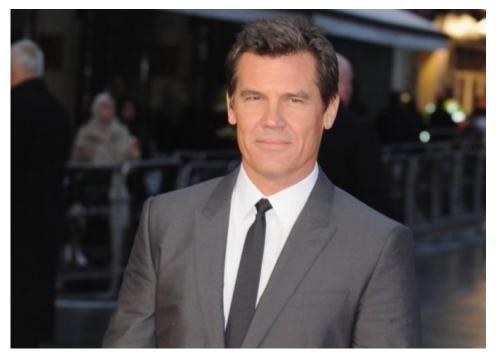
Actor Josh Brolin Dating Assistant Turned Girlfriend Kathryn Boyd





By Louisa

Gonzales

Love is in the air for Josh Brolin. *The Labor Day* actor, Actor Josh Brolin dating assistant turned girlfriend Kathryn Boyd according to *UsMagazine.com*, was spotted getting hot and heavy in Rome on Sunday, February 23. The two lovebirds weren't shy about showing affection to one another while strolling around the Eternal City together. A source also says the two have dated since March of last year. Brolin previous relationship, with ex-wife Diane Lane ended last February after eight years of marriage, but looks like *The Gangster Squad* star has since moved on.

What are some things to consider before dating a coworker?

Cupid's Advice:

There are both positive and negatives to dating a coworker. Getting into a relationship with someone you work with can be tricky, but sometimes you can't help who you have a love connection with and you can only fight it for so long. Cupid shares some advice on things to consider before you start-up something romantic with a coworker:

1. Be ready for gossip: Once you get involved with some one you work with, be prepared to have people talk about it, especially if you're an actor like Josh Brolin. There is going to be gossip and rumors surrounding the two of you and some of it may or not be true, so you have to decide if this is something you're okay with. If you don't like people knowing about your personal life dating a coworker might be tricky. Even if you try to keep it a secret there is no guarantee it won't get out and eventually spread around the workplace.

Related: Josh Brolin and Diane Lane Are Officially Divorced

2. You will see them a lot: The next thing you will have to consider is how will you handle seeing this person daily for a lot of hours at a time. You will potentially be sending a lot of time with them not just at the work place, but outside as well. Think about how being in relationship with a fellow employee will affect your job and work ethics. Will getting involved with a coworker cause any distractions or get in the way of you achieving your goals? If you're both professionals and are able to handle juggling both your personal and work lives separately and together you should be fine.

Related: Looking for Love Is Like a Job Search

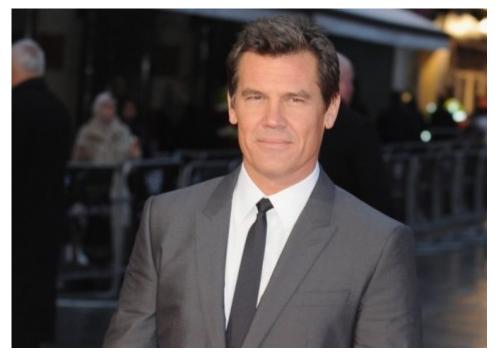
3. Are they worth the risk: One of the first things you will have to look into before dating a coworker are the work rules, policies or restrictions. Whether it is or isn't allowed you have to ask yourself if you are willing to risk your job to date the person. Another important thing to think about is if

things go sour between the two of you are you able to handle still working with them? If you really want to be with the person make sure you both really want to be in a relationship and are willing to potentially sacrifice your jobs.

What do you think are some things to consider before getting involved with a coworker? Share in the comments below.

Couples Therapy: A Way to Rebuild a Struggling Relationship





By Jefferson

Singer and Karen Skerrett

Jeanne looked at Barry at the other side of the couch in our office. She asked him if he remembered when they were first married and lived in a horrible one-bedroom apartment that barely had heat. Did he remember how each morning he would make her the worst coffee in the world, using a leaky filter and a banged up metal pot- how he would carry it to the bedroom while she was still just waking up? Barry nodded that he remembered. Jeanne continued to search his face, "Why is it that that coffee tasted so good to me and now we have the most expensive coffee-making contraption that money can buy, and I have to have my coffee just right, and I don't even want you to touch the pot?"

At the heart of this exchange, Jeanne has told a "we-story"- a shared story between members of a couple that defines and guides their relationship. Jeanne told this story to remind Barry of what they have lost and need to find once more if their relationship is to improve. In our new book, *Positive Couple Therapy: Using We-stories to Enhance Resilience* (Routledge), we provide a systematic approach for helping couples recover their unique we-stories in order to strengthen and/or rebuild struggling relationships.

Related: <u>Cold Feet Before the Wedding? Reasons to Use Your</u> Head

Couples therapy has long focused on the problems or what is wrong with too little attention paid to identifying and cultivating strengths, or what is right in the relationship. As couple therapists with nearly 70 years of combined experience, we have learned the critical importance of redirecting couples' attention to the affirming qualities of their relationship such as security, empathy, respect, acceptance, pleasure, humor, and shared meaning. We call these the 7 elements of We-ness (SERAPHS) and they are indeed the better angels of our relationships. Couples that feel this shared investment in each other possess the building blocks

for healthy and resilient relationships, and this ingredient can be developed by finding and focusing on 'we-stories'. Once couples can identify a "we-story', either recent or remote, they have a foundation that highlights what the relationship has to offer rather than what it lacks. Such a simple story can then become a metaphor, an image of what works between them and can be referred to during times of stress or challenge.

Related: Why Looking for Love Is Like a Job Search

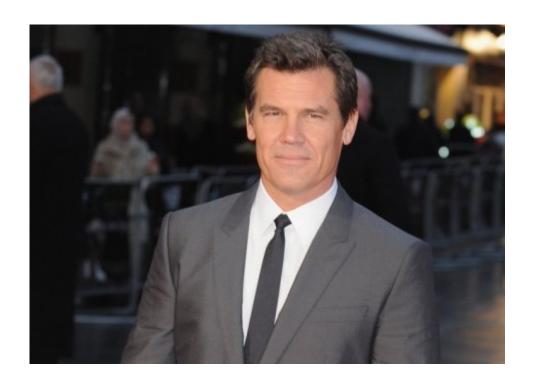
Positive couple therapy: Using we-stories to enhance resilience provides simple and practical tools for reclaiming positive stories of connection- stories that provide a sense of hope to relationships that have become distressed. Examples of we-stories can be found on our website: we-stories.com or through Amazon.

Jefferson Singer, PhD. is a Professor of Psychology at Connecticut College and in Private Practice.

Karen Skerrett, PhD. is Senior staff at The Family Institute/Center for Psychological Study and Associate Clinical Professor, Dept. of Psychology at Northwestern University.

Single in Stilettos Show: Why Are Men Commitment Phobic?





In this week's <u>Single in Stilettos</u> show, founder Suzanne Oshima talks to dating coach Jonathon Aslay about why men are scared of commitment. Aslay works with women to help them understand men from a "guy's guy" perspective, so it's safe to say he's the perfect expert for this topic! When it comes to commitment phobic men, he encourages women to define what commitment means to them and ask themselves what level of commitment they require. Plus, he discusses the 5 C's to a successful relationship and the difference between a commitment ready man and a commitment phobic man. Listen up for more great relationship advice!

Related Link: 10 Signs He's Not Really Committed

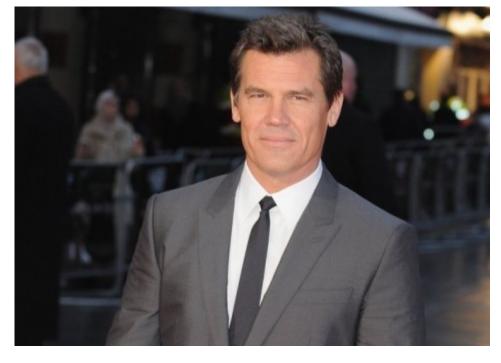
For more information about Single in Stilettos shows, click here.

For more videos from CupidsPulse.com, check out our <u>YouTube</u> <u>channel</u>.

How do you deal with someone who is commitment phobic? Tell us in the comments below!

Jimmy Kimmel Is Expecting a Baby with Wife Molly McNearney





By Louisa

Gonzales

Jimmy Kimmel is going to be adding another member to his family, yet again. According to <u>UsMagazine.com</u> Kimmel, 46, and his wife, Molly McNearney are expecting their first child together. Kimmel appeared on *The Ellen DeGeneres Show* and talked about the pregnancy, and even joked about how "It's disgusting the way babies are made." The comedian married McNearney back in July 2013. The soon to be father of three, talked about wanting to find out the gender, even though his wife wants it to be a surprise, and potential baby names.

Congratulations to the expectant couple.

What are some ways to prepare your relationship for the arrival of a child?

Cupid's Advice:

Deciding you want to have a baby is only the first step of a long journey. Getting ready for the arrival of new baby can be stressful and challenging, but it can also be a lot of fun. Cupid has some advice on ways to prepare your relationship for the arrival of a child:

1. Discuss the raising of your child: Once you start this conversation know that there will be some disagreements. No couple agrees on everything all the time. Having a child can be stressful. Once you have a child things will change, but make it easier by talking about how you plan to raise the child beforehand and set up all necessary ground rules in terms of your parenting standards. Couples who communicate have an easier time trusting their partner and have a better chance at keeping their bond strong.

Related: <u>Jimmy Kimmel Celebrates Bachelor Party with Vancouver</u> <u>Getaway</u>

2. Be prepared to compromise: You both probably have different opinions on how to raise your child, but you have to be willing to sacrifice and compromise to make things work. You will also have to compromise in terms of work and other daily activities. Plan before the arrival of your child what you're going to do about work, child doctor appointments, baby errands etc. Keep what is best for the child in mind while you do your decision making.

Related: John Krasinski and Emily Blunt Welcome a Baby Girl

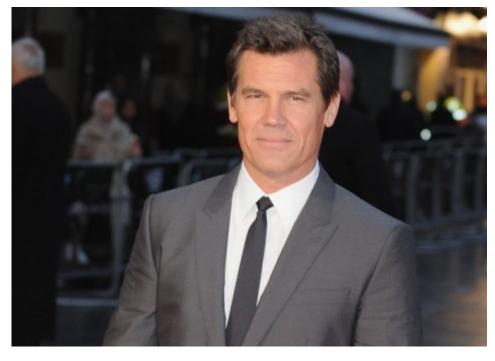
3. Remember you are in this together: Realizing you are not alone is important. If you are both there for each other and

support one another it will benefit your relationship. Your relationship will never be the same after you have kids, but keep in mind you aren't the only couple who have gone through hard times. However, if you stick together you can overcome any challenges that comes your way and most important of all remember that you love one another.

What do you think are good ways to prepare your relationship for the arrival of a child? Share in the comments below.

Learning to Compromise: My Way or the Highway!





By Monique

Honaman for <u>Hope After Divorce</u>

"Marriage is about compromise; it's about doing something for the other person, even when you don't want to." — Nicholas Sparks, The Wedding

I had a great conversation with two friends, both widowed, the other day. They're dating each other, and it's starting to get serious. While not pointedly addressed quite yet, it's clear that the "we should spend the rest of our lives together" conversation is not that far off in the future. How wonderful for them! To have found love again — and all the joy, happiness, and elation that comes with new love — after both having lost spouses is wonderful and very sweet to see. Of course, they should spend the rest of their lives together. Thank goodness for second chances and the fact that they met each other.

Once example of a celebrity couple who will be tying the knot soon is Christina Aguilera and Matthew Rutler. This will be Christina's second marriage; again, thank goodness for second chances! She has a young son, who Matthew will become a stepparent to, yet another transition that will hopefully be smooth for everyone involved.

Related Link: Christina Aguilera Dating 'Burlesque' Assistant Matthew Rutler

Deciding they want to spend the rest of their lives together is the "easy" part. The more practical and more difficult part comes when the discussion turns to where to live. His house or hers? Her family room couches or his? His china or hers? His toaster or hers?

It's crazy, but this is where it can become overwhelming. The reality is that both people own their own beautiful homes, fully stocked with every practical item (the blender, ironing board, and beach towels) and also filled with all sorts of things that are meaningful (grandma's mirror, great-grandma's gravy boat, and the painting bought on vacation in Italy many

years ago). Their styles may differ: His Victorian period furniture may clash with her Asian influence.

What to do? Of course, it's essentially no different than when two divorced people choose to marry and frankly no different from when two established single adults (never married, divorced, or widowed) but well on their way to being "real" adults (with more than a studio apartment outfitted with milk crates and a mattress of the floor) enter into marriage.

Often times, both partners come to the relationship with established "goods" as well as established habits, ideals, and traditions. Perhaps one likes to eat dinner by 6 p.m. each night, whereas the other enjoys eating much later. Maybe one likes to be up and out each Saturday morning by sunrise, whereas the other relishes the idea of lounging in bed reading the paper until lunchtime. Perhaps one likes to spend Christmas out of town surrounded by the chaos of dozens of family members, whereas the other likes to make the holiday a more quiet, intimate celebration.

Related Link: Make Your Relationship Count This Year

Younger and less-established couples certainly need to compromise as they begin their lives together, but it's often easier, as they don't generally have decades worth of "baggage" (both literally and figuratively) that they bring to the marriage. It gets tougher as we get older!

When I remarried several years ago, my husband and I brought together two households. As crazy as it sounds, we literally did have to decide to keep my silverware or his, my dinner plates or his, my toaster or his...and on and on! That was challenging in and of itself (actually, he had a lot of things that were "nicer" than mine, so it made for some easy decision-making). Some people might say that the best solution is to start new with everything, and as fun as that sounds, it's just not practical. Who has that kind of money to throw

around, and why get rid of things that are meaningful to one person or the other?

In addition to compromising on the things, we also had to learn how to merge our family traditions and our expectations for everything from how to save, how to spend a Sunday morning, what temperature to keep the house at, how many blankets to put on the bed, etc. This can be much tougher. After all, we were established in our routines. We had our "normal," and defining a "new normal" isn't always easy.

You know what, though? Defining a "new normal" can be fun if approached with the right attitude. If you aren't open to compromise when dating, how in the heck are you going to compromise if you get married? Open yourself up to learning something new or even just experiencing something with a new lens. You might surprise yourself at how much you enjoy the change. After all, change keeps us vibrant and alive. Don't become too set in your ways. Be open to new experiences, new traditions…even new toasters and new beach towels!

Does compromise become tougher as we get older? Are we more set in our ways? What do you think?

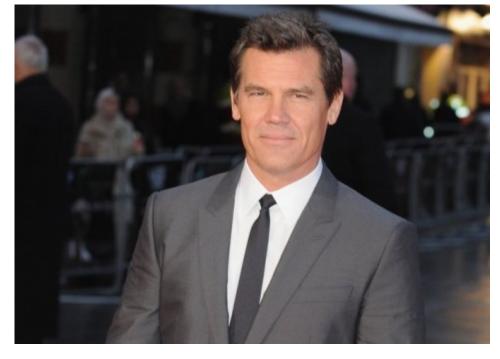
For more information about Hope After Divorce, click here.

■ Monique A. Honaman, JD, MLIR, wrote "The High Road Has Less Traffic: honest advice on the path through love and divorce" in response to a need for a book providing honest, real, and

raw advice about how to survive and thrive through one of life's toughest journeys. The book is available at HighRoadLessTraffic.com and Amazon.com. Monique writes for HopeAfterDivorce.org, FamilyShare.com, LAFamily.com and CupidPulse.com. She can be reached at Monique@HighRoadLessTraffic.com. Follow Monique on Facebook and Twitter.

Nelly Furtado and Demacio Castellon Have 'Healthy Tension'





By Louisa

Gonzales

Nelly Furtado has worked with her husband, Demacio "Demo" Castellon for years now, and quite well. The couple has collaborated and produced two successful albums, Loose 2006 and the follow-up Mi Plan, Spanish-language album, 2009. Castellon reportedly admitted they make a good team, but according to *People*, Furtado explains, just because they work well together doesn't mean its smooth sailings all the time. The singer went on to say they have a "healthy tension" when working together and how he helps "challenge" her as an

artist. The lovebirds don't work together all the time and have separate projects according to Furtado, but they will come together this year to work in the studio.

What are some ways working with your partner can strengthen your relationship?

Cupid's Advice:

Working with your partner can have it's benefits and downfalls. No matter how great your relationship is, no couple agrees on everything, especially in terms of money or work, but if you are working with your lover don't stress too much, as there are up sides. Cupid has some advice on ways working with your partner can strengthen your relationship.

1. Spend more time together: One of the best things you'll gain working together, is getting the chance to spend more time together. For a lot of couples trying to find time to spend with your sweetheart can be difficult because work gets in the way. If you work together you won't have that problem, as you'll have time to see each other often. Couple who spend more time together develop closer long-lasting bonds.

Related: Keith Urban Says Marriage and Family Takes Work Every

Day

2. Learn new things about each other: Working together will help you both to get to know each other better. It can be exciting to discover new things about your partner you never knew before and help you understand them more, which will bring you both closer together. You will get the chance to see new sides to each other and see them in action doing something they're passionate about.

Related: The Prince and The Pauper: Closing the Gap Between You and Your Cutie's Lifestyles (or Wallets)

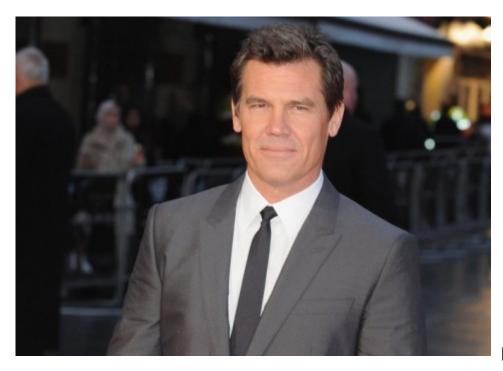
3. Challenge each other: Finding motivation to go to work is

difficult sometimes, but with your significant other being there with you, it can make things easier. Plus, they will be there to push and encouraging you. Sometimes all we need is a little nudge for someone we care about to be able to reach our full potentials. They will help you to challenge yourself, because you'll want to impress them and vice-versa, thus it will make you stronger as individuals and as a couple.

What do you think are some positive benefits to working with your partner? Share your thoughts below.

'Bachelor Pad' Stars Tenley Molzahn and Kiptyn Locke Are Back Together





By Louisa

Gonzales

Looks like former Bachelor Pad stars, Tenley Molzahn and Kiptyn Locke have reunited and couldn't be happier. The couple first met and got together on the show after being runner-ups on The Bachelor and The Bachelorette, respectively, but broke up last year. Now fast-forward to now the reality stars have rekindled their flames, and according to *People*, have been back on "for several months now". What helped the two stars reconnect? Reportedly being out of the public eye has benefited their relationship and allowed the lovers to focus on the future. The pair's latest romantic outing was on Valentine's Day, out of the spotlight at Hotel Del Cornado in San Diego, where Locke surprised Molzahn with a gondola ride and together they oversaw the sunrise and rising of the moon. The T.V. sweethearts are excited for their second chance and Molzahn confesses marriage could be on the horizon for the two lovebirds.

What are some things to consider before getting back together with an ex?

Cupid's Advice:

Relationship don't always work out, sometimes it's for the best and other times things get in the way. Being alone can be hard and make you wish you were in a relationship, but it's not always easy finding someone right for you. What if you think you already met the person you want to be with, but it didn't work out the first time? Cupid has advice on things to consider before reuniting with your ex:

1. It's more than just loneliness: Do you really miss your ex, or are you just scared of being alone? If the only reason you want to reunite is because your lonely, that is not a good enough reason to get back together and build a chance at a long-lasting relationship. Don't make the mistake of getting back together with someone for the wrong reasons, it will only hurt your relationship with that person, especially if the two of you are still friends or close.

Related: 'Bachelor Pad' Stars Tenley Molzahn and Kiptyn Locke
Think Marriage

2. There's a bright future: You need to ask yourself if you see a future with your old flame. Falling in love all over again is nice, deciding you just one last hook up is not, unless it is what you both want. Remember, no matter what you decide there's a chance one or both of you will get hurt. If there is potential for you and your ex to build a long and happy future together, by all means dive in, but make sure it's clear on both sides and that you're on the same page.

Related: Leighton Meester and Adam Brody Secretly Marry

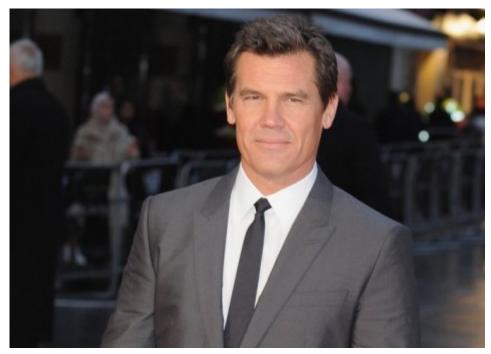
3. It's not just a rebound: If you just got out of a relationship and are feeling sad about it, you might need more time to heal before jumping back into a relationship with someone, especially if it's with your ex. Diving right into another relationship after a break up is not always healthy, however if the reason you broke up is because you still have a strong connection with your ex lover, it could be good to give

it another shot. Ask yourself is it more than just your ex being a good friend to you, by giving you a shoulder to cry on. Don't rekindle something that's not all the way there.

What do you think are good things to consider before getting back together with an ex? Share in the comments below.

David Arquette Says Courteney Cox's New Beau Johnny McDaid is "a Great Man"





Βy

April

Littleton

According to <u>UsMagazine.com</u>, David Arquette approved of his ex

wife's new boyfriend on the Wendy Williams Show. "He's amazing. Great guy," he said about Johnny McDaid. Arquette and Courteney Cox finalized their divorce last May after 13 years of marriage. Arquette is expecting his second child with girlfriend of two years, Entertainment Tonight correspondent Christina McLarty.

How do you remain civil with an ex?

Cupid's Advice:

Maintaining a positive relationship with an ex can be hard. Sometimes, you have to remain friends for the sake of children, or any other loved ones who may be involved. Cupid is here to help:

1. Communicate when necessary: You and your ex don't need to communicate with each other everyday. You shouldn't know what's going on in their love life unless they disclose that information to you themselves. If you have children together, let meeting together be strictly about your family.

Related: Lea Michele Says Cory Monteith is 'Watching Everything I'm Doing'

2. Be mature: If you're both two mature adults, there shouldn't be any reason for the two of you not to get along. Forget all of the petty behavior and act your age. Don't throw insults back and forth at each other — doing so will get you nowhere.

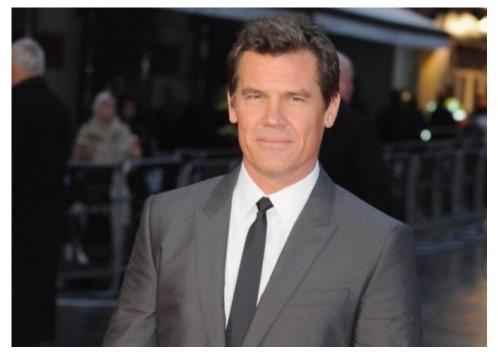
Related: <u>Taye Diggs and Idina Menzel Separate</u>

3. Move on: In order to remain a civil, platonic relationship with your ex, you'll need to let go of all of your old feelings from them. All of the anger, hurt, pain, etc you felt toward your former flame needs to be put in the past. You'll never be able to move on and find someone new if you're still hung up on your ex.

How do you remain civil with your ex? Share your experience below.

Brandi Glanville Says Eddie Cibrian Is Asking Her for Child Support





By Sanetra

Richards

Brandi Glanville and ex-husband Eddie Cibrian have made their way to the headlines again this week with another twist to their public divorce story. According to <u>People</u>, Glanville revealed in a tweet on Tuesday, February 18th why the two are still bumping heads: "Im not taking cheap shots at my ex in my

new book cuz its all true, & now mr fancy new cars & house man is asking ME for child support!" However, a rep for Cibrian has denied all allegations of the actor's request for support from his ex-wife.

What are some ways to keep things civil with your ex?

Cupid's Advice:

Sometimes when you think of an ex, you don't always think of the possibility of being cordial with each other. One of the first things that come to mind is bashing one another every chance there is. Despite the history, whether good or bad, many past lovers are actually a bit amiable. Cupid has some advice:

1. End on good terms: Communicate thoroughly with your expartner to gain a full understanding on why the relationship has ended. This primary step will avoid a ton of confusion and maybe even make for a better 'friendship' between the both of you.

Related: <u>Brandi Glanville Says Drama Will End When LeAnn Rimes</u>
Has Her Own Kids

2. Control your emotions: Avoid harboring those ill feelings because they can possibly lead to major problems between you and your ex down the road. If you are carrying a load of baggage from the relationship, do not expect to successfully be civil. Unfortunately, it's not as easy as it sounds and will take some time to adjust. What's most important is that you give it a try.

Related: Nina Dobrev and Ian Somerhalder Joke About Awkward Breakup

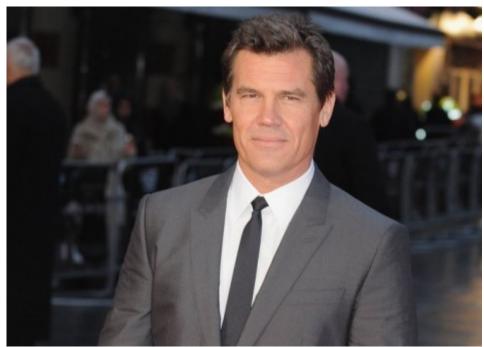
3. Don't be selfish: Take in mind this life lesson you were taught at a young age. Also, steer clear of damaging or returning your ex's possessions. There is always a possibility

that he or she will later ask for it and if not properly returned, chaos may rise — what you are trying to keep away from.

What are some ways to keep things civil with an ex? Share your thoughts below.

Former 'Bachelor' Star Kacie B. Is Engaged





By Sanetra

Richards

Third time's a charm! After two previous attempts, former *Bachelor* contestant Kacie Boguskie has found her groom, at last. According to *People*, the 26-year-old announced her

exciting engagement to music executive Rusty Gaston on February 16th through an Instagram post with the caption, "I cannot believe I get to MARRY my best friend. I am so blessed to have such an amazing man!! I just want everyone to know!!!" Shortly after being rejected twice on the show during seasons 16 and 17, Boguskie met her now fiancé and the rest is history!

How do you rise above a bitter breakup?

Cupid's Advice:

Your mind may be running a million miles per minute and you may think the world is ending after a bad breakup, but those feelings are only temporary. It is possible to overcome and snap back even better than before. Cupid has some advice:

1. Come to terms: Understand it is a breakup — it happened for a reason. The relationship could have been toxic or maybe you all were not completely compatible. Whatever reason there may be, do not be afraid to accept it. You might even catch yourself exhaling a deep sigh of relief afterwards.

Related: 5 Celebrity Couples Who Got Engaged Over the Holidays

2. Treat yourself: Moping around eating ice cream and bonbons does not do any good . . . as tempting as it may sound. If your schedule permits, call a few friends and have a day/night out on the town. Whether it's a spa appointment or a chick flick movie date, have fun! If you prefer to stay home, engage in a hobby, such as reading a novel or gardening. Your mind will be taken off of the sour thought of that breakup.

Related: The LOWEdown on 'The Bachelor' Wedding of Sean Lowe and Catherine Giudici

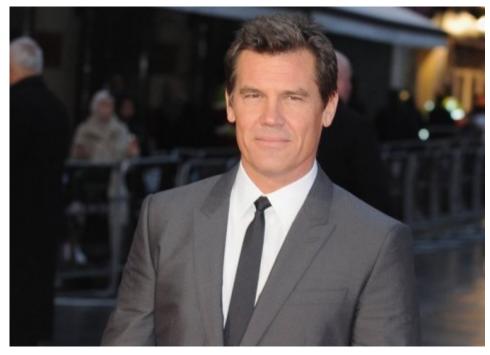
3. Wait patiently: Don't be in a rush to pursue another relationship. It will come when you least expect it. In

addition to the patience, leave behind any emotional attachment that could taint your next possible love interest. You'll be at your best when Cupid aims his arrow and strikes again.

What are some different ways to rise above a bitter breakup? Share your thoughts below.

Cupid's Weekly Round-Up: Taking Time For Yourself





By

Maria

Darbenzio

For some couples, being together every minute of the day can be a bit much. It's okay to want some alone time; in fact, it can ultimately strengthen your relationship. If you want to take some time for yourself or just hang out with your girlfriends, look no further! We gathered these excellent articles from our partners:

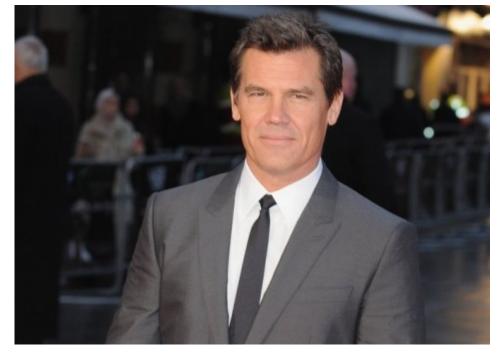
- 1. Host a girls' night in: Find a time when all of your friends can get together and have a relaxing night. Throw a dinner party, sip on some wine, and maybe watch a movie. Use this chance to catch up with everyone. Get some inspiration from Candace Cameron Bure and her girls' night in. (CelebrityBabyScoop.com)
- 2. Just talk: If you're not up for a girls' night, hanging out with just one person can do a world of good. Take your best friend for coffee or grab lunch at that vegan restaurant you've both heard about. Talk about anything and everything. It can help relieve stress and boost your mood. You may even get some helpful advice! (YourTango.com)
- 3. Make virtual friends: With the amount of digital media in our day-to-day lives, it's easier than ever to make friends virtually. Having someone away from your normal routine can help you if you ever need an outside perspective on things in your life. Of course, always be cautious about who you talk to on social media sites, but never pass up the chance to make new friends. (GalTime.com)
- **4. Enjoy a spa day:** You don't need to go to a fancy spa to get glowing skin. Whether you want to spend the day relaxing by yourself or trying new beauty treatments with your friends, this list will help you experience pure bliss. Check out some of these treatments and start planning your at-home spa day. (GalTime.com)
- **5. Be happy:** We all want to be happy with every aspect of our lives, whether it be family, friends, or work. Don't let negativity add unwanted pressure to your life. Like Charles R. Swindoll once said, "Life is 10 percent what happens to you

and 90 percent how you react to it." For ways to bring focus on your own personal happiness, read this article. (YourTango.com)

What are some ways that you take time for yourself? Tell us in the comments below!

Date Idea: Spa Vacation





By Kristin

Mattern

Who says you can't swim in the winter? And no, we don't mean join the Polar Bear Club! This weekend, take your snow bunny for a spa getaway and dive into love. You''ll both enjoy this romantic and relaxing date idea.

Rent a room at a hotel with the works and take advantage of the spa, pool, sauna and fancy restaurant. First, have a couples massage and facial with your man, and bond over the shared relaxing experience. Sweat out some sweet romance as the two of you enjoy a steamy sauna session and then cool off in the swimming pool. You're sure to grow even closer as you take those refreshing laps through the cool water.

Related Link: Date Idea: Take a Shot

After feeling truly pampered, get dressed up and head on down to the restaurant with your dear. Order a nice bottle of wine to share over your three-course meal. Splurge on dessert, and then head out to a local nightclub for some classy cocktails and dancing.

If you're at a true health spa, try some organic, whole-food veggie or fruit juice to sip while you and your honey enjoy a detox dinner. Afterwards, catch a late yoga class and really get rid of any remaining tension that the winter months have brought.

Related Link: Exciting and Inexpensive Honeymoon Destinations

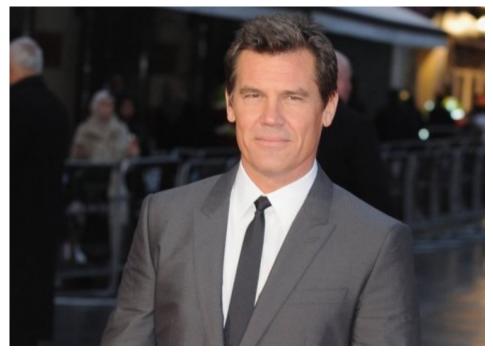
Looking to really leave the winter behind and experience true summertime? Take your dearest on a spa vacation to somewhere tropical. Check out sites like Travelocity and TripAdvisor to find some steals for your getaway. Make sure to pick a spot with extravagant pools and beautiful beaches. Pack your favorite bathing suits and leave the cold behind as you escape to an island resort. Enjoy the balmy weather and smooth sand as the spa staff spoils you beneath the warmth of the sun.

Escape the cold this winter and indulge in summer-themed spa date!

Have you ever skipped out on the snow to relive the summer with your darling? Let us know in the comments below!

The Prince and The Pauper: Closing the Gap Between You and Your Cutie's Lifestyles (or Wallets)





By Kristin Mattern

Love can cross boundaries, conquer differences, and even span oceans, but being in a relationship with someone who is Cartier when you are simply Kay can be a bit tricky. Maybe you and your partner are on an equal footing in terms of cash, but you're a savvy saver, and he's a spend-thrift. If you and your significant other's lifestyles (or wallets) are on opposite

sides of the fence, here are some tips to bring you closer together.

1. Show him what you're about: Money is a sore spot in a lot of relationships. Rather than sweat it out that you don't make enough moola, realize that it isn't the dollars that matter — it's you and the role you play in the relationship that counts. Be yourself and show off your unique qualities. Perhaps you're really funny or you always know the right thing to say. Even if you're not bringing in the dough, you still have many other assets that are just as important.

Related Link: 10 Relationship Behaviors You Think Are Odd...That Are Totally Normal!

- 2. Appreciate his gift giving: Perhaps you're one of those people who feels uncomfortable when bestowed with gifts. If that sounds like you, figure out why you feel this way. As Dr. Georgina Rose, licensed physician and author of Are You Ready for the One?, says, "The moments of joy brought on by purchasing a special present or enjoying a memorable meal are worth more to some than the feeling of a greater security from your bank account." Gift giving is a way for many people to show affection, and showing that you're grateful for his sweet gesture is the best way to return the favor.
- 3. You squirrel it away and he spends like it's candy: It can be challenging to your relationship when you save every penny and your partner spends as if he's the next Rockefeller. "We each have different values when it comes to money and often these are based on our childhood and the way we saw our parents deal with materialism," explains Dr. Rose. "If you realize how insignificant the actual dollars are and try to understand the real value behind it, then your partner's expenses may be justified. Maybe what seems like a splurge for you is in fact a way of enjoying life."
- 4. Communicate, communicate: Try not to judge

your boyfriend for his gift giving, and instead, make an effort to understand the gratification his spending brings to him. Rather than jump down his throat for making a big purchase when you feel like the two of you should be saving, talk it out. Keep in mind that you can't half listen to his reasons and then have it out with him. Really listen to him. Try to understand why it makes him happy to buy you things and then explain how it makes you feel without undercutting his feelings. Communication is the only way to shorten the gap between your different views on how to spend or save.

Related Link: How Fighting Can Strengthen your Relationship

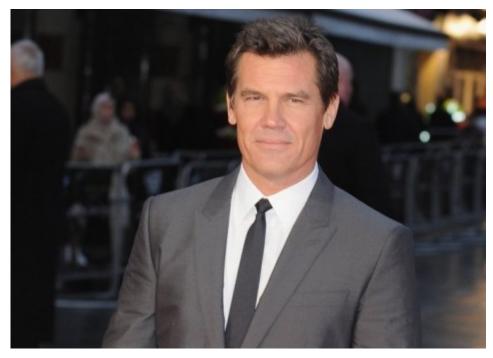
5. Remember that money can't buy love: As the Beatles say, money doesn't win hearts. At the end of the day, money issues can actual boil down to a factor of different life values. If you really dislike spending and materialism and your partner is all about the bling, then it might be time for a split. If you can't see eye-to-eye on how to manage your finances, there's a good chance that many other aspects of your life won't line up as well.

Money is always a tricky part of life to navigate. The key is be understanding of why your significant other spends and discuss your own feelings about the subject. In the end, it's a question of values and making sure you are both on the same page.

How have you handled money troubles in your relationship? Tell us in the comments below!

Marc Anthony Says He's 'Really Good Friends' With Casper Smart





By Louisa

Gonzales

There are no hard feelings between Jennifer Lopes and Marc Anthony and the same goes for the starlet's beau. According to <code>UsMagazine.com</code>, Anthony recently stopped by The Wendy Williams Show on Monday, February 17th and spoke of how not only was he still good friends with his ex-wife J.Lo, but with her boyfriend, Casper Smart. Anthony also revealed he is not one to judge and said nothing, but lovely things about Lopez and her new lover saying, "anybody that means something to her means something to me". Anthony recently just got out of relationship, with ex-girlfriend Chloe Green after a year of dating, but that hasn't stopped him from believing in the

possibility of finding love again.

How do you keep things civil with your ex's new partner?

Cupid's Advice:

Breaking up is hard, no matter if the decision is mutual, or if it ends amicably. Leaning how to accept that your ex-love will eventually move on with someone new is hard. If you want to remain in your old flames life and still be friends you will have to keep the peace not only with them, but with their new lover as well. Cupid has advice on how to keep things civil with your ex's new partner:

1. Be respectful: Be kind and nice to the new beau. Take the high road, it will ultimately help you and the situation. When you meet the new significant other in your ex's life extend a hand toward them, it never hurt anyone to be nicer and it also won't mess up your chances remaining on the good graces of your ex-lovebird. If you are respectful and courteous to your ex's new partner they will most likely be that way towards you.

Related: Marc Anthony and Girlfriend Chloe Green Split

2. Know your boundaries: Remember it's over between the two of you, whether the decision to end the relationship was mutual or individual, stay focused on that. It's not about the other person it's about keeping some form of a relationship with your ex and if you want to be a part of their life you will have to accept they are with someone new. You have begun something new in your life and so have they and no matter how hard it is seeing your ex with someone new you don't want to make things more weird by over stepping your boundaries with either the new beau or your ex.

Related: <u>Jennifer Lopez and Casper Smart Share a Romantic</u>

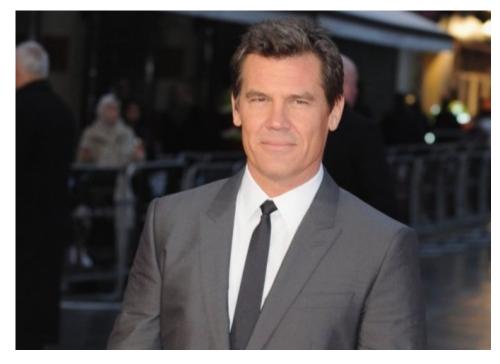
<u>Dinner in Time for VDay</u>

3. Don't be fake: Sometimes in attempt to mask our insecurities we will try to be something we're not by trying to act tough or overly sweet. Don't pretend to be some one you're not, because when you try to force something it will come off as fake to the other person and it will make things more awkward than it has to be. Just be yourself it will make everyone more comfortable for all everybody. Plus, since your ex lover use to date you they probably have a good sense of who you are and if you're not acting like your normal self they will pin point that right away.

What do you think is the best way to keep things civil with your ex's new partner? Share in the comments below.

Dating with Dogs: What to Discuss Before Getting a Pet





By Eric Bittman,

CEO/President of Warren London

So you've been dating your significant other for a while. It feels like true love, and you decide to take the next step: buying or adopting a cute puppy together. Before you pick up your fluffy Fido, there are a few conversations that you need to have.

Related Link: Picking Out a Pet Together

While two people may seem like a perfect couple, their ideas on dog training may be totally opposite. One person might think crate-training is the way to go, while their other half might cringe at the idea of keeping their pup in a cage during the workday. Your mate might think a dog should eat Purina puppy chow and nothing else, while you might want Spot to eat only home-cooked, human-quality meals. The list goes on and on.

Before you bring home your new dog, its crucial to sit down and talk about these sort of things with your partner. This will save you the stress of screaming at each other while little Rufus is happily chewing your shoes. Think about the dog's feeding plan, walking schedule, sleeping arrangements, and exercise routine, and think about your own disciplinary techniques. If the conversation becomes hostile with no compromise in sight, it might be better to wait a bit — for the sake of your relationship and that sweet dog.

Note that there's not always a "right" way to train your pet, but taking your dog to a local professional may help shape your decisions. Once the issues are settled, enjoy every minute with your new friend. Raising a puppy will definitely bring you and your partner closer.

Related Link: When Your Pet is a Deal Breaker

This month, I asked actor Michael Rosenbaum, who recently wrote, directed, and starred in the movie *Back In the Day*, a few questions about dating with dogs:

Q: What is your favorite dog breed?

A: German Shepherd. My grandmother always had Shepherds running around the house while I was growing up.

Q: How many dogs have you owned?

A: My family had a St. Bernard, some poodles and a Golden Retriever growing up, but the first dog that I've ever owned is Irv, a German Shepherd.

Q: If you dated someone who demanded a little dog, such as a chihuahua or a yorkie, would you give in or push for a bigger dog?

A: I like more of a manly dog. Someone I can wrestle with and not have worry about stepping on by accident.

Q: You meet someone that insists that her dog sleeps in the bed with you guys. Is that the end of the relationship?

A: Irv sleeps with me every night. Maybe this question should be for the person I'm dating!

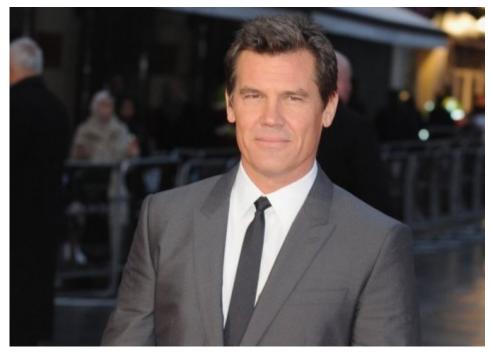
Q: What is your favorite brand of dog shampoo? (Hint: I will only accept one answer to this question!)

A: I like Warren London. It's all-natural, and that has to be good, right?

For more information about Eric Bittman, click <u>here</u>. Stay tuned for next month's Dating with Dogs column!

Pete Wentz and Meagan Camper Are Expecting a Baby





By Louisa

Gonzales

It looks like Fall Out Boy's bassist, Pete Wentz will soon be welcoming a new member into his family. Wentz is expecting his

second child with model girlfriend, Megan Camper, this will be the couple's first child together. Wentz revealed the news via Instagram on Monday February 17, with a photo of the lovebirds cuddling and sharing a kiss. According to a source of <u>People</u>, the duo have planned to have a baby for a while, and are excited for Wentz's first son with ex-wife Ashlee Simpson, Bronx, 5, to have a "new little buddy". Congrats to the happy pair.

What are some ways to prepare your relationship for a child?

Cupid's Advice:

Having a child together is a big step in a couple's relationship. When you know you want to have a baby with your lover, it can be a new and exciting step for both of you, but that doesn't mean it won't be hard. Preparing and figuring out all the new things that comes with being pregnant and having a child is vital to make things run as smoothly as possible. If you and your partner are looking to take the next step of your romantic partnership by having a baby, cupid has advice on ways to prepare:

1. Learn what to expect: To understand and prepare for a new addition to your family, do your research and learn all the things that come with pregnancy, a newborn baby and being first time parents. Gather all the information you can from classes, books or friends and family who have already went through pregnancy, every little thing helps with figuring out what to expect. There's a lot that comes with pregnancy and children and it will no doubt be overwhelming at times, but if you work together as a pair, you can overcome any challenges your relationship will face.

Related: Pete Wentz Hints at Marrying Model Girlfriend Meagan Camper

2.Know that things will change: Once the baby arrives your

normal daily routines are going to be turned upside down. Know that it's not going to be easy and smooth sailings all the time, especially in the beginning. Figuring out how to take care of the baby and how the household is going to work is going to take time. A lot of couples don't understand how much things will change and feel they need to attend couple's therapy, but really you just need to redefine your relationship.

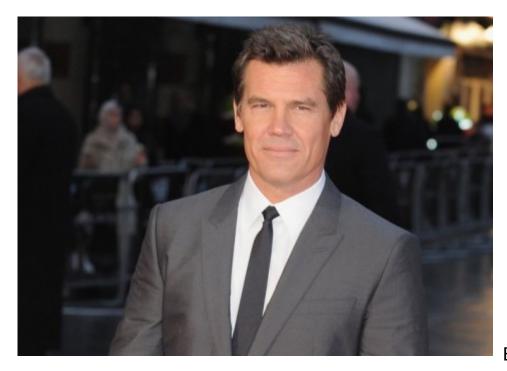
Related: John Krasinski and Emily Blunt Welcome a Baby Girl

3. Have clear communication: To avoid any misunderstandings or pointless arguments, communicate with each other and share your thoughts and feelings. You need to let your partner know what's going on and have a clear plan of what you both need and want if your relationship is to stay strong. The key to creating and sustaining a long-term relationship is being able to speak and listen to your lover. If both you and your romantic mate are on the same page it will make things easier for the both of you.

How do you think a couple can prepare their relationship for a child? Share your tips in the comments below.

Jason Derulo Surprises Jordin Sparks with 10,000 Roses for Valentine's Day





By Louisa

Gonzales

R&B artist Jason DeRulo shows he isn't shy of making grand romantic gestures to the special person in his life, singer Jordin Sparks, on Valentine's Day. According to <u>UsMagazine.com</u> the long-term couple, DeRulo got Jordin 10,000 roses on the holiday and they were even in her favorite color, orange, proving romance is still very much alive in their relationship. He made it happen with the help of the shop Passion Roses, and by renting out a suite at the Redbury Hotel, where the surprise took place. Sparks captured the lovely moment with a picture she later shared on Instagram, and spoke of how "overwhelmed" she was by the surprise and how she thought it was "beautiful". DeRulo also shared his excitement on Instagram posting a pic of the roses filled room.

How do you use gifts to show your appreciation for your partner?

Cupid's Advice:

It's nice to receive gifts from people you love and care about. When someone gets you a present it shows that they

think about you and appreciate you. Giving your partner gifts is important for your relationship, especially with helping your lovebird feel loved. Cupid has some advice on to use gifts to show your gratitude toward your special someone:

1. Give your lover a gift on a non holiday: Want to really show your appreciation and gratitude to your special someone? What better way to that than to give them a gift for no other specific reason other than because you love them and just wanted to. Maybe give them a gift when you see they are having a bad week or going through a hard time, nothing like gifting them with something special to bring a smile to their face.

Related: New Couple: Jordin Sparks Is Dating Jason Derulo

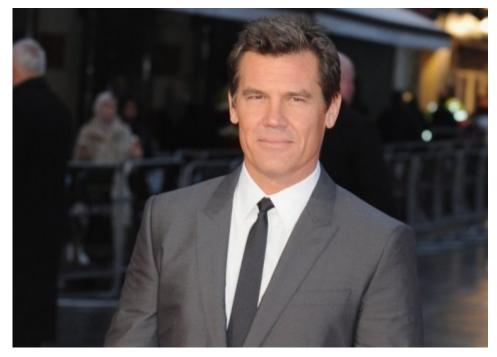
2. Plan to give the best gift yet for their next birthday: Nothing will show how much you love and care about your lover then by making their birthday one to remember. Birthdays usually become less exciting as we get older and the presents are less unique and special, break that idea and notion by doing or getting something you know your honey will love, enjoy and truly appreciate. Think about what gift will truly surprise them, you can also ask family and friends for help.

Related: <u>5 Celebrity Couples Who Got Engaged on Valentine's</u>
<u>Day</u>

3. Create, make or write a personalized gift: This is a chance to show your creative side as well as show you are willing to make the time and effort to put something together that is one of kind and just for them. A gift doesn't necessarily mean giving your loved one a present. You can also write your sweetheart a personalized love letter or thank you card that expresses how grateful and thankful you are to have them in your life or show you appreciation by making them breakfast in bed.

How to Date when You're a Single Parent





By April

Littleton

Being a single parent has its challenges — especially when it comes to dating. When you're raising children on your own or co-parenting, getting back into the dating pool is hard. You're not sure how your kids will adapt to someone new hanging around. Plus, is it even worth it to try to give your heart to someone else? Cupid has some tips:

1. Take your time

You don't have to rush into a relationship with anyone. You

have your kids to think about and they don't need to be introduced to a new person every single week. When you're ready to start dating again, take it slow. Don't worry about what other people think. You start to date when you feel like it's the right time, not when anyone else says you should start testing the waters again.

2. Explain to your kids

When you do start to see someone new, you need to prepare your children for the situation. Whether they are too young to understand what you're telling them or not, you still need to let them know you're going to spending some time with her person who isn't their mother/father. Reassure them that the new love in your life isn't there to take the place of their other parent, but you're simply hanging out with someone else on a romantic level. Your children will have plenty of questions. Try your best to answer each one of them honestly without getting into any specific details about your love life.

Related: The Do's and Dont's of Speed Dating

3. Introduction

You obviously don't need someone who you've only been dating for a short time to meet your children. However, if things get serious between you and your new potential love interest, you need to start thinking about introducing your honey to the other important people in your life. Make sure your new boyfriend/girlfriend already knows about your kids (that should have been one of the first things you told them when you first started dating) before you set up a date for the whole gang to meet. When the day does come for the outing, make sure you keep the activities fun, short and to the point.

Related: How to Handle a Clingy Partner in a Relationship

4. Be courteous

Be careful how much PDA you should — especially in front of your children. Everyone will need to adjust to you dating someone new, so make sure to avoid any situations that could be uncomfortable and/or hurtful to your kids. Also, your new partner might not be too fond of the idea of the two of you sharing serious affection for each other in public anyway.

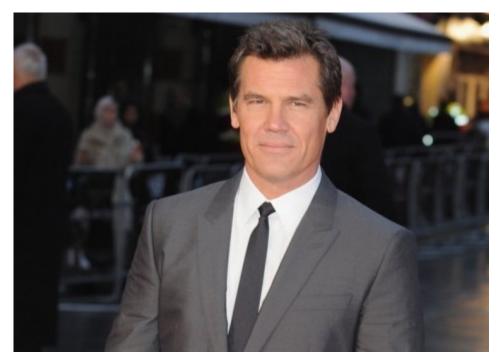
5. Keep your past where it belongs

Your ex shouldn't be involved in any part of your love life. Don't bring him/her up unless the reason has something to do with the children you have together. If you want to develop a serious relationship with the new man/woman in your life, they don't need a constant reminder of the feelings you and your former flame once had for each other. You need to start living your life for you and your kids. Who you date has nothing to do with your ex and vice versa.

Do you have any additional advice for a single parent who's dating again? Comment below.

Find Out How Kanye West Proposed to Kim Kardashian





By Louisa

Gonzales

Just because one of the most romantic holidays of the year has come and passed, doesn't mean we still can't celebrate great romantic moments, as viewers saw on the latest *Keeping Up with the Kardashians*. According to *UsMagazine.com*, although fans already know that Kayne West proposed four months ago to Kim Kardashian on her 33rd birthday in San Francisco, now thanks to the reality show they now finally witnessed first hand how it happened, Sunday, February, 16th. During the episode, we all got to see the day leading up the main event and then finally saw the big proposal, which happened at the AT&T Park stadium, home of the San Francisco Giants. It was a beautiful moment for the couple and for all the family, friends and fans who got to see it.

What are some surprise proposal ideas?

Cupid's Advice:

Getting engaged is a special moment for many couples. The memory of getting engaged to your lover is something you'll cherish and remember for the rest of your lives. Cupid has advice on some great surprise proposal ideas:

1. Play a game and leave clues: One way to make your proposal surprising and unique is to set up sort of game. Play game where you leaves clues for your partner to find until it leads all the way up to your ultimate popping the marriage question. For example, throw a party with friends and family and have them all wear t-shirts each with a different letter of "will you marry me" and ask for a picture and afterwards when your soulmate asks to see, it will read out the question. There are other alternative games you could create and play to make your engagement one to remember and unexpected for your other half.

Related: Kanye West Displays His Love for Kim Kardashian

2. Use food and other things your partner loves: Think about some goodies and other things your lovebird loves and plan to ask somehow involving them. Some ideas are to maybe arrange a gift basket filled with the different assortment of sweets and foods they like inside a basket and have the ring hidden somewhere inside. You can also take your honey to a restaurant and have the chef write it out on their plate or hide the "will you marry me" question in a fortune cookie. There are number of ways to go about getting engaged, just make sure to keep it fun and unique, but remember to keep it true to you and your love.

Related: <u>5 Celebrity Couples Who Celebrate Valentine's Day in Style</u>

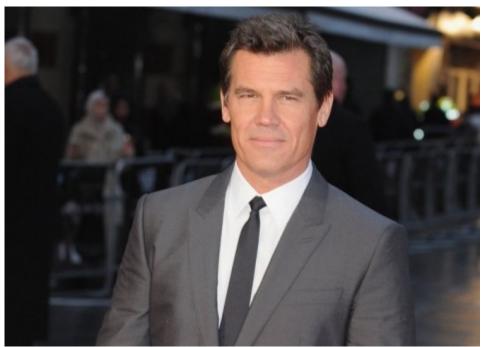
3. Ask the question somewhere unexpected: A fun and cool idea would to take your significant other out to a specific place where you planned in advance with people or friends to help you get engaged. One idea is to take them to a park or the beach where an artist will draw a picture of the two you and in the picture it will show you asking your love bug the "marry me" question and with them responding with a "yes". You can really use anything to your advantage when finding cool ways to ask for your sweethearts hand in marriage, it can be you asking your local movie theater to show the question

during the previews or something specifically unique to them such as putting it in the ad's section of the newspaper they alway read.

What do you think are good ideas for a surprise proposal? Share your ideas below.

John Krasinski and Emily Blunt Welcome a Baby Girl





By

April

Littleton

According to <u>People</u>, Emily Blunt and John Krasinski welcomed their first child, a daughter named Hazel Sun. Feb. 16. The former *Office* actor made the announcement himself via Twitter,

"Wanted to let the news out directly. Emily and I are so incredibly happy to welcome our daughter Hazel into the world today! Happy bday!" Krasinski wrote. The new parents married in 2010 and announced their pregnancy last September.

What are some ways to prepare your relationship for a baby?

Cupid's Advice:

Congratulations on your pregnancy! Now, you have nine months to prepare yourself and your significant other for what's to come next. Cupid is here to help:

1. Friends and family: Ask some of the people who you're close to for helpful advice. What would they recommend to buy for a newborn? What kind of parenting classes should you and your partner look into? You want to experience being a first-time parent all on your own, but there's nothing wrong with getting a little help along the way — especially if the people you ask have been through what you're preparing for now.

Related: 'Bachelorette' Alum DeAnna Pappas Welcomes a Baby Girl

2. Organize your finances: You and your significant other need to agree on a set budget. You won't be able to spend money the way you used to with a new baby on the way. Forget about buying yourself a pair of new shoes whenever the urge comes around. Now, you'll need to save up for more important products — diapers, baby wipes, bottles, etc.

Related: 'The Fosters' Star Sherri Saum is Expecting Twin Boys

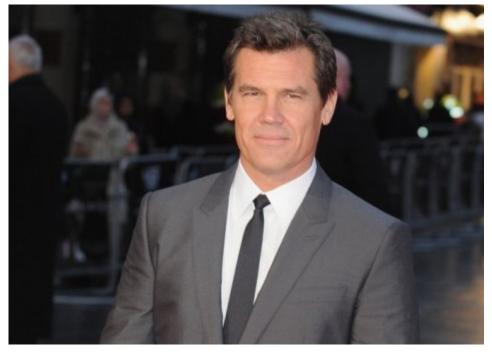
3. Discuss work: As a couple, you and your honey will need to figure out who is going to stay with the baby and who will stay at home for awhile. If you plan on breastfeeding, the decision has already been made for you. Either way, the both of you will need to think of a schedule that works and/or decide if arranging professional childcare would be the best

option.

What are some other ways to prepare your relationship for a baby? Comment below.

Cold Feet Before The Wedding? Reasons to Use Your Head





By Marie Chan

Marriage is more than just a dreamy, fairy tale event in every woman's life. Understandably that it is exciting when planning for one especially if you are the bride-to-be. But, this is also the stage where a couple's relationship is tested. Arguments often come along during the planning stage. After you have prepared and paid for everything, you feel restless,

hyped-up and experience "wedding jitters" the night before your big day. What should you do?

Here are some things to consider if you feel anxious before your wedding.

1. Think deeply about your doubts.

According to a research done by the Psychology graduate students of UCLA, 19 percent of women who reported that they are having doubts before the wedding end up in divorce after four years of married life. It would be best to simply call off the wedding if you are less than one hundred percent sure. It is not wrong at all to back out now than regretting a major decision in your life. So, consider all the factors why you have doubts before your wedding.

2. Talk things out with your partner.

Nothing beats the old fashioned way of talking things out. Couples who last long in marriage often say that communication is the key to a successful relationship. So, if you are feeling the pre-wedding jitters, be open with your partner about it. It would make you feel better having someone to share the mixed emotions before your wedding. Take this opportunity to remind each other of the good things that await you as a couple.

Related: Beware of Sweetheart Scammers This Valentine's Day

3. Seek advice from elders.

If you cannot contain the doubts before your wedding, you can seek advice from your parents or close relatives who have been married for many years. The wisdom they have gained through the years can cast a light to the doubts and questions bothering you. It would also help if you choose to confide in someone who you know is not biased.

4. Don't pressure yourself too much.

It is a good thing that everybody else shares your excitement about getting married. However, it can also add pressure on your part as the bride. Of course, you want your wedding to be perfect. But because of this, you tend to over think things. You worry about even the smallest and insignificant things. Remember, your wedding is a celebration of your union as man and wife. You should enjoy this day.

Although some brides (and even grooms) feel the cold feet before their wedding, the challenge is how you manage these feelings while keeping yourself composed before, during and after the wedding. Surround yourself with trusted people who knows you well and whom you can really share your feelings honestly. Doubts before the wedding can be easily erased if you think about your real goal as a couple.

Related: Why Looking for Love Is Like a Job Search

It helps to know that you are not alone, but you have someone to share all your thoughts, doubts and fears. Cold feet before the wedding can be minimized by having a pre-wedding counseling and coordination. Remember when you get married, your life takes on another path wherein it is different than the life you are used to with your parents or yourself. You have to be ready — mentally and emotionally.

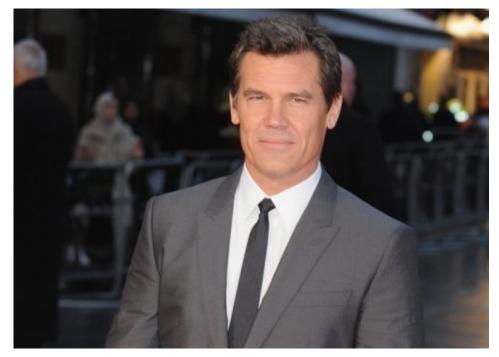
However even with all these — you are still experiencing this heavy and negative feeling that you cannot go through with this wedding, then by all means, use your head and call it off. What you feel is not just a simple case of wedding jitters or cold feet. You have to follow your instinct. Clear all doubts before pushing through with it. This way, you will avoid making costly mistakes in life.

Bestbride101.com is your complete wedding planning guide. If you are looking for the best wedding gowns, invitations, planning tools, wedding inspirations, and everything about

making your wedding perfect, then you have to visit us today.

'Pompeii' is the Perfect Couples Night Movie





Ву

April

Littleton

"Pompeii" is about the journey Milo, a slave turned gladiator (played by Kit Harington) takes to save his true love Cassia (played by Emily Brown). Milo is forced to fight his way past an arena in order to save his beloved before Pompeii is completed destroyed by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius.

Should you see it:

"Pompeii" is directed by Paul W.S. Anderson and is lead by an all-star cast. Audiences will see the familiar faces of Carrie-Anne Moss, Jared Harris, Kit Harington, Jessica Lucas, Emily Brown and Kiefer Sutherland. If you're interested in dramas, mysteries or action films, Pompeii might be suitable for you.

Who to take:

This movie isn't necessarily something you would want to see with a group of girls. Reserve this film for date night with your honey. He will appreciate it much more than your girlfriends would.

Related: Sink Your Teeth Into 'Vampire Academy'

What are some ways to be there for the one you love?

Cupid's Advice:

What you and your partner need the most out of a relationship is support. The two of you are a team, and you should be there for each other through thick and thin. The best thing about being committed to another person is the fact that you will always have someone you can lean on when situations get rough. Cupid has some tips:

1. Focus on what they need: Many couples often forget to zone in on what the other person needs. Instead, they tend to react in ways they think their significant other would like. Taking control of the relationship in this matter might cause your partner to feel unappreciated or unimportant. Don't assume things about each other. Ask one another about your needs and wants.

Related: Rosie O'Donnell Says Health Scare Brought Her Closer to Wife

2. Be understanding: Everyone handles certain situations differently. Keep this in mind when you face a challenge with

your significant other. Don't put pressure on your partner to do things the way you might think is best. Show your support and let them figure things out on their own. When your honey needs you, she/he will let you know.

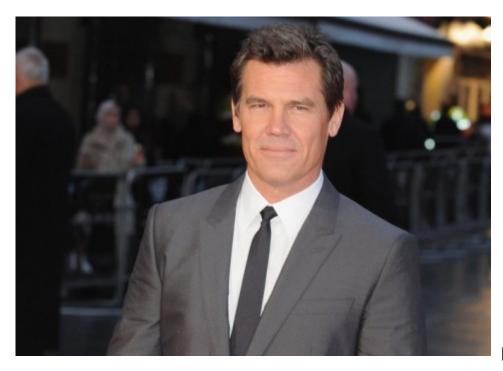
Related: Lauren Conrad Celebrates Hoe-Down Birthday Bash with Fiance

3. Communicate: Always keep an open line of communication. Offer your significant other useful advice during trying times. Express your feelings to one another during arguments. Let your words be the driving force in your relationship.

What are some other ways to be there for the one you love? Comment below.

Nick Carter Ditches Sister's Wedding for His Bachelor Party





By Louisa

Gonzales

There is a new addition to the musically inclined Carter family. Nick and Aaron Carter's sister, Angel Carter recently got hitched to lover Corey Conrad at Newhall Mansion in Piru, California, on Saturday, February 8th, according <u>UsMagazine.com</u>. The wedding celebration, which took place in the late afternoon, included many family and friends of the couple, except there was one important member of the Carter family missing, brother Nick. The Backstreet Boy singer Nick, 34, was supposed to walk his sister down the aisle, but didn't in favor of attending a joint bachelor and bachelorette party, held in Las Vegas at the Palms Hotel and Ghost Bar with his own bride-to-be, Lauren Kitt. However, even though one of her brothers couldn't make the wedding ceremony, her twin brother Aaron was in attendance and the two even shared a touching moment on the dance floor together as seen by a picture one of the guests posted.

What are some things to consider around the timing of your wedding?

Cupid's Advice:

A wedding is a special occasion and it is lovely to be able to share your special day with family and friends. Of course, you want everyone important in your life to attend the witnessing of your wedding vows, but sometimes life gets in the way. It's sad when your loved ones are unable to make it to the wedding celebration, and there could be many reasons why, maybe they're sick, or can't afford to travel to the wedding destination or maybe it conflicted with prior engagements, you know as they say timing is everything. Cupid has some advice on things to consider around the timing of your nuptials.

1. Plan your wedding months in advance: Doing this will give people a considerably amount of time and a heads up to make arrangements to come to your wedding. Let guests know exactly where and when the wedding is taking place so they can make plans accordingly and make all necessary arrangements. It's harder for people to plan to do things in such short notice no matter what it is, just think wouldn't it be hard to plan your wedding on a short time frame? Think about your guests, everyone has their own lives and schedules.

Related: <u>Kim Kardashian and Kanye West Visit Paris: Wedding Plans?</u>

2. Ask friends and family when's a good time to get married: See when is the best day for all your closest family and friends to attend. Ask them things like when they will be off work, or have time to take off. It is wise to consider the people you both hold dear when making wedding decisions and who knows they might even be able to share some good advice. Another thing to consider before saying your "I do's", is if you plan to travel or to invite guests who have to travel to your wedding think about things such as the weather, time and month. You wouldn't want people to not be able to attend because of the weather or work conflicts when it could have been resolved by picking a better wedding date.

Related: Backstreet Boy Singer Nick Carter Proposes to

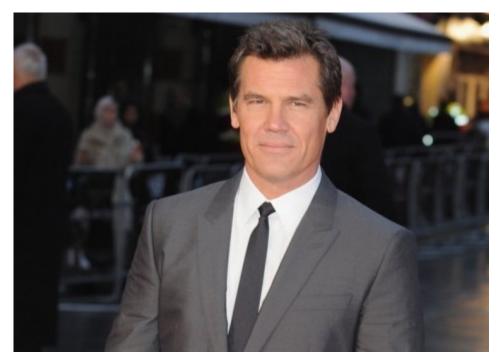
Girlfriend Lauren Kitt

3.Check up on who is and isn't coming: Don't assume all the people you sent invitations to are going to attend your wedding nuptials. Include on the invitation a R.S.V.P line as this will let them know they need to reply if they're going to attend so you can plan accordingly. Ask them to send back their reply on whether they can make it by the "Reply by" date. If certain guests don't reply by your set deadline, check up on it by contacting them to confirm because maybe the invitation could have gotten lost in the mail or they forgot. Remember though, sometimes no matter how much you hope and try to pick a date that can work for everyone you plan to invite it's just not possible, so don't be too bummed out if certain people can't make it and focus on the ones that can.

What do you think couples should consider around the timing of their wedding? Share your tips below.

Date Idea: Be a "Cheap" Date





By Kristin

Mattern

You and your sweetie are sick of the same old Valentine's Day traditions, or maybe you're both convinced it's just a day made up by the card companies. Perhaps your pockets are just little lighter this year and you're looking for ways to save money. Whatever your reason, this Valentine's Day is a great time to have a cheap date to celebrate your love together.

Related Link: List Your Live

Get crafty this weekend and make your own cards. Cut out hearts from red and pink construction paper and use paper lace doilies and glitter to decorate. Write cute and corny lines to put a smile on each other's faces. For a longer-lasting idea, cut photographs into heart shapes and make a collage you can enjoy for years to come. If you're not the most artistic person, print images and cut them out to create an easy but still sentimental card for your honey.

To exchange gifts and not burn a hole in your pocket, agree to set a price cap with your significant other. This way, you can both give each other a little something special, but you aren't going overboard. Or stick with the homemade route and

get creative. If you've been dying for your man to surprise you with breakfast in bed or cook a candlelit dinner, let that be his gift to you! If you're a guy, maybe you dream of your girlfriend making a batch of your favorite cookies, or you really want her to crochet you a scarf in your favorite football team's colors. Just ask her. Think outside the chocolate box and do something unique.

Related Link: Movie Night

Another idea is to make dinner with what you have in the fridge, or order Italian if the two of you are feeling like you want to be pampered a little. Watch romantic and fun movies like 50 First Dates or the ever-classic Casablanca. Whatever you decide to pop in the DVD player, you and your sweetheart are sure to have a lovely ending to your non-traditional V-day all on the cheap!

Have you ever gone beyond giving roses on Valentine's Day? Tell us in the comments below!