

A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE



NO TWO PEOPLE ARE ALIKE. NO TWO MARRIAGES ARE ALIKE.

1 World - 5 Days - 1 Date: Make a World of Difference in YOUR World of Difference

Warning: The following Great Date has many pages, BUT DON'T WORRY.
It is not full of "Have To's," just many different options for "Get To's."

A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

1 World - 5 Days - 1 Date

FOR MY **WIFE**



1 World—there is no other couple exactly like you... *in the world!*
We have designed **5 Days** and **1 Date** to help you rock your World of Differences.

HERE IS ALL YOU NEED TO DO TO... ROCK HER WORLD

- » Read through this entire download. Some of the ideas take a little preplanning.
- » Get with your lady and decide when to start the 5 days leading up to your Great Date.
- » If there is any tension between the two of you, for the next 5 days, **GIVE IT UP!**
- » Make sure you laugh—every day!
- » Hide this download from your wife—that way you get all the credit.

HERE IS ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW TO... ROCK HER WORLD

What's the difference between the couple whose differences draw them together and the couple whose differences pull them apart? It's all about how you view your wife's differences.

Her differences are your greatest opportunity to communicate unconditional love.



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DAY 1: DAY TIMING ABOUT NIGHT TIMING

Stereotypically, men and women view intimacy (Yes, *this includes sex*) in very different ways. Guys are typically ready and willing to go. Ladies are wired a little differently. Sex is more closely tied to how she feels relationally toward her husband, and she often needs more than 21 seconds to be completely ready for sex. **But it must be said, in a recent survey taken by women, 27% of the women reported they wanted sex more often than their husbands. (For Men Only by Shaunti Feldhahn)*

Either way, these DIFFERING views regarding sex...oops...intimacy...can be a challenge.

*Choose one of the following opportunities, or create your own idea to show your wife that: **The fact that we view sex and intimacy differently is a great opportunity for me to communicate unconditional love.***

Intimacy Opportunities

- » Go up to your wife, dip her, and give her a huge kiss. Run away screaming, “I didn’t do that to get lucky, I just love you very muuuuuuuuuuchhhhhhhh.”
- » This is not for the faint of heart: Snuggle with her in bed—without making any more moves.
- » Once she is in bed, go outside and throw rocks at her window. Then serenade her with a boom box.
- » Take a newspaper article and circle all the words that best describe her and then have her read it back to you.
- » Leave her love notes all over the house and her car.
- » Write a song that is funny and romantic; then sing it to her on her voicemail.
- » Burn a CD with the number one hits from every year you have been married.
- » Write something on the bathroom mirror that communicates she is beautiful.
- » With shoe polish, write on the back window of her car, “My husband loves me!”
- » Sex. Do it her way.

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DAY 2: DAY IN / DAY OUT

Chances are your wife's personality is, to some degree, different than yours. A very common personality difference is one spouse being an extrovert and one being an introvert. Even if you are both extroverts or both introverts, this can mean different things to different people.

Choose one of the following opportunities, or create your own idea, to show your wife that: **The fact that we have different personalities is a great opportunity for me to communicate unconditional love.**

Using your wife's differences as a guide, create the perfect environment to celebrate those differences.

Introvert Opportunities

- » Turn your bed and bathroom into a 5 Star Hotel (3 Star is okay if you have children—the bar is much lower). That night, draw her a bath, light some candles, then lead her to the tub. Turn down the bed, have some soft music in the background, pillows propped up against the headboard, and then serve her dinner in bed. Have her favorite movie, her favorite book, or TiVo® her favorite show. Lock the door, allowing no children, animals, or phones to interrupt. Tell her this is not for the two of you, but just for her. (Caveat: If she does invite you to join her, this would not be your fault, and you should do what she says.)
- » Call and cancel a meeting, a party, or a social occasion she doesn't want to attend. Then put a note on her calendar that says she now can use that time to do whatever she wants.
- » Rent her favorite movie and send her to your man cave.
- » Buy her favorite magazines and send her off for a pedicure or to her favorite coffee shop.

Extrovert Opportunities

- » Who says a surprise party should only be for birthdays?
- » Throw a low-key impromptu surprise party, but make sure you handle all the details, and this includes clean-up.
- » Secretly have a friend or family member she hasn't heard from in a while give her a call.
- » Want to knock it up a level? Have 10 friends and/or family members phone, email, text, Facebook, or Twitter her at the exact same time. She will have a lot of messages to fill her love tank!
- » Have a couple of her girlfriends kidnap her for a girls night out.

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DAY 3: PAY DAY

Money, a dirty word these days. Debt. Your purchases. Your spouse's purchases. Retirement. Job insecurity. Vacation. No vacation. **It is not uncommon for a marriage to have one "spender" and one "saver."** Even if you are both savers, chances are you have different views on how money should be saved. Even if you are both spenders, you have different views on how to spend it.

Choose one of the following opportunities, or create your own idea, to show your wife that: ***Our different views on finances are great opportunities for me to communicate unconditional love.***

Spending Opportunities

- » Set the thermostat to your spouse's desired temperature. You may have to take it all off.
- » If she likes to shop, give her some money. Then take her to a store where she would like to spend it. Tell her she has to spend it right then. Don't do the park bench thing; shop with her. Studies show shopping for most husbands is one step away from Chinese water torture. But YOU CAN DO IT!
- » If she would rather have a thoughtful gift, purchase it. If she likes surprises, put it in a place she will find it.
- » Tell her, "Don't prepare dinner. I am taking you out to celebrate all the meals you prepare for us."
- » Get her a subscription to her favorite magazine.

Saving Opportunities

- » Purchase something she would like, return it, and bring her the receipt.
- » With your cell phone, take a picture of something she would love, and send it to her with the text, "This is what I would buy you if we were rich." (*Do not be afraid to go to a fancy jewelry store.*)
- » Create a fancy rainy day jar. Put some change in it—maybe even a crisp dollar bill—and put it somewhere she will find it.
- » This one is all about sacrifice. Cancel a subscription or a membership, and tell her she has X amount of \$ to save.
- » Send her an online greeting card. Free-e-cards-online.com
- » Download a sky map at fourmilab.ch/yoursky. Point to a star, mark its location, and make a monthly date to see if you can find it again.

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DAY 4: FAMILY DAY

Bringing children into the mix adds a host of potential problems, from differing views on how to discipline the children, to arguing in front of the kids, to saving for college educations. You may also argue about whether or not to have children at all and/or fertility issues that may arise. Then add in your parents and her parents... *Alrighty then.* **OHHHH the differences! With few exceptions, our immediate families and our families of origin are not optional relationships. We have to make them work, or they will work over our relationship.**

Choose one of the following opportunities, or create your own idea to show your wife that: **Our different views on family are great opportunities for me to communicate unconditional love.**



Raising Children Opportunities

- » At some point today, stop all the action in your home. Call your kids and wife into the same room. Then tell your kids the top three reasons their mom is a great mom.
- » If there is a difference in your parenting styles, try it her way. If she likes their rooms clean, if she wants them watching less TV, if she would rather you be less strict, give her way a whirl. Then tell her she was right, or at the very least that you have a better understanding of her “way.”

Her Family Opportunities

- » Send your wife’s mom flowers, or just call to say, “Thank you for raising such an incredible woman.”
- » Call your father-in-law. WHAT? Just talk about anything. The “Thank you for raising such an incredible woman” thing might freak him out. (*She’ll just be glad you called him.*)
- » Invite her mom and dad, sister, or brother over for dinner.
- » Make a vow to yourself not to say anything negative about your wife’s family members. Make a point to say something positive about them to her, especially if that isn’t common, or if there’s typically tension with them.
- » If you live close to your wife’s parents, do something “handy” around their house.
- » Stop referring to your wife’s parents as in-laws. Try, “my wife’s parents,” or call them by their grandparent names, or maybe even “Mom” and “Dad” (*Yes—that could be potentially lame.*)
- » Ask for a picture of your wife when she was a little girl. Keep it in a place where you will see it often to remind yourself that you are married to the grown-up version of that little girl who always wanted to grow up and marry a prince.

Whatever opportunity you choose, let your wife know what and why.



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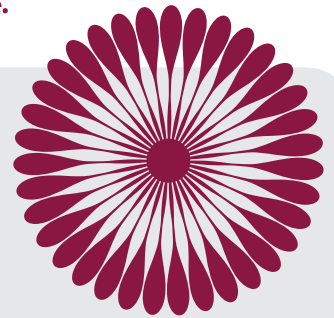
DAY 5: DAY TRADER

It can be easy to fall in the trap of thinking that your day was at least to some degree more “_____” than your wife’s. For that very reason, it’s time you became a Day Trader. **As much as possible, today is all about the two of you trading days.**

Choose one of the following opportunities, or create your own idea to show your wife that: **The fact our days are very different is a great opportunity for me to communicate unconditional love.**

Day Trading Opportunities

- » Trade cars. (Added bonus: Wash or have her car washed.)
- » Do an hour of housework.
- » If she normally cleans the bathroom, you do it instead.
- » If she has a Lean Cuisine® for lunch, you have a Lean Cuisine® for lunch.
- » If she runs errands during her workday, you run those errands for her.
- » If her day involves talking to a customer service representative, then you take care of it.
- » If she typically is responsible for dinner, then you be responsible for dinner.
- » If she puts the kids to bed, you put the kids to bed.
- » If she does things around the house before bed, then you do those things before bed.
- » If she wants pillow talk, you want pillow talk.



At the end of the day, make sure you let her know how much you appreciate all she does!

ROCK HER WORLD!!



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1 World - 5 Days - 1 Date

FOR MY WIFE



For the last 5 days, you have had the opportunity to make a world of difference in Your World of Difference.

You have had the chance to experiment with the fact that:

Differences are your greatest opportunity to communicate unconditional love.

God uses our differences to teach us and mold us into more of Him! These differences make life difficult at times, but try to change your view of this being a negative thing...to a God-designed thing!

It's incredible when we stop to think how God used our differences to communicate unconditional love to us. God tells us as husbands to love our wives like Jesus loves the church. Just like Jesus, we have to be willing to die for her, to bravely rescue her, to be her prince, her protector, her hero. If she is going to feel that her world is safe and protected, even though she is different than us, it will be because we choose to make it so!

This Great Date is very simple, yet hopefully very meaningful.

- » If you have kids, make sure you send them packing for the night.
- » Before you leave for your Great Date, complete the letter below which you will read to your wife on your Great Date or write your own.
- » Go to a restaurant you both love, or cook a meal you both love. Over dinner, laugh, talk, and ask questions about the last 5 days.
- » Share with your wife the things she says or does that makes you feel the most respected by her. Thank her for these things.
- » Ask your wife what one thing you can begin doing to make her feel the most loved and cherished by you.
- » Go to the nearest store and buy the candy or gum that best describes what you love most about her.
- » Close the night by reading your letter to her.

allinmarriage.com

We would love to hear your Great Date #4 story at facebook.com/AllInMarriage. Join the Great Date #4 Event then you can post comments and photos!



Dear _____,

If we had met for the first time in a comic strip, the thought bubble over my head would've said _____. From the very start, I knew you were different than me because _____.

As I got to know you, I became even more interested because I saw that you were _____. I first knew I loved you when _____. All these things made me ask you to spend the rest of your life with me. Now here we are, _____ years later, and I think we both know that we are very different in terms of _____.

But we are also very similar in terms of _____. Both our differences and similarities make us a unique couple. We have experienced things that no other couple will experience in the exact same way. Our daily ritual I love the most is _____. I'll never forget how funny it was when _____.

Over the years, I have loved doing _____ together. I still can't believe that we _____.

I felt especially close when _____.

_____ was a very difficult thing we shared together. I wish I were better at showing my love by _____.

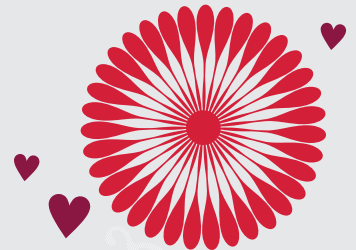
You deserve the best of me, because loving you has made me _____.

No matter our differences, I would never change _____.

All these things, good or bad, have made us the one and only—us.

Forever different, but forever together,

♥ _____



The Big 6 Great Date Experiment Presents Great Date 4

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FOR MY HUSBAND



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- » If there is any tension between the two of you, for the next 5 days, GIVE IT UP!
- » Make sure you laugh—every day!
- » Hide this download from your husband—that way you get all the credit.

HERE IS ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW TO... ROCK HIS WORLD

There is one common difference between men and women—their hearts. While your heart craves unconditional love and respect, his heart can skip the love stuff. He wants your unconditional respect. BUT the challenge for many women is that there seems to be a perception that love is unconditional and respect is earned. Maybe this is true, but it doesn't work in marriage. What does work? Go ahead and respect him, even in the areas you think he still needs to earn it. Watch what happens.

His differences are your greatest opportunity to communicate unconditional respect.



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DAY 1: PAY DAY

Money, a dirty word these days. Debt. Your purchases. Your husband's purchases. Retirement. Job insecurity. Vacation. No vacation. **It is not uncommon for a marriage to have one "spender" and one "saver."** Even if you are both savers, chances are you have different views on how money should be saved. Even if you are both spenders, you probably have different views on how to spend it.

Choose one of the following opportunities, or create your own idea, to show your husband that: **Our different views on finances are great opportunities for me to communicate unconditional respect.**

Spending Opportunities



- » Set the thermostat to your husband's desired temperature.
- » If he likes gifts, purchase one. If he likes surprises, put it in a place he will find it.
- » Upgrade his TV channel package. When he gets home, walk him to his favorite TV chair and tell him what you did!
- » Get him a subscription to his favorite magazine.
- » Have his car detailed.
- » Buy him a laser level. Every man wants a laser level.
- » Make a grocery run and buy some of his favorite things that you never buy!

Saving Opportunities

- » With your cell phone, take a picture of something he would love, and send it to him with the text, "This is what I would buy you if we were rich." (Do not be afraid to go to a Lexus dealership.)
- » Clean his car and leave him a note saying, "You still look hot behind the wheel."
- » Play a sport with him: throw the baseball, toss a football, ride a bike. He will love it.
- » Leave him a card or note among the bills, letting him know you appreciate how "He works hard for the money, so hard for it honey."

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DAY 2: FAMILY DAY

Bringing children into the mix adds a host of potential problems, from differing views on how to discipline the children, to arguing in front of the kids, to saving for college educations. You may also argue about whether or not to have children at all and/or fertility issues that may arise. Then add in your parents and his parents... *Alrighty then.* **OHHHH the differences! With few exceptions, our immediate families and our families of origin are not optional relationships. We have to make them work, or they will work over our relationship.**

*Choose one of the following opportunities, or create your own idea, to show your husband that: **Our differing views on family are great opportunities for me to communicate unconditional respect.***

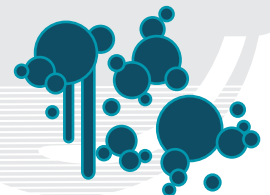
Raising Children Opportunities

- » With the help of your kids, make a top 10 List of what makes Dad a “Great Dad.”
- » If there is a difference in your parenting styles, try it his way. If he likes the kids’ rooms clean, if he wants them watching less TV, if he would rather you be less strict, give his way a whirl. Then tell him he was right, or at the very least that you have a better understanding of his “way.”

His Family Opportunities

- » Send your husband’s parents flowers, or just call them and say, “Thank you for raising such an incredible man!”
- » Invite his mom and dad, sister, or brother over for dinner.
- » Make a vow to yourself not to say anything negative about your husband’s family members. Make a point to say something positive about one of his family members, especially if that isn’t common, or there is typically tension with them.
- » If you live close to your husband’s parents, do something special like bringing them dinner.
- » Stop referring to your husband’s parents as in-laws. Try, “my husband’s parents,” or call them by their grandparent names, or maybe even “Mom” and “Dad” (ooh scary).
- » Ask for a picture of your husband when he was a little boy. Keep it in a place where you will see it often. This will serve to remind you that you are married to the grown-up version of that little boy, who always wanted to grow up and be a superhero.

Whatever opportunity you choose, let your man know what and why.



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DAY 3: HIS LUCKY DAY

Stereotypically, men and women view intimacy (Yes, *this includes sex*) in very different ways. Men are typically a little more interested and more quickly ready to go! Ladies are wired a little differently. Sex is more closely tied to how they feel relationally toward their husbands, and they often need more than 21 seconds to be completely ready for sex. **But in a recent survey taken by women, 27 percent of the women reported they wanted sex more often than their husbands. (For Men Only by Shaunti Feldhahn)*

Either way, these DIFFERING views regarding sex and intimacy can be a challenge.

Choose one of the following opportunities, or create your own idea to show your man that: **The fact that we view sex and intimacy differently are great opportunities for me to communicate unconditional respect.**

Sex and Intimacy Opportunities

- » If this is his lucky day, let him know by sending texts, emails, and phone calls.
- » Tell him why you still find him so handsome.
- » Leave a note on the fridge that says, "Want to go camping? See you in the bedroom at 9:00." Have a fort set up in your bedroom.
- » Put sexy Post-it notes all over the house, his briefcase, and his car. (*Remember: Don't scar the children.*)
- » Surprise him in a way only you can.

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DAY 4: DAY IN / DAY OUT

Chances are your husband's personality is, to some degree, different than yours. A very common personality difference is one spouse being an extrovert and one being an introvert. Even if you are both extroverts or both introverts, this can mean different things to different people.

Choose one of the following opportunities, or create your own idea to show your man that: **The fact that we have different personalities is a great opportunity for me to communicate unconditional respect.** Using your husband's differences as a guide, create the perfect environment to celebrate those differences.

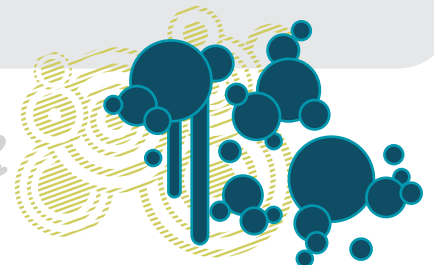
Introvert Opportunities

- » Tell him to go to Home Depot™ and walk around as long as he likes. If you are both spenders, tell him to buy a chain saw.
- » If he has a man cave, tell him to stay there as long as he wants.
- » If he doesn't have a man cave, and you have one of those rooms no one really uses, turn it into one. Sound complicated? It's not. All you need is a chair and a TV. A small fridge and a catheter would take it to a whole new level. Be forewarned; he may cry tears of joy.
- » Call and cancel a meeting, a party, or a social occasion he doesn't want to attend. Then put a note on his calendar that says he now can use that time to do whatever he wants... alone.

Extrovert Opportunities

- » Surprise him by inviting his friends over for a barbeque.
- » You might score points by leaving. This will allow him and his friends a chance to grunt, make noises, talk about nothing important, and laugh about things you wouldn't find funny anyway.
- » Create an email rodeo. Round up all the people you think he would love to hear from, and have them email him.
- » Send him on an errand that won't make him mad at you. Have a friend or two waiting there to take him on a "man night."

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DAY 5: DAY TRADER

It can be easy to fall in the trap of thinking that your day was at least to some degree more "____" than your husband's. For that very reason, it's time you became a Day Trader. **As much as possible, today is all about the two of you trading days.**

Choose one of the following opportunities, or create your own idea to show your husband that: **The fact that our days are very different is a great opportunity for me to communicate unconditional respect.**

Day Trader Opportunities

- » Trade cars. (Added bonus: Wash or have his car washed.)
- » Do an hour of yard work.
- » If he does a certain chore, you do that chore.
- » If he has a sandwich for lunch, you have a sandwich for lunch.
- » If he runs errands during his workday, you run those errands for him.
- » If he typically is responsible for dinner (Yeah, right!), then you cook dinner.
- » If he puts the kids to bed, you put the kids to bed.
- » If he wants sex, you want sex.

At the end of the day, make sure you let him know how much you appreciate all he does!

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FOR MY HUSBAND



For the last 5 days, you have had the opportunity to make a world of difference in Your World of Difference.

You have had the chance to experiment with the fact that:

Differences are your greatest opportunity to communicate unconditional respect.



This week was full of creative ways of doing just that. For that reason, this Great Date is very simple, yet hopefully, very meaningful.

- » If you have kids, make sure to find a babysitter.
- » Before you leave for your Great Date, complete the letter below, which you will read to your man on your Great Date. (or write your own).
- » Go to a restaurant you both love, or cook a meal you both love, together. Over dinner, laugh, talk, and ask questions about the last 5 days.
- » Share with your husband the things that he says or does that makes you feel the most loved and cherished by him. Thank him for these things!
- » Ask him what one thing you could begin doing to make him feel more respected by you.
- » Go to the nearest store to buy the candy or gum that most describes why you respect him and explain why.
- » Close the night by reading your letter to him.



We would love to hear your Great Date #4 story at facebook.com/AllInMarriage. Please join the Great Date #4 Event and then you will be able to post comments or photos!

allinmarriage.com

Our differences are designed by God to grow us to be more like Him. Though this can make life so difficult at times what if we change our view of these differences as a negative thing....to a God-designed thing! God knew commanding wives to respect our husbands would go against our nature..... but that IS what he CALLED wives to do! Come on girls, through HIM, you CAN do this!!!

Dear _____,

If we had met for the first time in a comic strip, the thought bubble over my head would've said _____. From the very start, I knew you were different than me because _____. As I got to know you, I became even more interested because I saw that you were _____. I first knew I loved you when _____. All these things made me want to spend the rest of my life with you. Now here we are, _____ years later, and I think we both know that we are very different in terms of _____. But we are also very similar in terms of _____. Both our differences and similarities make us a unique couple. We have experienced things that no other couple will experience in the exact same way. Our daily ritual I love the most is _____. I'll never forget how funny it was when _____. Over the years, I have loved doing _____ together. I still can't believe that we _____. I felt especially close when _____. _____ was a very difficult thing we shared together. I wish I were better at showing how much I respect you by _____. You deserve the best of me, because loving you has made me _____. No matter our differences, I would never change _____. All these things, good or bad, have made us the one and only—us.

Forever different, but forever together,

♥ _____

