



Is Your Marriage Primed for Romance?

To get a good sense of how your relationship is faring (or is likely to fare in the future) in the romance department, answer the following questions.

Read each statement and circle **T** for "true" or **F** for "false."

1. We enjoy doing small things together, like folding laundry or watching TV. **T F**
2. I look forward to spending my free time with my partner. **T F**
3. At the end of the day my partner is glad to see me. **T F**
4. My partner is usually interested in hearing my views. **T F**
5. I really enjoy discussing things with my partner. **T F**
6. My partner is one of my best friends. **T F**
7. I think my partner would consider me a very close friend. **T F**
8. We just love talking to each other. **T F**
9. When we go out together, the time goes very quickly. **T F**
10. We always have a lot to say to each other. **T F**
11. We have a lot of fun together. **T F**
12. We are spiritually very compatible. **T F**
13. We tend to share the same basic values. **T F**
14. We like to spend time together in similar ways. **T F**
15. We really have a lot of common interests. **T F**
16. We have many of the same goals and dreams. **T F**
17. We like to do a lot of the same things. **T F**
18. Even though our interests are somewhat different, I enjoy my partner's interests. **T F**
19. Whatever we do together, we usually tend to have a good time. **T F**
20. My partner tells me when he or she had a bad day. **T F**

Scoring: Give yourself one point for each "true" answer.

10 or above: Congratulations! This is an area of strength in your marriage, because you are so often "there" for each other during the minor events in your lives, you have built up a hefty emotional bank account that will support you over any rough patches in your marriage (and keep many at bay). It's those little moments that you rarely think about --- when your shopping at the supermarket, folding laundry, or having a quickie catch-up call while you're both still at work- that make up the heart and soul of a marriage. Having a surplus in your emotional bank account is what makes romance last and gets you through hard times, bad moods, and major life changes.

Below 10: Your marriage could stand some improvement in this area. By learning to turn towards each other more during the minor moments in your day, you will make your marriage not only stable but more romantic. Every time you make the effort to listen and respond to what your spouse says, to help him or her, make your marriage a little better.

The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work By: John
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