself, marry your best friend, and never settle. The fairy tale is out there, and even though everyone suffers through heartache, we need to be grateful for the road that leads us to the eventual path to our soul mate." In the meantime, she and Ryan are focused on filling their children's lives with positivity and every night, they recount the blessings of the day.

Related Link: [Love Lesson's From ABC's 'The Bachelor'](#)

Never one to slow down, she is continuing her work by partnering with GloryHaus.com and featuring a line of gifts called "The Grateful Heart Collection," which includes picture frames, wall art, magnets, pillows, jewelry, tote bags, and more – all created with the intention of spreading the word about gratitude. Just in time to start your holiday shopping!

With the next season of *The Bachelor* due to air soon, Sutter advises those women seeking to win the heart of Juan Pablo to have fun, be themselves and make friends!

To learn more about Sutter and The Grateful Heart Collection, visit her website, www.tristasutter.com/index.html. Her book, Happily Ever After: The Life-Changing Power of a Grateful Heart, goes on sale today.

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Parenting and Marriage After a Second Baby



By Kerri Sheehan

Being a new parent can be difficult, but adding a second or even third child to the family adds a new dynamic to the already-established way of doing things. Most couples don't realize that expanding a household can lead to sibling rivalry, loss of patience, and, for many, marital turbulence. CupidsPulse.com has gathered some of the best tips and advice from our partners to help you out when it comes to that cute little addition:

1. Siblings: If your son or daughter is accustomed to being an only child, there could be a slight shift in personality when baby number two comes along. Make sure to prepare your other children for their new brother or sister so that they will feel just as happy and eager as you do when the baby comes home. (GalTime.com)

Related Link: [Kristin Cavallari Confirms Second Pregnancy with Jay Cutler](#)

2. Parenting Style: It's important to remember that every child is different. What worked for your oldest son Johnny may not work for little Ava. Be flexible. *Rules of Engagement* star Megyn Price recently dished that her daughter Grace is so unique that she has to be spontaneous when parenting. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)

3. Work Together: Nobody said it was easy raising children, but when two parents share or take turns getting up in the middle of the night, driving the kids to school, making dinner, and cleaning the house, it can be much easier to handle. Find out if the division of labor in your house is equal. (GalTime.com)

4. Just Because: It can be easy to forget about your partner once you add children into the mix. What better way to make your man feel important than getting him an unexpected present? Here are ten gift ideas for even the pickiest of guys. (YourTango.com)

Related Link: [Kanye West Displays His Love for Kim Kardashian](#)

5. Say How You Feel: In the midst of providing your children with the care and protection that they need, it's easy to forget to say those three little words that brought you together in the first place. Here are 20 inspirational ways to say "I love you." (YourTango.com)

What are your best parenting tips? Share below.

Exes Ashlee Simpson and Pete Wentz Reunite for Son Bronx's Birthday



By April Littleton

Ashlee Simpson and her ex-husband Pete Wentz reunited to celebrate their son's fifth birthday in L.A.'s Studio City neighborhood, Saturday, Nov. 16. Both exes brought along their new significant others. Wentz arrived with girlfriend of two years Meagan Camper, while Simpson showed up with Evan Ross.

"It didn't seem awkward at all between Evan Ross and Pete Wentz. They took a family photo and were all in it – Pete, Meagan, Ashlee and Evan," a source told UsMagazine.com.

How do you remain civil post-breakup for the sake of your

children?

Cupid's Advice:

A breakup is always tough to handle, but even more so when kids are involved. You may want to get rid of your ex altogether, but whether you like it or not, the two of you have to cooperate if you both want to maintain a stable relationship with your children. Cupid has some tips:

1. Set boundaries: When it comes to your children, you and your partner need to come up with a clear set of boundaries. It's very easy to let the negative feelings you have toward your ex get the best of you, but you have to remember that the two of you will be in each other's lives permanently. Keep your relationship platonic and only communicate with each other when the kids are involved. You don't need to be in each other's personal life anymore.

Related: [Minka Kelly and Chris Evans Call it Quits](#)

2. Don't badmouth: There's no need to bring up your ex around your children. When you do have to bring him/her up, make sure you're not saying anything negative about them. Your kids don't need to feel like they have to choose sides. They love you both. If you can't contain your frustrations, vent them to a friend or a family member in private when your babies aren't around.

3. Take your time: Just like with any breakup, you and your ex will need to take time to move on from each other. Don't rush into a new relationship and don't bring multiple potential partners into your home where your children live. Take it one step at a time and help your kids understand why their parents aren't together anymore before you start dating around.

Related: [Michael Morris Steps Out with Wife Post-Katherine McPhee Scandal](#)

What are some other ways to remain civil post-breakup for the sake of children? Comment below.

Eva Longoria Goes Public with New Boyfriend Jose Antonio Baston



By Kerri Sheehan

Love is in the air for Eva Longoria and Jose Antonio Baston! On Friday night the former *Desperate Housewives* star and president of Televisa, the largest media company in Latin America walked the red carpet for the Museo Jumex Opening dinner at Casa De La Bola in Mexico City Mexico together. This

is their first red carpet appearance together since they began their romance several weeks ago. A source dished to [People](#), “He’s been sweeping her off her feet and courting her like a proper gentleman.”

How do you know when to reveal your partner to family and friends?

Cupid’s Advice:

How soon is too soon to tell your friends and family about the new lover in your life? Let Cupid help you decide.

Related Link: [What to Do When Your Mother Doesn’t Like Your Partner](#)

1. Once you’re exclusive: Bringing home a guy before you two are exclusive can be uncomfortable for all parties involved. Your family and friends won’t really know what kind of boundaries you two have so things can get pretty weird pretty fast. It’s best to keep your new guy private until you migrate out of that awkward gray area.

2. Check with your partner: Meeting friends and family is super nerve racking, so make sure your new beau is okay with taking that step. Some people may want to be together longer than others before making that move which is perfectly normal.

Related Link: [5 Conversations Every Couple Should Have Before Getting Married](#)

3. Let it happen naturally: Don’t try to force anything with an overly planned dinner or an elaborate show. You’ll likely be with your new partner a lot of the time so them meeting your friends and family will come organically with time.

How did you reveal your new partner to your family and friends? Share below.