

Expert Dating Advice: Should You Give Your Ex a Second Chance?



By Amy Osmond Cook for [Divorce Support Center](#)

In the latest celebrity news, actress Pamela Anderson recently announced that her celebrity divorce to two-time husband, Rick Salomon, was final. In retrospect, she realized she never should have traveled down that path a second time. In contrast, my aunt Marie Osmond reunited with and remarried her first husband, Stephen Craig, 26 years after they divorced. This [celebrity couple](#) is fantastic together, and I'm thrilled to see them back together. As Uncle Donny stated in *People.com*, "These two people are right for each other."

Deciding whether or not your ex is the ultimate soul mate for you can be a complicated decision, and it's one that requires some soul-searching. Six percent of people remarry their former spouse, and sometimes, it results in happiness, while other times, the old problems flare up again. As a relationship expert, I think the wisdom behind that decision largely depends on what caused the marriage to break up in the first place and what changes are happening now. My expert dating advice would be to consider these three reasons for remarrying your spouse and these three reasons to move on:

Expert Dating Advice For Giving Your Ex a Second Chance

1. You're able to forgive each other: What was once considered a deal breaker to your marriage may take on a different look as time passes. In her *Huffington Post* article, "Remarrying Your Ex-Spouse," author Lois Tarter believes the ability to forgive comes with time, stating, "If the two ex-spouses worked on themselves while apart and they are in a better place, they may be able to forgive their spouse for all that went wrong."

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2. Bad timing caused the break-up: Could it be the right guy came along at the wrong moment? If so, follow my expert dating advice and look at the personal growth of both of you during the time apart. "Sometimes, two people feel that they need to grow a bit on their own in order to be fully committed to a marriage," wrote Tarter.

3. The problem wasn't the marriage: In some cases, it was the baggage that was brought into a marriage that cast a destructive shade on the relationship and love. Rachel Clark, who blogs for Psychology.com as "Marry, Divorce, Reconcile,"

refers to her own experience when she writes, “It was never the marriage. It was a habit of thinking that questioned and doubted, that spawned negativity instead of positivity. And I can say that came from my childhood because my own parents had divorced.”

Relationship Expert Gives Reasons to Move On

1. Toxic behavior is ruining the relationship: As we witnessed with Anderson, a failure to acknowledge the effects of unhealthy behaviors can doom a relationship and love. It’s like opening the refrigerator door, hoping to find something to eat, not finding anything, and closing the door, only to open it again a few seconds later in the hopes that something new appeared. That type of thinking is irrational, and so is thinking the same negative behavior patterns will not have an adverse effect on you as they once did.

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2. You are remarrying for the wrong reasons: Contrary to most Disney movies, remarrying your ex-spouse for the sake of the children, the grandparents, to save the family farm, or any reason that lies outside of genuine love for this person is sure to end in disaster for the second time.

3. Your ex-spouse has moved on: If your former spouse has invested his time and affections into another, your time speculating what could have been is over. “Life would be so much easier for everyone involved if our feelings of desire, love, and attachment were reciprocated,” was an opinion shared on truthaboutdeception.com. “But more often than not, these basic emotions do not align themselves that way.”

By taking an honest look at the reasons behind your split, you

may be facing an opportunity to make right what went wrong long ago. Or you may be proud of your ability to escape a destructive relationship that left your heart as empty as your checking account. Either way, toying with the prospect enables you to confirm your choices and feel good about what is to come.

For more information about and articles by our Hope After Divorce relationship experts, click [here](#).

Celebrity News: Marie Osmond Announces She's Going to Be a Grandma





By Marisa Spano

An excited Marie Osmond announced, “I’m pregnant!” on CBS’s *The Talk*. However, Osmond was only joking. According to [People](#), the 53-year-old revealed that her eldest son, Stephen Craig and his wife Claire are expecting their first child together. Craig exposed the news to his mother on his 30th birthday.

What are some ways to announce your pregnancy to family?

Cupid’s Advice:

Announcing a baby is a big deal. Cupid has some advice on how to do it:

- 1. Cookie:** Buy a batch of cookies with a stork on them that says, “We are expecting!” and give them to family members.
- 2. Theme it:** If you are able to announce your pregnancy around a major holiday, try incorporating an appropriate theme as part of the news. For Easter, place an announcement cards in eggs, and for Christmas purchase baby stockings and give them

out to the family.

3. Craft it: Craft stores have blank pre-cut puzzles where you can write the message, take the puzzle apart, write the news and place it in an envelope.

What are some ways you would announce the baby news? Let us know below.

Marie Osmond Re-Wears Wedding Dress to Re-Marry Stephen Craig



When Marie Osmond remarried her first husband, Stephen Craig, in Las Vegas on Wednesday, guests at the wedding must have experienced a total déjÀ vu. The *Donny and Marie* star walked down the aisle in the same wedding dress she had the first time around! However, she did update the look a bit with a new veil and a set of chunky pearls. According to [People](#), the actress didn't originally plan on wearing her old dress. After picking out a wedding dress, Osmond began to have second thoughts about it. It was then that she began cleaning out her garage and came across the gown she had worn at the first wedding.

What are some ideas for the “something old” part of your wedding attire?

Cupid's Advice:

Tradition has it that a bride should have something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue on her wedding day. Cupid has some suggestions as to what your “something old” could be:

1. Grandmother's jewelry: Since your wedding day is a day unlike any other, your jewelry has to stand out. See if your grandmother has anything on hand to be your “something old.”

An elegant string of pearls goes great with almost any wedding dress.

2. An old garter: If you can't locate a garter that was used in a previous family member's wedding, then go to a vintage store and pick one out.

3. A vintage veil: Though your mother looked ravishing once upon a time in her wedding dress, it's probably out of style by now, especially if she got married in the 80's. That said, if you'd like to use some aspect of you parents' wedding in your attire, the veil may be an excellent choice. Unlike dresses, veils are one size fits all.

What do you plan on using as your something old at your wedding? Share a comment below.