

# Weekend Date Idea: Get Crafty



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

As kids, we spend much of our free time drawing or creating some unique works of art (even if no one knows what they are), but as adults, we often let our creativity take a backseat to our many responsibilities. With that thought in mind, it's time to get crafty with this [date idea](#)! On your next night out, take your honey to the local pottery store where you two lovebirds can create your own clay pieces or paint ones already made.

## Let love be your muse this weekend

## with this date idea!

Channel your inner [Demi Moore](#) and Patrick Swayze and create your own clay pieces with this [relationship advice](#). Many pottery stores, artists' studios, and community colleges offer workshops in pottery-making where you can create anything from vases to bowls and plates. Maybe your beau has a secret artsy side just waiting to shine! If you two enjoy yourselves, you might consider joining a weekly or monthly pottery class together to really focus on improving your creative abilities. You'll probably meet other couples too and have the opportunity to expand your social circle.

**Related Link:** [Date Idea: Build a Fort](#)

If you can't find a place to craft your own or just don't feel up to the challenge – or the mess! – try to find a craft store like Michael's, Hobby Lobby, or Joann's where you can purchase all sorts of fun pottery pieces and decorate them yourselves. Find that perfect vase to house your next bouquet of wildflowers and see how in sync you are by working on a single project together. In a quiet pottery studio, there will be plenty of time to talk while you work. If you're a new couple, this is a great opportunity to get to know one another, and if you've been together for a while, it'll give you a chance to reconnect. Painting is also a great activity if you are looking for group weekend date ideas to enjoy with your favorite couple friends.

**Related Link:** [Redecorate](#)

If you are in need of some inspiration, let your partner be your muse. Use their favorite color or shape to guide you. To make things more fun, decide to make something for each other and then swap your handmade gifts at the end of the date. That way, you'll both have something to help you remember the day.

Have you ever gone on a crafty date? Share your story below!

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# Celebrity News: 'Bachelorette' Hannah Brown Confronts Luke P. About Red Flags



By Amanda Sanders

In [celebrity news](#) this Memorial Day, viewers watched *The Bachelorette*'s Hannah Brown continue her search for her happily ever after. The latest episode of [The](#)

[\*Bachelorette\*](#) showed the [single celebrity](#) discovering some red flags in Luke P.'s attempts to woo her and eventually her confronting him on how it made her feel as a result. On a group date, Luke P. tried to get some extra time alone with Hannah at the photoshoot before offering to walk her back to her dressing room in a way that the reality star viewed as aggressive, calling him "cocky." This *Bachelorette* isn't afraid to stand up for herself.

## What are some ways to confront your partner about something that is making you uncomfortable or upsetting you?

### Cupid's Advice

Sometimes it's hard to communicate with someone about things they do that bother you. Cupid is here to help you figure out how to broach the subject:

**1. Mentally prepare.** If you're nervous about talking to your partner about their problematic behavior, evaluate all of your feelings and identify the real issue that you want to discuss with them. This will keep you from getting sidetracked on the small things.

**Related Link:** [New Celebrity Couple: 'Bachelor' Kaitlyn Bristowe & Jason Tartick Announce Relationship](#)

**2. Set the stage.** Find a mutually convenient time and place to talk to your partner about what's bothering you. Don't blurt out that you need to talk publicly in front of all your friends. Find a quiet space to discuss the situation. Avoid confrontations online and on the phone unless you feel unsafe meeting your partner in person.

**Related Link:** [Celebrity News: 'Bachelorette' Contestant Lincoln Adim Convicted of Assaulting Woman on Cruise](#)

**3. Focus on the issue** Be hard on the issues but soft on the person. Don't waste time trying to hurt the other person but focus on saying what needs to be said as clearly and simply as possible.

**What are some methods you may have used when confronting someone about what's bothering you? Share your thoughts below.**

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**Bonnie Griffin**







**Summer 2019**

### **Editorial Intern**

Bonnie Griffin is a graduate student at Southern New Hampshire University where she is a student in their new online MFA Creative Writing program. Her main areas of study are in writing in the romance genre and teaching writing online. After working as a freelance writer for other authors and publishers, she published her first paranormal romance novel in 2017 as B.M. Griffin, and has since published four books in total with many more already in the works. Bonnie hopes to turn her love for writing into a career by teaching others in the profession she is so passionate about, while also continuing to write books that she is proud to put her name on. Bonnie lives in Richlands, North Carolina with her husband Jason, their two daughters, and two dogs she considers her third and fourth child.

Bonnie's favorite [celebrity couple](#) is [Kristen Bell](#) and Dax Shepard. She's been a fan of Shepard's since he starred in the NBC comedy, *Parenthood*. Bonnie loves to see the couple laughing and having a great time together; they seem to truly

enjoy being together. The video of Kristen meeting a sloth sealed the deal for her when it came to them becoming her favorite celebrity couple.

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# Relationship Advice: How to Deal With Estranged Family Members



By Dr. Jane Greer

When we think of family, we often have an image of togetherness, but for almost one-fifth of the population that

is not the case. Studies have shown that family estrangement affects up to nineteen percent of people. And while it may be fairly common, it is often painful and can interfere with everyday happiness. That can be the case whether it is a child who no longer talks to a parent, a sister who no longer talks to a brother, an aunt who no longer talks to a nephew or any other variation. It can become even more relevant and harder to ignore when a family event takes place such as a big holiday, a wedding, or the birth of a baby because there is the natural desire to share those things with someone who, at least at one time, played a prominent role in your life. This may be what Meghan Markle and Prince Harry are experiencing since they welcomed their first child. She has been publicly estranged from her father, and the arrival of her son might raise questions and emotions about that situation, especially since her father told *The Sun* that he worries he will never meet his new grandson.

## **In this relationship advice, learn how to approach estrangement from your family members.**

There are so many twists and turns that can lead people to a place where there is no contact at all. Once that is established, it is often difficult to undo it. Perhaps a long past grievance led you to this place, but it has since been forgotten about or doesn't seem at all as important as it once did. So how do you know if it is the right move for you to use this life event, whatever it might be, as a catalyst to reconnect with family members you are no longer in touch with? And when, on the other hand, should you accept that no matter how much you wish you could reconnect that it is essential to your own health and wellbeing to recognize their limitations and continue to protect yourself emotionally by leaving things as is and not trying to bridge that distance between you? In



other words, when is it okay to reach out, and when is it time to let go?

**Related Link:** [Relationship Advice: Should You Elope?](#)

If, in fact, there was a misunderstanding, or a family member cut you off with no real explanation and it is a complete mystery to you, these big life events can be a chance to try to clear the air. You can simply say that you know you have not communicated in a long time, but you would like to take this opportunity to attempt to reconcile any disagreements between you. At that point, you can ask if there was something you did to anger the other person, and possibly even move past it. Another scenario in which you might be able to find a meeting place is if you have had repeated grievances – about anything from politics to personal choices to a value clash – and you have not been able to find a middle ground. Might now be a time you can agree to disagree? Is the introduction of a new family member – either through a birth or a wedding – or the celebration of a holiday enough to make you both realize whatever it is you are fighting about isn't so important that you can't put it to the side, respectfully acknowledge each other's differences, and go forward? In those situations, seriously consider if you have more to gain by being able to do this than you would lose by insisting on being right or refusing to acknowledge that your relative might have their own preference or opinion. You might even be able to learn how to co-exist as a family in spite of your opposing convictions.

**Related Link:** [Relationship Advice: The Afterlife Connection](#)

The times when you really have to ask if it is healthy and a good idea to try to reconnect with an estranged family member are when there has been a clear betrayal. In my book *How Could You Do This To Me? Learning To Trust After Betrayal* I talk about the different types of betrayals. One type is the unaware betrayal in which the person who does it is completely unaware they are doing it. Another type that I call the

deliberate betrayal is much more complicated to get beyond. In this case, the person knew they were doing something that could hurt you, but they did it anyway. When this occurs, it is much harder to trust them again. How do you know they won't continue to behave that way and violate your trust another time? If you aren't sure, sometimes the only thing to do is to keep your distance so that despite whatever good news you might have to share, you aren't at risk of opening yourself up and being vulnerable to getting hurt and disappointed again.

Most people don't get to the point of estrangement without serious consideration. In all likelihood, there has probably been more than one issue in the relationship, and you have likely given your relative many opportunities to do better. Even so, it is common to have that continued desire to find your way back to them. Who knows what Meghan will decide to do in the future in terms of involving her father in baby Archie's life. If the reports are correct, he violated her trust more than once, and it might be hard to bridge that gap since that can corrupt the whole foundation of a relationship. Hopefully one way or another she, and you, will be able to find peace and know when it is more important to take care of yourself than to look for a reunion.

*Please tune in to the Doctor on Call radio hour on [HealthyLife.net](http://HealthyLife.net) every Tuesday at 2 PM EST, 11 AM PST. First and third Tuesdays are Shrink Wrap on Call, second Tuesdays are HuffPost on Call, and the last Tuesday of the month is Let's Talk Sex! Email your questions dealing with relationships, intimacy, family, and friendships to Dr. Greer at [askdrjane@drjanegreer.com](mailto:askdrjane@drjanegreer.com). Connect with Dr. Jane Greer on Facebook, at [www.facebook.com/DrJaneGreer](https://www.facebook.com/DrJaneGreer), and be sure to follow [@DrJaneGreer on Twitter](https://twitter.com/DrJaneGreer) for her latest insights on love, relationships, sex, and intimacy. For more on Dr. Greer, visit <http://www.drjanegreer.com>.*

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# Relationship Advice: How to Approach Social Media Post-Breakup



By Dr. Jane Greer

It is nearly impossible to do anything privately these days because almost everything is caught on camera and then shared on social media. With that in mind, breaking up and moving on can carry an even heavier and more transparent burden since most steps are documented on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, or another social media site. For example, John Cena was spotted holding hands with a mystery woman only days after his ex,

Nikki Bella, confirmed she's in a relationship with Artem Chigvintsev. All of this played out on the internet. Sometimes the one left behind doesn't feel ready to move on, but when they see their ex out there with a new love they might feel motivated to either try to put themselves out there too or, at the very least, look like they are. This raises the question, is using social media a good choice when trying to get over an old flame?

## **In this relationship advice, we explore how to approach social media after a break-up.**

Seeing your former lover's posts with a new partner often stings, and might push you to actively seek social interaction with other people in an effort to offset the rejection and loneliness you are feeling, or to spark jealousy. Either way, it can be tempting to document your journey and share it for everyone to see, especially your ex. Whatever picture you present will offer a silent confirmation to him or her about how you are doing after the break. For those who are still mourning the loss of a relationship, putting a happy face out there on Instagram and Facebook can be a way to aspire to feel better than you do, a way to paint a picture in which you appear to be over it, no longer sad, and looking ahead to your future beyond your connection to your ex. Whether you are at a rooftop cocktail party, on an actual date, or lounging by a pool, the message you are sending is that you are carrying on and your life is moving along fine without the other person. The truth, though, might be that you would rather be home in your pajamas or are still pining for your lost love. If that is the case these photos can be a way of faking it until you make it. In the same way you might try to put a smile on your face even if you don't feel like it, there is the hope that doing this can help pull you out of your rut and get you back



on a better road since it is forcing you to leave the house and be around other people.

**Related Link:** [Relationship Advice: Talking Through the Tough Times](#)

Additionally, some may truly be over the breakup, having survived the tornado of it, and are in fact happy now, meeting and dating new individuals. As a result, they may be eager to show off that they are happy and doing all right. But is it okay to present your life publicly in order to let your ex know he or she is in the past and you are now living in your present? Will this be a positive move for you? To what extent do you want to use social media? For some, it can certainly be helpful, but can it also be hurtful?

There are a number of factors to consider when you determine if using social media at this point is the right choice for you. If you have always had a strong online presence, you might not want that to change just because you are suffering through a heartbreak. After all, you have lost a partner, but you don't have to lose your usual connection to the world and feel you have been flung off the map entirely, too. In that case, keeping up with all of that might seem very natural and even help keep some normalcy in your life while you heal. But what if you feel pressure from having to "put on a happy face" and maintain your accounts, and that adds to your feeling more overwhelmed? In that instance, it might not be good for you right now. Along the same lines, putting a fictional story out there of what can look like a fairy tale life might also make achieving it feel even more elusive, and therefore might have the opposite effect of what you are hoping to accomplish, sending you further into despair rather than pulling you out of it.

Keep in mind, also, that when you post publicly you become exposed and open yourself up to all sorts of judgments and comments – anything from someone suggesting you are moving on

too soon to making a statement about the way you look. Consider if you will be able to handle this, or if you are already so sensitive and vulnerable that you are at risk of feeling even more bruised by their criticisms and opinions, many of which may be sparked by envy on the part of your followers. It's possible then that opening that door will make you feel worse rather than better. Also, try to determine why you are choosing to put yourself out there in this way, and understanding that might help you decide if you want to follow through with it. Are you doing it to get back at someone who wronged you? Are you hoping to one day reconcile with your ex, and this is a means of showing him or her that you are valuable and strong, and not pathetic without them? Or are you truly recovered and happy to be back out in the world?

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Finally, as you move through the murky journey of getting back on your feet, remember that in the same way, your own posts might make you and your life appear better than you may feel or that it actually seems to you, the same could be true for your ex. Much of what you see in their online photos may simply be their own social media front. Keeping this in mind can help offset feeling upset that they seem so happy without you.

The bottom line is that there is no correct answer, it is a matter of what is going to be right for you. Posting may be one of the ways to highlight that you are managing rather than sulking and feeling wounded. Furthermore, if you are no longer in personal contact, social media might be the only way to get the message out there. Ultimately, if it helps you feel better about yourself, gives you true support instead of demeaning statements, and the desire to get good photos mobilizes you off the couch and back out into the world, then this choice might serve you well.

Even if John had no intention of spreading any news, it is sometimes hard to keep it quiet. It seems like he is traveling down a new path without Nikki, whether we hear about it on social media or not.

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## Relationship Advice: Talking Through the Tough Times





By Dr. Jane Greer

Sustaining a marriage or an ongoing relationship can be hard, and everybody hits different rough patches along the way where they think they made a mistake choosing their partner and they can't see a lasting future together. Even in what seems like a great connection, there are times when people think they want out. Fortunately, in most cases, they don't act on these heat-of-the-minute thoughts, but rather look to find ways to move past them. Neil Patrick Harris and his husband David Burtka recently talked about how they keep their 15-year relationship happy and healthy. The couple, who share 8-year-old twins and got married in September 2014, said that for them it is all about communication. They said they try not to let emotions and disappointments get bottled up, but instead talk through the issues before they become too big to overcome. That's a good strategy for everyone.

## **How can you navigate the potholes**



**you hit in your relationship and get out of them so you don't get stuck, and can instead continue to go the distance and stay on track? Check out this relationship advice from Dr. Jane Greer.**

Often, in the surge of anger, one person may tell the other that it's over and they want out. While they might mean it when they say it, they don't actually intend to follow through and leave or make the other person leave. I call this the Deal Breaker Card, and it gets played when somebody has reached their last nerve and feels a sense of hopelessness that their relationship is ever going to change and get better. While it offers a sense of relief as well as control so they don't feel trapped, and sometimes is meant to intimidate their partner into shaping up and let them know they aren't kidding about how upset they are, it does in fact work against you. In order to get through the tough times, you need to feel like you are a team and have a we're in this together bond. Once you play the Deal Breaker Card, it is going to shake the foundation of your union and create anxiety and insecurity for your significant other. Your partner is now going to focus on – wow, we can be broken – which can deplete the trust you share and might make your partner no longer feel safe with you, which can get in the way of being able to focus on the issues to make the changes necessary to improving the relationship. It takes away from the sense of being a team, the idea that you can get through anything. Instead of strengthening your sense of resilience, it divides you and can make it harder to get through the conflict. So while you may feel like telling your partner that's it, I'm out, we're through, avoid playing the Deal Breaker Card. Think it, but don't say it. What you

might say is that sometimes you feel hopeless about your relationship going forward and you wish it can get better, which makes room for your partner to feel encouraged and work with you to make that happen. Take Neil and David's lead and acknowledge that you are at a fragile place and talk about how you will be able to get beyond it and endure over time. Discuss what you are facing, knowing that the problems in front of you are real and in order to stay together you should try to do your best to talk through them. Instead of playing the Deal Breaker Card, use that anger to consider seeking the help of a counselor, or make a clear effort to work harder to listen to each other. See it as a chance to pay more attention to your mutual needs so whatever argument you are having doesn't bring you to the end of the road.

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Another thing to be aware of is what I call Love You, Mean It, Hate You, Mean It moments. I talk about these in my book *What About Me? Stop Selfishness From Ruining Your Relationship*, and most couples deal with these at one time or another. No matter how much you love your partner, at some point he or she is going to do something that angers, frustrates, or disappoints you and, when that happens, you might feel like you actually hate them. This is totally normal, it's the natural ambivalence that is a part of every relationship. It often surprises people because when they fall in love they typically imagine that is how they will always feel for each other and they can't imagine ever having feelings of hate for the other person. However, as I explain in my book, most loving feelings in an adult relationship are conditional and subject to how you treat each other. Loving gestures beget loving feelings, and the same goes for negative behavior. With that in mind, accept it and use it as a tool to acknowledge your anger and disappointment. You might even consider developing a shorthand in which you say, Hate You, Mean It, just to let each other

know when one of you has done something upsetting. Neil and David joked about using tasers to get through to each other, which is a variation on this theme. Keep in mind that you always want to balance out the Hate You, Mean It moments with the Love You, Mean It moments so you can focus on the positive.

**Related Link:** [Relationship Advice: Should You Elope?](#)

There is no question that maintaining a solid relationship is challenging and requires prioritizing each other along with truly listening and sharing your time and attention. This is what Neil and David say has gotten them through and continues to keep them on solid ground. That, and a little humor such as their kidding about the tasers always helps. Hopefully, if you find yourself wanting to play the Deal Breaker Card or being flooded in a Hate You, Mean It moment you will be able to take a step back and remember why you fell in love with this person in the first place, so that you can sprinkle some Love You, Mean It moments and therefore make it worth the trouble to try to find your way to those feelings again.

*Please tune in to the Doctor on Call radio hour on [HealthyLife.net](http://HealthyLife.net) every Tuesday at 2 PM EST, 11 AM PST. First and third Tuesdays are Shrink Wrap on Call, second Tuesdays are HuffPost on Call, and the last Tuesday of the month is Let's Talk Sex! Email your questions dealing with relationships, intimacy, family, and friendships to Dr. Greer at [askdrjane@drjanegreer.com](mailto:askdrjane@drjanegreer.com). Connect with Dr. Jane Greer on Facebook, at [www.facebook.com/DrJaneGreer](http://www.facebook.com/DrJaneGreer), and be sure to follow [@DrJaneGreer on Twitter](https://twitter.com/DrJaneGreer) for her latest insights on love, relationships, sex, and intimacy. For more on Dr. Greer, visit <http://www.drjanegreer.com>.*

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# Relationship Advice: How To Spice Up Your Marriage



It's not uncommon for married couples to fall out of touch as time goes on and their routine leaves less room for intimacy. The excitement that once characterized their relationship has all but run dry, and now, even their time in the bedroom feels dull and predictable.

The good news is that every willing couple can reignite the passion in their marriage, and the process of exploring can be just as fun as the acts themselves.

**If you're on the hunt for some**



# saucy ways you can surprise your spouse, here are a few tips.

## Start Texting Again

Send flirty messages throughout the day, and don't be afraid to include a little dirty talk. Many couples might reserve text messages for chores and reminders, but this is a highly underestimated form of communication that can help build anticipation and make you feel appreciated. Let your partner know you're thinking about them throughout the day ... and what you'd like to do to them when they get home.

## Go on Dates

Skip your usual restaurant and go exploring. Dress up in something sexy, including some nice lingerie underneath, and truly go the extra mile to wine-and-dine with your spouse like you did when you first met. If you're both too tired from work and kids, that's okay. Plan a romantic date night at home with rose petals, a candlelit dinner and some tasty dessert. Leave no stone unturned and pull out all the stops to impress your S/O.

## Try New Positions

Couples tend to fall into synchronicity the longer they're together, and that includes how they have sex. While a comfortable rhythm is great, it can also make you feel under stimulated and bored between the sheets. Look up some new positions and try them out. You may just wind up laughing together, which never hurt anyone.

## Experiment With New Toys

Buy a [prostate massager](#), some vibrators, clamps or other sex toys that you've never tried before. You may feel funny using them at first, but it can be a great learning experience that will make physical intimacy fun again for you and your partner. You'll also get a better feel (literally) for what

you like, and this can be an exploratory period in your marriage that leads to greater satisfaction and fulfillment for both people.

### **Dress Up**

One of the best moments in a relationship is when you can just wear sweatpants in front of your significant other. But the comfort of a marriage can sometimes cause personal upkeep to fall to the wayside. Buy some new clothes and freshen up around your partner. The little effort goes a long way, and you can begin to feel as if you're just starting to date again.

Marriage is the end-goal for a lot of people, but it's really just the beginning of an epic lifetime together. Don't be afraid to communicate your needs with your partner. As long as you're both committed to each other, you can overcome every obstacle and make each year together exciting and new.

**How did you and your partner re-ignite your marriage? Share with us below.**

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## **Expert Dating Advice: Tired of Online Dating Sites? 3 Ways to Get Off As Quick As Possible**





By [Josh Pompey](#)

Online dating can be physically exhausting for a lot of people. Add to that the emotional exhaustion that often comes with the territory, and it's easy to see why so many people would do anything to get off of dating sites as fast as possible. If you fall into that camp, here's 3 tips that may boost your ability to find love quicker than you think.

## Get off online dating with these tips!

**1. Take control of your fate.** The best way to ensure that you will find what you are looking for is by assuming responsibility. This means being an active online dater. Don't just wait for someone special to show up in your inbox, because it may never happen. Get out there every day, search religiously, and initiate conversations with those that interest you.

**Related Link:** [Expert Dating Advice: 5 First Date Ideas to Get](#)

## [Past the Winter Blues](#)

**2. Target with precision.** It's easy to get distracted online by a cute smile or someone that is just plain hot. But what if they have long-term deal-breakers that you know will not be compatible in the long run? Avoid these setbacks and potential distractions by creating reasonable filters that allow you to engage with men and women who fit your long-term partner priorities.

**Related Link:** [Expert Dating Advice: 5 Reasons to Hire A Online Dating Assistant](#)

**3. Don't treat online dating as an option.** Tired from work? Too bad. Drinks with friends for happy hour? No excuse. Whatever it is you have going on in your life, take a half hour to an hour a day to make sure you are performing searches and initiating your conversations. What you do for money is your first job. Your second job is to scour online dating sites looking for the ideal partner. This needs to remain your priority and treated like the full-time job that it is.

For more information and online dating advice from Joshua Pompey, visiting <http://joshuapompey.com> or <http://nemvip.com>

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# Relationship Advice: Signs Your Partner May Be Cheating







By Paige Jirsa

As painful as the truth may be, there are clear signs of infidelity that shouldn't be ignored. You may have noticed some different behaviors or strange changes in your partner lately; at first, you may have chalked it up to them having a bad day at work, but now their actions are really starting to affect you and your relationship.

**If you notice any of these cheating signs, it may be time to investigate further.**

### **1. Suddenly Secret**

If your partner suddenly changes the passwords on their devices, doesn't let you use their phone, and seems jumpy when you ask them about their day and whereabouts, this could be a sign that they are cheating. Your partner may be trying to hide text messages and probably feels nervous when you ask about their day because they don't want to get caught in a

lie.

## **2. Changes in Intimacy**

One night of not being in the mood isn't a red flag, but weeks of receiving the cold shoulder in bed is cause for concern. Your partner may be too occupied with their cheating partner that they don't want sex when they come home, or they may have contracted an STD and don't want to pass it on to you. If you have recently contracted an STD, this is a very obvious sign that your partner was unfaithful; you should get [checked](#) immediately.

## **3. They Start Mistreating You**

If your partner suddenly becomes more critical and negative towards you, this may be a sign that they are cheating. They are subconsciously trying to justify their bad behavior, so they point the finger at you to make it your fault in their mind. They may also seem more distant or act withdrawn from the relationship.

## **4. Missing Money**

If there are unexplained withdrawals or expenses coming out of your account, or your partner comes up short on bills and asks you for money, this may be a sign that they are splurging on another person. They may be spending money to take the other person on dates or to go see them far away. This also ties in to unexplained, out of the blue "business trips" that your partner may have started going on. Most companies pay for employees to travel, so excessive expenses while your partner is away may indicate that they are having a long-distance affair.

## **5. Improved Appearance**

If your partner goes from sweatpants to snappy suits, you may want to start asking questions. While this may not seem like a

red flag, most people don't drastically change their appearance unless they are trying to impress someone. If your partner starts dressing up and going to the gym along with any of these other signs, take it as a clear indication that something is off. If they dress up and take you on a date, they may truly be trying to impress you to liven up the relationship. If they change their appearance and start going out without you, it's time to investigate!

Paige Jirsa work with [STD Testing Facilities](#), which provides users same-day STD testing in a discrete and proficient manner.

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## Love & Libations: Celebrity Pink Sips For The Summer





By [Yolanda Shoshana](#)

Rosé is the ultimate sip and chill with your partner or get together with friends kind of wine. While it's perfect for any time of year, spring and summer, seem to be the time that people fixate on rosé. That means rosé will be popping up at your local wine store any minute. Which one should you try? Decisions. Decisions.

## Sip and Chill With Your Partner

Here are four bottles to help you think pink:

### **Jon Bon Jovi- Diving Into Hampton Water**

When Bon Jovi said he was getting into the wine game, many of us gave a side-eye. Did we really need another rock star with a wine? Turns out the joke was many wine lovers, rosé including me. Bon Jovi worked with this son, Jesse Bongiovi, to put the spirit of the Hamptons into a bottle. The crooner has a home in the Hamptons. That's rather common for New York

based celebrities. He enjoys which is what he has deemed “pink juice” until his son came up with the cleaver term “Hampton water?”

The three grapes for the wine are hand-picked in the South of France. It’s produced in Provence to be exact which is where rosé has been perfected. It was named best rosé of 2018 by Wine Enthusiast Magazine.

It’s the perfect pink juice to sip while chilling at the pool with your boo. Cheers to a sensuous lazy day with your partner. Live it up while you’re alive.

**Related Link:** [Love & Libation: Kiss Me, Cocktails Inspired by Irish Authors](#)

### **Sarah Jessica Parker- Invivo Rosé**

Finally, Sarah Jessica Parker is giving women more of what they want and it’s in a bottle. Parker is teaming up with a winery from New Zealand to produce a line of wines that will come out this summer. Now you know rosé is in the mix. It will probably be a big hit considering women will want to see what the Sex and the City diva is conjuring up.

According to Parker, she has always loved entertaining family/friends over a good bottle of wine and food. I guess this is her “inner Martha Stewart” coming out. New Zealand is an interesting choice for her when it comes to wine however the rosé will come from Provence.

It has all the makings of a rosé the have when you gather with your girls and talk about intimate details with your Mr. Big.

**Related Link:** [Love & Libations: Holiday Cocktailing Like A Celebrity](#)

### **John Legend- LVE Côtes de Provence Rosé**

Sultry singer, John Legend, has added a fourth wine to his



already stellar wine line up. Now you can rosé all day with his LVE Rosé. Legend teamed up with winemaker/dandy Charles Boisset once again to produce the wine. The duo brings the perfect combination to make LVE the ultimate lifestyle wines. The goal is to bring a wine that is connected to luxury, yet still affordable.

The pale pink wine is crisp on the tongue with notes of berries and peach blossoms. This wine would go great with Chrissy Teigen's Pan Seared Fish in her latest cookbook. It's safe to call this a romantic dinner at home kind of wine.

**Related Link:** [Love & Libations: Cocktails Inspired by Halloween](#)

### **Christie Brinkley- Bellissima Rosé**

If you want a wine that has a healthy and green lifestyle then Christie Brinkley's bubbly rosé is where it's at. She has been a vegetarian/flexible vegan since she was 12 years old. This is why what goes into her wine is so important to her,

The wine is made from 100% organic Pinot Noir grapes with hints of strawberries and grapefruit. The Prosecco is vegan and low sugar so it's perfect for someone watching their sugar intake.

The perfect wine to pair when your partner is making food on the grill. Light up those candles and make it a cozy night. Netflix and chill await

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## **Ask The Guy's Guy: Should I**

# Follow My Boyfriend To Where His Job Is?



By [Robert Manni](#)

Question from Kaylee M: "My boyfriend and I have been together for a while now, and we both know we're going to end up together for a while. But, he might have to take a job that's 6 hours from my home, and that might be an issue for me. I'm very close to my family and not sure if this is a move I want to do. What should I do?"

## Boyfriends moving away, should you go with him?

Hi Kaylee:

You have a lot of variables to consider before making a

decision about this move. It's great that you have a strong bond with your boyfriend, that he has a great opportunity, and he wants you to join him. Now it's time to ask yourself questions. What are the opportunities for you if you join him? Do you have a career where you currently live? If so, can you get a transfer to the new locale or easily find a similar job there? Have you visited this location? Did you like it, and could you see yourself living there? Do you know anyone there? How difficult would it be to visit your family if you move?

Six hours by car is substantial, but it's not like moving across the country. You mentioned seeing yourself together with your boyfriend "for a while". How long is a while? Is it long enough to pick up and move your life, career, and away from your family? Only you know the answers to what's in your heart and what his intentions are.

**Related Link:** [Ask The Guy's Guy: What Do I Do If I Have Trouble Opening Up To My Significant Other](#)

I'm not trying to throw water on what could be a great opportunity for both of you. I'm suggesting you consider how all the variables of this move will impact you and your life, friends, and family connections. I'm also wondering what your boyfriend has to say about this opportunity as it relates to you. After all, you will be making a sacrifice since he already has a job set up. Was this opportunity a surprise or something he has been working towards? As you can see, there is a lot for you to consider prior to making a decision. You may discover that it can turn out great for both of you. Or not. Only you can get the answers you need to make a wise decision. After all, your number one priority and consideration is to yourself. Good luck!

If you would like relationship expert Robert Manni to answer your online dating/relationship questions, please email [gillian@nvmediainc.com](mailto:gillian@nvmediainc.com)

**More about the Guy's Guy:**



Robert is the host of Guy's Guy Radio, featured on Blog Talk Radio and available on iTunes, Stitcher, and TuneIn. The weekly podcast features interviews with relationship coaches, entertainers, authors, wellness experts, spiritual teachers, sports personalities, and a weekly "Guys' Guy's Guide" exploring current guy-focused topics.

His novel, THE GUYS' GUY'S GUIDE TO LOVE, praised as the "men's successor to Sex and the City," has been developed into two feature-length adapted screenplays, a scripted television series (pilot and treatment), and a series of non-scripted Guy's Guy show concepts.

Robert has appeared on broadcast television (NBC's Morning Blend, WPIX11 Morning News) and is a frequent guest across a spectrum of satellite, terrestrial, and web-based radio programs and podcasts, as well as a contributor to Huffington Post, Thought Catalog, Cupid's Pulse, GalTime, is a featured expert on GoodMenProject and YourTango. He was also named a Top Dating Blogger by [DatingAdvice.com](http://DatingAdvice.com).

Robert developed the Guy's Guy Platform to help men and women better understand each other and bridge the growing communication gap between the sexes. He continually creates a fresh, robust palette of timely Guy's Guy [content focused on life, love and the pursuit of happiness](#). Whether it's navigating the challenges of dating, relationships, friendship, career or wellness, Robert explores ways to help both men and women be at their best so that everybody wins.



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# Relationship Advice: The Beauty, Meaning, & Power of Love



Love is amazing, and everyone should experience it at some point throughout their life.

**Take a look at our relationship advice on why love is beautiful,**



# meaningful, and powerful:

## Why is love the most beautiful feeling?

Love is a bright, positive and good feeling, which triggers kindness, positive emotions and the desire to share it with your soulmate. Love is one of the [steps to healthy relationships](#). If the feelings you have for a person make you constantly worry, then, most likely, they have nothing in common with love. The root cause of such a scenario may be the inability or unwillingness to understand yourself. People tend to cling to the past. Sometimes, it is difficult to leave and start life from scratch. Everyone has their own vision of love. People are sure that they know how ideal relationships should look like, that's why the reality makes them suffer. It is necessary to learn to reject all conventions, which do not allow you to love, and only then this beautiful feeling will bloom in all its glory. It is hard to describe love with words. It needs to be felt, experienced and revealed. You should work on this amazing feeling. Only your own experience will help unlock the secrets of love.

## What is the meaning of love?

What is the meaning of love, and why do people think that this is the most beautiful feeling, without which life becomes limited, faceless and monotonous? Love gives strength, saves from loneliness, makes you feel that someone needs and misses you. It helps understand the essence and meaning of existence. This wonderful feeling opens up new qualities in people, making them more tolerant, kinder and better. It is love that makes it possible to understand a person, to look into their soul, to accept them with all their strengths and weaknesses. People in love seek to share everything they have as well as to help, support and make the life of a loved one easier. The meaning of love is that it binds close people. Members of a big family realize that they are strong when they are

together, and whatever surprises they face, they can overcome any problems. Love gives faith and hope in the future. Probably, the meaning of love lies in something different for each person. It is enough for someone to see a loved one several times a month, and for others, it is important to fall asleep and wake up together every day. Nonetheless, whatever views on this wonderful feeling you have, the main thing is that it makes you happy and allows to feel the fullness of life.

### **What is the power of love?**

It is very difficult to meet a person who doesn't dream of meeting a person who will share their views, read between the lines, support, pay attention to signs. That is, everyone dreams about meeting a soulmate. The power of love is that people are ready to give in to the partner, make compromises, change their principles, put the healthy wishes of the beloved one above their own, and even sacrifice themselves for the sake of this wonderful feeling. A life without love becomes gray and dull. For some people, even the meaning of existence is lost. This feeling can be compared with the healing balm, which makes you healthy. The power of love is manifested by a twinkle in the eyes and is reflected in any field of activity. A man in love feels a huge surge of energy, and it seems to them that they are up to the task at hand. All the problems and hardships seem insignificant and easily solved when a person falls in love. Probably, this high feeling gave the world people who are admired by more than one generation. It's about artists, writers, poets, composers, singers. Often, they were inspired by all-consuming love, which doesn't allow to think about something else. They poured out their feelings on canvas and paper, giving the world brilliant works and proving once again that love is the most beautiful feeling.

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# Relationship Advice: Being in a Happy Relationship in the 21st Century



The impact of technology has increased over the years, and it threatens to change our lives and the way that we interact with each other. Its influence is more substantial on relationships because they depend on real human interactions.

## Relationship Advice: Being in a

# Happy Relationship in the 21st Century

Being in a happy relationship requires a different set of rules and practices. For this relationship advice, those rules and practices are like these:

**1. Explore your options:** Being in the right relationship begins with being with the right person since dating someone who isn't right for you can lead to a lot of heartache for both of you. Therefore, instead of rushing into a relationship that might be doomed to fail, take your time and evaluate your options. Find out what you want in a partner and go for it. Settling for less will make you unhappy in the future. You should consider online dating sites like [interracial dating central](#) where you can meet a lot of people.

**2. Communicate in real time, in real life:** Nothing beats real face-to-face communication. No screens, no Wi-Fi, no Internet buffering can ever replace the authenticity of a discussion in person. Research has actually shown that when you have physical contact and interaction with someone, it improves your bonding and intimacy with that person. That's something you won't get from video chats.

**3. Use technology:** Just because technology can diminish our intimacy and bonding time doesn't mean we can't use it to our advantage. If you're in a long-distance relationship, technology should probably be your best friend. With video calls, you can stay involved in your partner's life without skipping a beat. They say distance makes the heart grow fonder. Whenever your heart grows fond, you can simply pick up the phone and talk to them.

**4. Ignore social media's standards:** One of the predominant causes of unhappiness (especially in relationships) in the 21st century is social media. Social media enables everyone to

share parts of their lives with the world. There are no filters for what's true and what isn't—only what you choose to share. Unfortunately, most people don't know this, and they try to match the unrealistic standards that other people post on social media. Not meeting these standards often leads to a lot of unhappiness. You can avoid this downward spiral by ignoring social media's standards, and simply measuring your relationships by your own standards. After all, you have to live with yourself.

**5. Beware of questions:** Google has gotten us addicted to instant answers when we want them. These days, you don't even have to type in anything. You can simply say the question aloud into your phone, and it spits out the answer. This quick and easy question-and-answer experience has tricked us into believing that everything should work like that. With relationships, it's a little different, and the truth is that your partner isn't obligated to give you answers any more than you're obligated to give him. If, however, they do agree to it, you have to be ready for the answers.

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## Relationship Advice: Can You Handle Sex Without Love?







By Dr. Jane Greer

As women strive for equality, they are exercising their freedom of sexual expression more and more, which for many might mean a choice to have casual sex. However, with that freedom and choice comes great responsibility, and the important task of taking care of your emotional self and well-being. That is possible only once you know what you want and can tolerate, and, when it comes right down to it, if you can handle sex without love. Diane Von Furstenberg spoke about her fling with Richard Gere, saying it was just a “f\*\*k,” which is how she wanted it to be. While it is more common for men to have sex and keep it just about the physical connection, with few or no feelings of intimacy involved, women regularly struggle with separating the two. Often emotions come into play despite their best intentions, since so often women feel most vulnerable when they are in intimate situations and often literally are and symbolically feel naked. So how can you know if you can handle a fling with no strings attached?

# With this relationship advice, learn if you can handle a fling without love.

By challenging the stereotypes that have confined and limited women for so long, you can consider your sexual identity and what it means to you in terms of your happiness and your sexual esteem, and what might give you the most pleasure and fulfillment. Sometimes that might mean indulging in a purely physical romp with someone. That can happen if, for example, you want to sleep with someone you just met, because you are on vacation and want a brief romantic escapade, or you are at a wedding and want a one night stand. Furthermore, you may have just gotten out of a long relationship and aren't ready to jump back in to a serious commitment, so casual sex might seem appealing. If you find yourself facing any of these scenarios, ask yourself if you will be okay if you never hear from this person again. Or if you begin to feel connected but they aren't interested in anything more than the sex, will you be able to disengage without experiencing a great loss? The most important thing to consider is how you will feel when it's over. The key is to be able to enjoy the experience, and have it enhance your self-esteem.

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

Sometimes the only way to know if it is going to work for you is to take a chance, jump in and see where you land. You know best what your Achilles' heel might be, and if there is a chance you could come out of it with a big emotional ouch because you may find it hard to let go, this might not be the right move for you. With that in mind, if you are in the driver's seat you can give yourself the permission to say yes to your desires and feel empowered by them when it comes to

your sex life decisions. The essential thing to be aware of is that whatever your action may be you are doing it by choice, one that you are making for yourself with full awareness of the consequences, and thereby can feel confident about. In this way, you will be a woman who takes charge, is in control, knows what you want as well as what you don't want, and will be better able to build your inner security which will reflect in your general wellbeing.

**Related Link:** [Relationship Advice: Should You Elope?](#)

For Diane, it was simply about getting physical. It requires clarity, like she had, to know from the start that you'll be fine if nothing more develops from your sexual encounter. If you are able to take an inventory and determine where your tender spots are, thereby avoiding heartbreak, hopefully you will be able to keep it light and fun. In the end, knowing what you can handle is the best indication of whether or not a sexual rendezvous without a commitment will be a positive or negative in your life. If you tend to get attached quickly and are very sensitive to rejection, just sex might not be for you. You want to be your best protector. When it comes to casually getting between the sheets and thinking about how you'll feel after, trust your gut.

*Please tune in to the Doctor on Call radio hour on [HealthyLife.net](http://HealthyLife.net) every Tuesday at 2 PM EST, 11 AM PST. First and third Tuesdays are Shrink Wrap on Call, second Tuesdays are HuffPost on Call, and the last Tuesday of the month is Let's Talk Sex! Email your questions dealing with relationships, intimacy, family, and friendships to Dr. Greer at [askdrjane@drjanegreer.com](mailto:askdrjane@drjanegreer.com). Connect with Dr. Jane Greer on Facebook, at [www.facebook.com/DrJaneGreer](http://www.facebook.com/DrJaneGreer), and be sure to follow [@DrJaneGreer on Twitter](https://twitter.com/DrJaneGreer) for her latest insights on love, relationships, sex, and intimacy. For more on Dr. Greer, visit <http://www.drjanegreer.com>.*

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# Dating Advice: 5 Activities for a Fun and Fresh Date With Your SO



Valentine's Day is over and done. But, celebrating and expressing love should never be limited by a holiday or a certain month of the year. Trying out new things as a couple is proven to strengthen any relationship regardless of stage. Sure, a candlelit dinner, flower bouquets, and expensive chocolates do sound romantic, but you can do that any day with your S.O. Go for something new, and never be afraid to try out other things!



**Once in a while, isn't it amazing to go all-out? Whether you and your S.O. are the outdoorsy types or incorrigible homebodies, here is some [dating advice](#) with five simple activities you can do for fun.**

### **Camp Under the Stars**

For the outdoorsy couple, an excellent Valentine's celebration would mix romance and adventure, and that's exactly what you can get when you go camping. Camping in the wilderness makes you feel as if you were the last people on earth. It's just you and your SO underneath the stars, surrounded by the quiet and peace of nature. Nothing can be more intimate than that.

Plus, camping outdoors has lots of [benefits to your physical and mental health](#), including stress reduction, getting exercise, breathing fresh air, and unplugging from social media, to name a few.

Of course, if you don't fancy the long trek and lugging heavy camp gear to the site, you could always [go for glamping](#). It may not be as thrilling or as adventurous as traditional camping is, but you'll have more comfort and convenience in exchange. In any case, you can always rough it up next time.

### **Do an Arts and Crafts Day**

Not everyone enjoys going out. Some people just want to stay in and relax with their SO at home. You can watch some movies, play video games, and share a home-cooked dinner. Or you can do something that you don't do every day to celebrate the holiday—like doing arts and crafts.



Whether you and your partner are artistically inclined or not, there are plenty of benefits of doing arts and crafts. Staying at home, making origami, [creating a photo book](#), coloring, or just doing something creative is a great way to have fun and just relax. You can compete with your arts and crafts with something 'romantic' as prize for the winner.

## **Try Paintball**

If you and your partner are itching for some thrill and adventure, invite all your friends and organize a paintball competition this weekend. There's nothing like adrenaline rush to add fun and excitement to your celebration.

Paintball is perfect for people who want to have fun and let off some steam at the same time. You're free to go wild, get competitive, and make as much mess as you can. A game of paintball may be just what you and your partner need to decompress and loosen up some knots.

First time trying the sport? Learn all about the rules and whatnot of the game using this [detailed paintball guide](#).

## **Have a Slumber Party**

Who says only kids can have slumber parties? Adults need them too! Slumber parties are a lot of fun, and you and your significant other deserve to as much.

You can stay up watching all your favorite movies, playing video games, doing your nails, having a rap battle, holding an impromptu concert, or simply chatting. It's a great way to catch up especially if you've both been so busy doing individual things.

Having a slumber party also takes away the stress of planning a romantic celebration on one or both of you. And you save yourselves from struggling with a million other couples who are rushing to make it on time for their dinner reservations.

## **Spend a Relaxing Day at the Spa**

For the busy couple, a relaxing spa day may be the perfect way to celebrate special days. Sure, spending the holiday at the spa may not be the most romantic thing to do for others, but both of you deserve to feel more refreshed and a really great massage and pampering. Adventure and excitement can wait until the next holiday or weekend. For now, you both deserve to treat yourself.

## **Final Word**

You're not obligated to celebrate and express your love for each other all the time. But these little things make a huge difference for any relationship. Planning such activities add spice to any relationship and will make your significant other feel loved. You don't have to stick to conventional ways of celebrating all the time. If you and your SO have the time, energy, and resources, why not do something fun and unique and even more extreme?

**What are some fun date ideas you do with your SO to keep the spark alive? Share below!**

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## **Date Idea: Homemade Smoothies**





By [Sarah Batcheller](#) and [Mara Miller](#)

It's hot outside, and you and your beau have exhausted every effort to bare the record-breaking heat. One thing you may not have tried, though, is a day inside blending together your favorite ingredients to concoct the perfect smoothies. All you need for this [date idea](#) is a blender and your favorite fruits. A day well-spent indoors this summer is just what the two of you need to wind down and cool off!

## **Check out Cupid's best relationship advice for beating the summer heat with this date idea!**

Smoothies are fantastic because they're an easy and delicious homemade treat. Whether you have a sweet tooth or you're a health nut, there are dozens of smoothie recipes out there for you. The Food Network has listed fifty of their own, and you're bound to find more as you search. You can stick to traditional strawberry banana, or you can try your hand at

more unique recipes. SimplyArtisanal.com has some very fun ideas that are sure to “wow” your lover like vanilla fig and peach fuzzy navel. Don’t be shy about blending different recipes; the whole point is to stay in and try something new!

**Related Link:** [Mexican Cooking Classes: Spice Up Date Night](#)

Half the fun of this weekend date idea is in the preparation. Pick out your favorite recipes; make a list of everything you’ll need; and hit the grocery store. It doesn’t matter if you’re on a budget or willing to splurge – you can find something that fits your desires. If the two of you want to challenge each other, split up at the grocery store and pick out your favorite ingredients. Follow this relationship advice and surprise your partner’s taste buds with your creation!

**Related Link:** [Frugal Foodies: How to Save on Dining Out](#)

You and your partner can even have a contest to see who can come up with the best recipe. For added fun, create categories like “most original”, “best tasting”, or “most disgusting.” Then, the date will be more about the time you’re spending together and less about the actual smoothies (not that we’re against that). If you’re turning the smoothie-making into a day-long event, you’ll want to remember to make small portions each time so that you can both try them all!

**What is the best smoothie recipe you’ve ever made? Tell us in the comments below!**

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# Date Idea: A Day at Sea



By [Sarah Batcheller](#) and [Mara Miller](#)

Embrace the other elements with your cutie and spend a day exploring the ocean. This weekend date idea can include so many different activities at sea, including jet skiing, scuba diving or snorkeling, and sailing. Being out in the vast water and so far away from dry land will allow you two to really indulge in some alone time. Consider this relationship and love advice and make a day out of conquering the great, blue sea!

## Get ready for this ocean-inspired



# date idea!

Jet skiing is a fantastic option because it's highly accessible. There are tons of companies on every beach. Once you've found one that matches your budget, make an appointment. After you arrive, the instructors will have you sign a waiver and take a short safety course. Then, you can strap on your life jacket and head to the shore, where they'll help you enter the water. If you want to compete with your lover, you can rent two jet skis or if you want to get cozy, rent one to share. Either way, you'll be able to venture further out into the ocean than you have ever before.

**Related Link:** [Date Idea: Beach and Beyond](#)

In order to partake in deep-sea scuba diving, you have to take lessons and be licensed. This is always an exciting date idea, but if you're just going out for a day at the beach, you may want to opt for some snorkeling instead. You can purchase snorkeling equipment at many sporting goods or department stores, and from there, all you'll need is your ability to swim! Underneath the pier is a great place to snorkel, as a lot of sea critters gather there. You can also bring your snorkel right offshore where you'd normally swim and take a gander at what's lurking around your feet.

**Related Link:** [Date Idea: Bring the Beach to You](#)

If you or a friend owns a sailboat, then use this weekend date idea to spend the day lounging on the deck with your sweetie. You can even make it a couples date and invite your best friends. Boating is not only exciting, but it provides an escape from everything back on solid land. Pack some food and drinks, and you'll be able to stay out there all day!

**What's your favorite way to explore the ocean? Tell us about it in the comments below!**

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# Date Idea: See Sparks Fly



By [Sarah Batcheller](#) and [Mara Miller](#)

“See sparks fly” isn’t just an old idiom or part of a Taylor Swift song – we’re talking about the Fourth of July! What else turns up the heat more than celebrating our country’s independence? If you think you see fireworks every time you kiss your loved one or look into their eyes, then how about turning that dreamlike state into reality and finding the best fireworks in town for tomorrow’s special holiday? Watching fireworks bursting is invigorating, so use this weekend [date idea](#) to share it with the person who makes you feel most alive!

# Indulge in this Fourth of July date idea!

The Travel Channel determined the best fireworks displays in the country, so if your city landed a spot on this list, grab a blanket and head out to see the show. Many flock to the nation's capital, Washington, D.C., to celebrate our country's big day, and if you wanted to get especially festive on this date idea, you could book a Potomac River cruise. Even if your city isn't on this list, we all love to cuddle up with our boo, so wherever you go, you're bound to feel the magic. If your heart so desires a road trip to make the day even more monumental, just be sure to plan everything in advance.

**Related Link:** [Celebrity Couples Who Love Fourth of July](#)

You'll want to arrive at the fireworks location ahead of time to claim a good spot. After all, there aren't many people who stay home on this glorious day! That being said, choose a quiet area where there will be less hustle and bustle – it's not like you won't be able to see the fireworks! Just make sure a monument or skyscraper isn't blocking your view, and you'll be good to go. Because you're arriving early, remember this dating advice and pack properly as well. Bring insect repellent, water, snacks, and games to keep you entertained.

**Related Link:** [5 Creative Fourth of July Proposals](#)

If you're the after-party type, there's sure to be plenty to do when the fireworks are over. If you want to get really festive, dress up in your best red, white, and blue outfits and find a bar that really speaks to your wilder side. Rooftop spots are especially popular since everyone's eyes are looking toward the sky already. This is a day for everyone to celebrate, so let loose with the one who makes every day as romantic as it can be!

What is your favorite thing to do with your partner on the Fourth of July? Share your best dating advice in the comments below!

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## Love Advice: Old-Fashioned Summer Fun



By [Sarah Batcheller](#) and Mara Miller

When you were a kid, there was nothing like summertime: no school for two months, water balloon fights, the classic Slip 'N Slide, and frequent pool days. Just because you're older now doesn't mean you and your boo can't enjoy some throwback



fun! Follow this [dating advice](#) to enjoy all the summer activities you reveled in as a child.

## Check out this fun summertime date idea!

Water balloon fights are an excellent activity for a big group, so get your honey to grab his friends while you invite yours and initiate a water war on this weekend date idea. Pinterest has tons of ideas for planning an epic water fight, so all you need is a good-sized backyard and the will to clean up all the balloon scraps when you're done! Water balloon fights are the perfect opportunity for the two of you to be extra flirty as well. Take advantage of the constant surprise attacks and your sexy, soaking wet man!

**Related Link:** [Relationship Advice: Should You Elope?](#)

Slip 'N Slides may have been the token summer toy in the 90's, but they're still for sale. All kinds of Slip 'N Slides can be found on Amazon. They make a great gift, so you can surprise your lover with one and then put it to good use. Chances are, you'll start reminiscing about the fun times you had playing on a Slip 'N Slide as a kid, which will make for an especially romantic date. Don't fret if it's rainy outside: The Slip 'N Slide is fun in the mud too!

**Related Link:** [Date Idea: Spend an Intimate Night Indoors](#)

Let your inner child come out to play when you follow this love advice and visit your neighborhood pool. Sunbathing is fun, but laying there in silence next to your partner isn't as exciting as a splash fight or ordering ice cream cones from the snack bar. Indulge in all the things you would've enjoyed when you were younger, and you'll both be overcome with giggles – which we all know is *the* way to bond. If you want to spend the entire day at the pool, pack a picnic, books, and



water guns. You'll never have a moment to be bored!

What were your favorite childhood summer activities? Tell us in the comments below!

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## Date Idea: One, Two, Walk in My Shoes



By Amanda Boyer and [Mara Miller](#)

Dates with your special someone don't have to be the same week after week. To change up your usual nights of dinner and your favorite television shows, follow your partner during their typical day and be an active part of it. This date idea will

not only give you insight into your sweetheart's typical routine, but you'll have new things to talk about when the day is over.

## Follow Your Honey Around with This Date Idea

Even if you aren't a morning person, you still have to roll out of bed when your honey's alarm goes off. If he's an early gym-goer, put your exercise gear on. With your beau by your side, you're sure to make it through that grueling workout. You can jump on treadmills next to each other to encourage each other during a warm-up run and then help each other count reps in the weight room. By the end of the workout, you'll forget how much you wanted to hit that snooze button!

**Related Link:** [Blake Lively and Ryan Reynolds Hit the Gym](#)

After a shower and some breakfast, it's time to head to work. On this weekend date idea, see if you can go into the office to really see what your partner does every day at work. It'll help you better understand their daily tasks if you're actually there to see them complete them. Plus, it'll be a turn-on to see them so focused and powerful!

Instead of a normal lunch break with their co-workers, follow this love advice: Use this opportunity for an afternoon date together. Ask your partner to take you to their go-to restaurant near work. You've seen them bring home leftovers enough; you'll be excited to finally get to try the yummy food! After you finish eating, if it's nice out, take a romantic stroll before you go back to work.

**Related Link:** [Date Idea: Go Shopping](#)

When five o'clock rolls around, punch out. Swing by the grocery store if needed and cook a favorite recipe tonight.

Since you spent the whole day together, your dinner conversation will be a bit different than usual. Talk about what you learned about your partner today. Tomorrow, you can switch roles and show your significant other how you usually spend *your* day!

Ever spend the day shadowing your significant other? Share your stories and dating advice below!

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## 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!

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# Love Tips & Romantic DIY Gift Ideas for Your Sweetheart



By Rachael Pace

Sweet letters, cards, and personal trinkets often rank high on people's best gift lists for a reason – because they mean something! Sure, diamond earrings and tickets to your favorite sporting events are gifts that are guaranteed to please. But,



if you think back to the best gift that you've ever received, we'll bet that it was something a lot more sentimental than jewelry.

If you're stumped for what to get your sweetheart on this day of romance, one of our biggest love tips is for you to think outside the box. Get creative and pour your heart out in your gift.

## **Here are five romantic Do-It-Yourself gifts that your partner is going to cherish forever:**

### **1. Put Your Talents to Good Use**

Are you an extremely talented individual? Why not let your creative side loose and give your spouse a gift that's not only heartfelt but also completely unique!

Use your musical talents to write your spouse a song. It can be as silly, ooey-goey, or stuffed with inside jokes as you like. If you're not good on the guitar or can't hold a tune, no worries. You can still write something beautiful for your partner. A poem or deep letter can have more sentimental value than any store-bought gift ever could. Another great way to put your talents to good use is to use your natural artistic abilities. Draw a stunning portrait of your partner, make an art book of things you both enjoy, or draw an adorable chibi version of yourselves doing something cute together. No matter what your talent is, you are sure to create something your spouse will love.

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

### **2. The "52 Reasons I Love You" Deck of Cards**

This is a great DIY gift that is both sweet and fun. Start by

purchasing a deck of cards at your local dollar store. Make sure the cards have enough white space on the face so that you can write on them. Next, think of 52 reasons why you love your spouse. Some ideas include:

- I love you because... You have the cutest smile
- You are incredibly kind-hearted
- You always know how to make me laugh
- You are an amazing kisser
- You aren't afraid to face off with me in an air-guitar battle

Take your time writing down each idea on one of the cards. If you feel that your gift doesn't feel quite done after you've written on all the cards you can easily embellish them with cut out photos and pictures that will make this DIY gift that much more personal. Another great option for this deck of cards idea is to put these same reasons into 52 different envelopes and fill a "treasure chest" with the letters. Then your spouse can open them whenever they need a pick-me-up.

### **3. Cool Shadowbox Ideas**

Do you and your spouse attend a lot of events? If so, our next love tip is to make an amazing shadowbox to commemorate your good times together.

You can get a shadowbox starter from most craft stores and customize them to fit your interests. For example, if you love to travel, gather up your train, plane, and cruise tickets, along with museum tickets and other memorable vouchers that you used on your trip. Concert goers will love being able to display their favorite concert tickets on the wall. You can even get fancy and have some small autographed memorabilia or add guitar picks into the mix to make a visually textured shadowbox of memories.

**Related Link:** [Celebrity Style: Valentine's Day Date Night Outfits](#)

#### **4. Bake Something Sweet**

Are you looking for something personal that's also under-budget? We have love tips for that! They say the way to a man's heart is through his stomach, and we'd argue that girls are no different! One deliciously affordable gift idea is to bake your spouse something amazing. Some ideas include:

- Heart shaped brownies
- Cupcakes with pink frostings and
- Raspberry and white chocolate shortbread cookies with heart cut-outs
- Chocolate Cheesecake
- Strawberries drizzled in chocolate
- Chocolate chip cookies
- A “bouquet” of cake pops

And of course, your spouse's favorite dessert idea works perfectly, too! Baking something is a great idea for a gift because it's cheap to do and it is highly personal because of the effort it takes to make it. Plus, with fondant and icing pens, you can get as creative with this gift as you like!

#### **5. Personalized Scrapbook/Memory Box**

One of the sweetest love tips you can follow this day of romance is creating a personalized memory box for your sweetheart. There are two ways you can go about this. The first option is to do a linear timeline by making a scrapbook of your memories together.

Print out pictures and align them in a timeline of your relationship. Choose exciting and memorable dates and paste down pictures into the pages of the book. Next, to the photos, write down your favorite memory of that day/month/time in your relationship. Your spouse will love flipping through the pages and seeing your take on your time together.

If you love your personalized trinkets and don't want to tape or glue them down into a booklet, fear not! You can still make

a special memory box for your spouse. Take all of the photos, letters, and anything else you would have put into your scrapbook and set them into a beautiful box. This can be a personalized, carved wooden box with a lock or a simple decorated box with a lid.

Either one of these DIY gift ideas is great a choice because, for the most part, it only uses things you already have on hand. Plus, it is super romantic.

Great gifts don't have to cost a fortune. It's what comes from the heart that truly shows your spouse you care. Once you begin to think about all the reasons you love your partner, the rest will come naturally. Follow these love tips for a great DIY present that is sure to put a smile on your sweetheart's face.

**Rachael Pace** is a relationship expert with years of experience in training and helping couples. She has helped countless individuals and organizations around the world, offering effective and efficient solutions for healthy and successful relationships. She is a featured writer for [Marriage.com](http://Marriage.com), a reliable resource to support healthy happy marriages.

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## Date Idea: Hunt for Love





By Amanda Boyer and [Mara Miller](#)

Easter is just around the corner! Who says you can't act like a kid for the day? Searching for homemade treats and sweet notes from your beau is an easy way to enjoy the holiday and strengthen your relationship.

## Easter Weekend Date Idea

To get started on this [weekend date idea](#), bake some sugar cookies and decorate them with pastel frosting and Easter images, like colorful eggs, bunnies, and spring flowers. If you want to make something a bit more challenging, you can check out Allrecipes.com for recipes for chocolate-covered Easter eggs and rocky road candies. Once they've cooled, wrap them in saran wrap with pretty pink and blue bows. To follow this dating advice, hide them around the house in places your partner may not expect, like the back of his t-shirt drawer or behind his favorite book on the bookshelf. When your man's sweet tooth hits, tell him to start hunting!

**Related Link:** [Kim Kardashian and Kanye West Spend Easter](#)



## [Weekend in Paris Shopping for Baby Clothes](#)

To make this date idea a bit more personal, grab a pen and a pad of paper to write a few love notes. If you have it handy, use Easter or springtime-themed stationery. For inspiration, Google “love quotes” or “famous movie quotes” and steal some lines from your favorite writers and actors. You can tie these sweet sentiments to your baked goodies.

**Related Link:** [Leann Rimes Talks About First Easter as a Wife](#)

If you'd rather not hide your presents around the house, create a grown-up Easter basket instead. In addition to your cookies, candies, and love notes, buy your sweetheart that video game he's been wanting or surprise him with a gift card to your go-to date night restaurant.

If you really want to get in the Easter spirit, spend the day with your nieces and nephews or with your friends' children. Their infectious giggles are sure to get you in the mood for an exciting egg hunt! Even if you don't have little ones, it's a wonderful time to spend with your family. After a morning spent alone with your significant other, get together for a home-cooked brunch and remind yourself of how blessed you are.

Happy Easter!

**How do you celebrate Easter with your love? Tell us your best dating advice in the comments below!**

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## **Date Idea: Rain, Rain, Come**

# Out and Play



By Amanda Boyer and [Mara Miller](#)

Sure, it's tempting to snuggle up and stay in bed all day when April showers roll around. Instead of having a lazy, movie-filled afternoon, follow this [relationship advice](#): Grab your rain jacket and colorful rubber boots, and head outside with your loved one to have fun *without* the sun. You can take a stroll to your favorite coffee shop and then warm up with a hot chocolate.

## Check out this rainy day date idea!

To really embrace the rain, create a water park in your backyard. Put your bathing suit on, set-up a Slip N Slide, and turn those sprinklers on. If you don't have any water toys

available, play an old-fashioned game of tag. During this weekend date idea, be careful not to slip on the wet grass and muddy ground! If you really want to get messy, add body paint to the equation and have a color war as the rain and sprinklers splash you and your beau. See who ends up with the most colors on their tie-dyed skin.

**Related Link:** [Kim Kardashian Hopes the Rain Doesn't Ruin Her Wedding](#)

If you prefer not to get so dirty, consider this love advice and go for a swim instead. Walk to your neighborhood pool, and take turns doing your craziest jumps off of the diving board. Pool & Spa Outdoors has a lot of games ideas that you can do with your honey as the rain comes down! Plus, the setting will be so romantic that you can't help but sneak in a smooch or two. Stay safe, and head back inside at the first sign of lightning or thunder.

**Related Link:** [Date Idea: Be a Sweetheart](#)

You can document your rainy day date by taking pictures. Newer iPhone and Android models are now waterproofed so you don't have to worry about ruining your phone. You can print out your favorite photo and frame it for your living room. It'll be a constant reminder of this fun-filled date – and the next time that you're faced with a rainy day, you won't even *want* to stay indoors!

**Cupid wants to know: How do you and your honey embrace a rainy day? Share your comments below.**