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Long distance relationships/ Online Relationships require a special willingness and understanding that can test love like no other type of relationship can.

It requires constant communication and a desire to continually create your relationship, using the only real tool you have... your words.

In our guide, we've provided everything you need to do this and more from fun games to play to hundreds of romantic ideas to help keep your fire burning no matter how many miles may separate you.



## The Benefits of an Online Relationship!

Being in an online love relationship is a difficult, but very rewarding experience. Sometimes, as in many difficult experiences, negative thoughts can creep into your mind. If you find yourself wondering why you, or possibly even a friend, are in an online love relationship, take a moment and read through these saltyvixenstories.com user's thoughts and experiences for a few answers.

- "I believe that the best part of an online love is that the two people get to bond mentally and spiritually long before they ever make a physical bond. They get to know one another's heart and soul, and that is the most important part of any relationship." -Mary Sammons
- "Finally meeting them is the best... in person I mean." -Sandy
- "You both get to have your own space. You're not smothered, and you don't get tired of each other." -Charlene
- "We know a lot about each other just from talking, but there are still many things that we don't know and that adds a type of mystery to the relationship." -SAK
- "It lets me be who I want to be in the most open and honest way that I can." -allison
- "You can learn all about that person, and it's easier to share feelings with each other that you probably wouldn't if you met them somewhere." -rachel
- "Knowing that person more so than you would if you meet them somewhere else." -Anna
- "It's two things. The first is that because of the medium you (well we at least) are dependent on e-mails and certainly talk about a great many more things than we might have had we met at a bar or something. Secondly, that you can spend time with your beloved without having to dust or vacuum the place." -Spiffy

## The Benefits of an Online Relationship!

- "One of best things I have found out about in an online relationship is communication skills. You really learn how to express yourself fully with words. And when you do get to spend time together it makes it more special since you don't need to spend time finding out favorite colors, songs, movies etc." -Melissa Vladar
- "You get to 'know' the person without any pressures of sex or intimacy. So once you are together you will know what to do and it will seem as though you have been together forever. Online means no complications if you do not want them." -Adena
- "The best thing about being in an online relationship is knowing that you are loved for who you are, not what you look like." -S. Mazingo
- "The fact that even if you get into a disagreement, both of you don't end up fighting and hurting each other physically. Words are enough to end a disagreement." -Yewande Fasoranti
- "The best thing about being in an online relationship is the opportunity to know a person's heart, soul and character without the distraction of their physical persona. True beauty of spirit can make the most plain person into an intoxicatingly beautiful love." -Debra Williams
- "Learning about your lover much more deeply than if they were right next door. Having the chance to talk about what matters, their interests, instead of doing the things you'd do if he/she were right there." -Manny
- "The best thing about being in a LDR/online relationship is the communication and plans that both of you talk and make. You develop either great talking or listening skills." -Sandy

## **Fun Ways To Learn About Each Other:**

Part of the exciting experience of falling in love is the process of learning more about each other. This holds true for online love as well, and in some cases even more so. Sometimes, it can be difficult to start the opening up process, so we've created some fun ways for you to learn more about your partner!

A very fun and productive way each day is to text fun question you'd like to have answered.

Don't forget to have your love do the same. This way you can spend some real time thinking about the next question you'd like to ask! The idea is something that can be used well after the 'getting to know each other' stage!

Everyone has their favorite items, movies, books, color, etc. Play a fun game of guessing what each other's favorites are. Agree on a list of questions about favorite things. For example, What is your favorite movie? What is your favorite song? etc.

Then fill out what you think your partner's favorite is and swap results. You can use this idea over and over again with a new list of favorites questions. For couples who've been together for some time this can be a great way to see if you really know their favorites.:)

Your personal history is a large part of your current personality. Take your love on a 'web tour' of places in your city you currently like to visit or have gone to in the past.

Most cities now have city guides, so you should be able to find most major attractions and places you frequently visit there. For each place you visit, tell your love a story of something memorable that happened while you were there.

#### How to make it work:

It's nine o'clock at night. You've been waiting all day to talk to your love but since they've been at work all night you haven't been able to talk to them until now.

Unfortunately, they are also three times zones ahead of you and have an event planned early the next morning, so your time will be cut short. And, if that wasn't enough this has been the same situation for the last week

#### How do you make it work?

This scenario is more common than not in an on-line relationship. Then there is the added bonus in many of the relationships that the couple have not even met yet. This can cause many of the relationships to fail... but on the other side it makes the ones that stay together much stronger and more likely to maintain their relationship for a longer period of time than a "real" world relationship.

To help you have that type of on-line/ Long distance Relationships success I have compiled a list of guidelines and tips that I have found incredibly helpful to make it through:

- 1. Always make time for your love. As each situation varies, it is really important to make your love feel like they are number one in your universe.. even if that means being over 3,000 miles away.
- 2. Make them feel special. With a barrier of distance it is very easy to miss a moment when your love was not having a great day or make need some extra attention. To combat that always pay attention to their moods, their tone of voice and go the extra mile to make them feel special regardless of the present situation. Some great ways to do this is to send a flirty or silly texts/ photos.

#### How to make it work:

- 3. **Trust your partner.** For your relationship to work you need to trust your partner in what they do. Until you meet (or live together) you will each have your own separate lives to attend to in the "real" world. Let your partner do this without hesitation.
- 4. **Keep in constant communication.** Without communication you don't have a relationship. And, the more communication you have the more your love for each other will grow. Take some time out at least every other day to sit down and talk, undisturbed, for about an hour or so... just the both of you. It will do wonders for your relationship.
- 5. **Surprise your love often.** As you can not physically be there to let them know your thinking about them.. surprise them with the unexpected often. This will let your love know that you are really thinking about them and also invite them to be the same way back to you!
- 6. Watch that the relationship is a healthy one. If your love seems overly jealous, untrusting, controlling or something doesn't seem right. Talk to them about it and fine out what the underlying issue may be. If you still don't feel right about it... let the relationship go. It will work out better in the long run and save many upsets in the future!
- 7. **Plan out your meeting and/or future.** This is a great way to grow closer together and to plan how you are going to make your move into a "real" world relationship. Plus, it's loads of fun!

#### How to make it work:

8. **If something does go wrong, talk about it.** It will make you both feel better and usually will solve any problems you run into. If it doesn't and you feel the need to part ways at least you can do it one friendly terms and keep a great friendship.

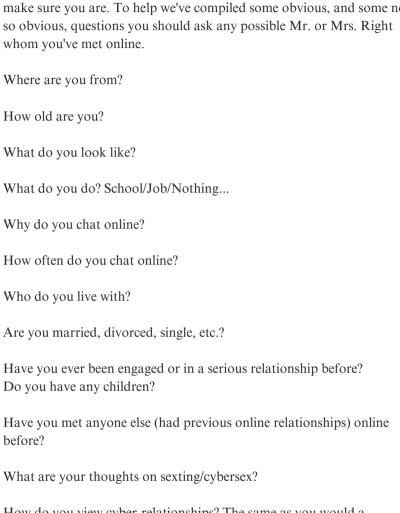
As each person is different, so is each relationship. Take the time to really know what your love wants and desires and exactly what they expect in your particular relationship. You never know what their definition of an on-line romance is.

You will run into people who think it is a game... but then there is the ultimate reward of finding your soulmate that makes every other relationship pale in comparison.

For this, keep your chins up and know it will work out as long as you keep true to yourself and your love!

## **Questions To Ask A Potential Partner**

So, you think you may have found a potential love match in the world of cyber space -- you may be right! But, it doesn't hurt to find out as much as possible about their personality, character and past experiences to make sure you are. To help we've compiled some obvious, and some not so obvious, questions you should ask any possible Mr. or Mrs. Right whom you've met online.



How do you view cyber-relationships? The same as you would a relationship with someone in your area or as a fantasy?

What do you feel it takes to have a successful relationship online?

What do you expect from a first meeting?

## **Signs To Look Out For**

If you are in, or are interested in being in, an online relationship, it is important to know what things to look out for so you don't get hurt -- physically or emotionally. You'll notice many people who can re-tale every horrible incident that happens in online relationships, rest assured you won't find that here. The advice you'll find below is meant for you to use as a way to help protect yourself from getting hurt. The tips are mostly common sense, but sometimes when it comes to love, it's good to have it written down for reference.

**Person is too secretive:** This can be as simple as the person is insecure with letting out information about themselves, to the person being married or living with someone else.

**Person is often flirting with other people online: j**ust as in real life you can find "players" online. Watch how your online interest interacts with others. You'll learn more about them, as well as be able to spot any unusual interests.

**Person wants too much information about you right away.** : Unless you are 100% completely comfortable about this person, don't give away any personal information. Even then, it is a good idea to keep important information to yourself.

**Person seems only interested in cyber or phone sex:** Unless this is something you are interested in, this relationship is probably not going very far.

Will only chat on social media or WhatsApp: You won't believe how many unwanted Dick Pics I got on Facebook over the years from married people. When I get them, I always forward to their wives what their husbands are doing. It isn't right to cheat!

## **Signs To Look Out For**

After enough time has developed, person is adamant about not meeting in person: The reason for this could range from the person hiding something about their physical self, their lifestyle, other romantic involvement's, or just protecting themselves.

Person wants you to move to local area or in with them after only one or two meetings.: Unless you grew up with that person and reconnected after a time apart, I strongly urge couples to really get to know each other in person. It worked out well for me, but if follow this advice you will find yourself more confident about your choices if you really take the time to know them in person before deciding to make the big traveling step.

Person keeps texts from other people hidden or a secret: Something to keep an eye out for. Any relationship that begins or is involved in secrecy has it's days numbered. - I once dated a person on WhatsApp, we grew up together and he would tell me to be 'discreet' about our conversations. That was a RED FLAG, at the time I did not know that as I was going through a divorce.

**Person asks for money or other help:** You may feel comfortable with this, but it's not a good idea, especially if your just met them. Don't open yourself to a potentially huge loss.

Person won't let your mail cards or other gifts to home address. This is also another sign of a possible romantic interest living with them. Take the extra precautions to make sure your online interest is not already involved with someone.

Every tip is dependent upon your instincts. What is good for one person may not be good for the next. Use your head, and your instincts. If something doesn't feel right, question it and resolve it quickly. You may discover it was a silly case of doubt, but you may also discover it wasn't!

## **Surviving The Wait**

Anyone in an online relationship will tell you the same thing; the worst thing to handle is the distance and the waiting. The thoughts going through your head are enough to drive anyone crazy. A person in an online relationship can be worrying about anything and everything from looking okay to adjusting to a new city or country. So, how do you handle the little nagging thoughts in your head or the loneliness you feel at night?

#### 1. A Picture Is Worth A Thousand Words

Surrounding yourself, and your partner's living space with pictures of each other is a great way to feel each other's presence. Don't just give each other the one or two token pictures. It isn't enough to give each other a good reality of who the other person is. Constantly take pictures of yourselves in different settings. Every time you meet, take pictures of you both together. You'll want to videotape yourself as well. It is a great way for your partner to see the live you whenever they want.

#### 2. Leave Doubt Out, Plan Your Itinerary Together

A great way to bide the time while you're waiting to see each other is to plan the itinerary for your next visit. Research together online the local city guides and relevant tourist attraction web sites. Not only will this help take away the question of what to do, it will help add even more excitement and anticipation towards your visit.

#### 3. Get In Touch With Their Life

Take the time to get in touch with whom your online love really is. Learning about their home and their history is a great way to accomplish this. Take turns revealing something about your past or somewhere you like to go. Use local city guides to find pictures of your favorite places to go and show them to your online love.

#### 4. Start A Countdown Ritual

Each time you are about to meet in person, start some type of countdown ritual. It could be something as simple as telling each other how many days are left each day.

### **Surviving The Wait**

Or, you could send a daily e-mail with how many days that are left. It is fun to look forward to something, and it helps assure you that it really is going to happen.

#### 5. Surround Them With You

Sight is a wonderful sense, but it isn't fulfilling enough on its own. Assault your online love's senses with other reminders of you. When you meet you won't feel as foreign to each other if you've already smelled their cologne or perfume. They'll know your likes and dislikes if you share your favorite music, movies and food. Your partner will know your mannerisms already if you've exchanged videos/photos or facetime chat. When people in real life are dating they have more than just a communication exchange to recall. Giving your partner a chance to recall other senses helps make you feel entirely more real to them.

Remember to make your time apart an opportunity to fulfill some personal goals and dreams that aren't always as easy to do once you're living with someone. Surround yourself with friends and family when you're feeling down. And, when all else fails, know that true love really is worth the wait.

## **Keeping Your Own Identity**

If you're in an online relationship, you may have noticed a trend of spending more and more time online, and less and less on yourself.

When this starts to happen, you need to take a step back and look at what you can do differently to appease both of your needs. It may be a good idea to discover ways to manage your activities. The following suggestions should help lead you to finding equality in the amount of time you spend online and on yourself.

Schedule social activities that don't involve the phone/computer. If you have an appointment to be elsewhere, chances are you won't be able to be online. Scour local city magazines and papers for social activities. Or, try one of the following suggestions:

- Join a club of interest.
- Make an appointment to see a friend.
- Plan a girls or guys night out.
- Plan to go to a local event.
- Catch up with a relative.

Allow only a certain amount of time to be devoted to online activity. I know how difficult this can be, especially if you are in an online relationship! But, it is a key to avoiding excess and future misunderstandings.

Have boundaries; texting and/or calling. If a person says they are going on vacation, and says they won't be on their phone, listen to them. Don't drunk text or text them at all hours of the night. HOWEVER, the person needs to communicate that they will be away from their phone.

Get active and exercise! If you're not already doing this, DO IT! Being on the computer makes you prone to computer related injuries involving your back, wrists and so forth. Make sure that on days you spend significant time online (over an hour) to at least take a 20 to 30 minute walk to stretch and move your muscles.

Do things for yourself. Make sure you're still living for you, and not your computer! Treat yourself to that small gift you've seen in the window, take a hot bath and relax or enjoy a great book!

### Online Relationships: Are You Sacrificing Too Much?

If you're in an online relationship, you may have found yourself pondering over similar questions to this article's title. When determining your answer, your first thought may have been; "If it is love, no. After all, true love is worth anything, right?" Not always.

The problem lies when you end up sacrificing your integrity for your relationship. In any matters of the heart, whether it's online or in person, if you find yourself doing actions you can't really do, it's harmful -- to yourself and your partner.

So why is this so important for online relationships? In an online relationship, the only way you can communicate with your partner is through time spent on the computer, on the phone or writing letters. Then figure the average person in an online relationship has various time zones to work with, school or work schedules, and their personal or family lives to handle. This can end up in one, or both, partners making a lot of sacrifices to spend time with each other.

How are these sacrifices harmful? They are harmful when one person feels they are making ALL the sacrifices, or when someone is letting other areas of their life slip because of the Internet relationship. If you feel these things are happening to you, your partner or a friend in an online relationship, try the following tips and ideas!

- If you call on the phone, alternate who calls who each time.
- If you find yourself limited by time zones, make sure each person is making equal sacrifices so you can talk. Or try and find a time that is good for you both.
- Don't outdo your partner with gifts, e-mails, etcetera. It's great to show your affection, but leaving them feeling unequal in the exchange isn't the way to do it.
- Set specific times for you to talk to your partner. If it's part of your schedule, you are less likely to let slip in other areas of your life.
- Don't do something you are not comfortable with. It's easy to let things slide when your partner is far away and time with them is scarce. But, if you need to do something else at a certain time -- don't let yourself give in.

### Online Relationships: Are You Sacrificing Too Much?

• Talk about an equal give and take relationship in the beginning. If you both know what each other's ground rules are, you'll be able to respect each other's privacy and individuality.

Assignment: Go out and do one thing each week that is just for you! It doesn't matter what it is, as long as it is something you do alone. Set a specific time and day each week for you to complete this.

### Words of wisdom for online lovers...

The unknown often multiplies a person's fears. When it comes to online love, unfortunately, there can be a lot of unknown factors involved. How do you protect yourself? If you do find the one online, how do you make it work? To help answer these questions and more we asked Saltyvixenstories.com users in online relationships to share their thoughts and concerns about online love. Below are a few of their responses.

#### **Meeting Someone Online**

"Be sure you know they are single." -Catherine

"Make sure that you know all that you can about them before you meet them. Also, if you DO meet them, then meet them in a public place. I did it and so far it has worked out for me and my love!!" -Anonymous "Be very careful and take things slow; ask a lot of questions." -Eve "Be yourself and don't lie about anything because they will find out sooner or later." -Sammy

"Well, my advice would be to take things at a pace that you feel right and that you're comfortable with! My boyfriend and I spent a lot of time on the phone before we met and chatting on the net too, it all helps to get an idea of who they are! Once we had met, we both made a point to have lots of contact and phone calls, and e-mails and visits as often as possible! The way I look at it now is that I have fallen in love with a man who I know probably better than anyone because we have spent so much time talking and being HONEST with each other!" -Bubble

"Don't count on it too much. You never know if there will be the chemistry in real life as it is online. So just take your time." -Bethany

"Don't expect perfection. This is a real person with some flaws and imperfections. When I met my love he was older than his photo, but when I looked in those beautiful brown eyes, I was lost. He was not perfect, but his heart was golden." -Phyllis

"Be truthful, honest, and patient with the person. Never try to 'sugar-coat' things--like your past and your looks. If your relationship is meant to be, they will love you for who you are, not what you are or what you look like.

### Words of wisdom for online lovers..

My boyfriend and I fell in love months before we even met in person. That just made it even more special. Falling in love online is possible. We are living proof. Remember, you have a lifetime to get to know each other. Enjoy it!" -Dawn

"I have dated several men from online and so far have met some really nice people. I suggest that you chat with them for several weeks. Everyone is always at their best when you first start to chat, but after awhile you can get a pretty good idea about the person. If you seem to click then I suggest you meet for coffee in a public place. I have been dating someone for three months that I met online, but I did not meet him until we had talked for a few months. Don't be in a hurry. If they are interested they will respect your caution." -Kathie

"Treat your relationship as if it was real and don't think of it as a fantasy. Remember you are dealing with another person's feelings. Be open and honest at all times. Don't be afraid to ask what your heart desires, this is the only way to determine if your lover wants the same things as you." -Ron

"Take it one step at a time. It is easy to get caught up in the emotions at first, but it can last and be a wonderful thing. Keep your head up and look at the positive, but be aware of any signs that could tell you that this person is not who they say they are. Be honest and ask that your partner be honest as well. Trust and communication are the key elements, without those you cannot have love, or at least true love." - Jason

"Be weary of personal ads that seem too good to be true. If he is dating you online, how many others is he also dating and when you meet, will they continue? I found out that the person I've been seeing for 6 months has other online personals, although he acts as if we are in a serious one-on-one relationship. Watch your back!" -Anonymous

"Take things one step at a time. So many people seem to get carried away too soon, and others even are convinced they will marry this person they haven't even met yet. Don't get your hopes up too high before you've met in person. It'd be awful to find out you didn't have the right chemistry in person.

### Words of wisdom for online lovers...

Online relationships can work out--next month I'm marrying a man I met online. We didn't plan our future until 4 months into our relationship when we'd met twice for a couple of weeks at a time." - Jennie

#### **Making The Relationship Work**

"I would tell them to be aware that people aren't who they appear to be, and to those who are in a long term online relationship, stick with it." - Me

"Be honest always, and be considerate of the other person's feelings. When you're not going to be there, leave a message, so that the other person doesn't wait all night for you." -Roada

"I am now married to my online love. The best advice that I can give to someone in this situation is to take it one day at a time. Don't let the stress of being apart day after day let you forget the most important thing your love for each other." -Mary

"Be prepared for a very difficult time of your life, yet very meaningful. It's a very hard choice to make, and takes the right kind of people to make it successful. Also, know that after the one of you moves, there will be the issue of homesickness for the person who moved away, and the idea of that person feeling like they gave their all to be with you. So, just because you make it to the finish line, doesn't mean the trying times end. It's a soul mate's journey, but it's a lot of work." -Shell

"Be honest, show your love the best you can. Say, 'I love you' with feeling in your heart, and every thing you say, you have to mean from the bottom of your heart." -Kevin

"If your love is true, never give up, love is something you never give up on, no matter the distance." -Robert

"My advice would be to not say or do anything online that they would, or might, feel uncomfortable doing in person. Treat the relationship as a reality. Big advice; do not underestimate the power of cyber love!! I used to until it happened to me." -Dana

### Words of wisdom for online lovers...

"Be there for each other when you say you will be--there is nothing worse than waiting and wondering." -Spiritgirl

"My advice would be to stick with it. Just like any other relationship, if you want to be with that person or spend your life with them, it will happen. I believe that online relationships are great. Some people say they aren't possible, but you have to believe in the relationship and want it bad enough to work. Anything is possible, and don't let anyone tell you differently." -Anniastayshia

"Try to be with each other as much as possible, and always send your partner a little kiss every now and then. Call them whenever you can to tell them you love them, and give them no reason to ever let you go." - Kasey

#### Final Thoughts...

"Ignore everything that everyone tells you, and follow your heart." - Cecily

## **Long Distance Intimacy Starters**

Below is a list of questions geared to enhance the intimacy in your online or long distance relationship.

One of the largest relationship problem areas in these types of relationships is the lack of intimacy and closeness that an "in person" relationship brings. This list should help bridge that gap. To enhance the romantic mood, make sure you have at least an hour to spend with each other.

#### **Questions:**

Describe your dream vacation?

What are five attributes do you admire most in your love?

Share three areas of your life you want to improve.

What three ways is your love most helpful and supportive to you? Tell your partner about a time when you felt them sending love to you non-verbally.

Describe your dream car.

Describe what your perfect birthday celebration would be.

Describe your dream house.

Share five things you want to accomplish or do in the next few years. What unique thing do you love about this relationship?

Describe what you consider to be romantic.

Share three things that make you proud of yourself.

Tell your partner what you love about them.

What three things can you do to make your relationship even better. Describe the perfect romantic weekend getaway.

## **Long Distance Intimacy Starters**

How is your life better since you've met your love?

Share the times you have trouble expressing your feelings.

What are you looking forward to most when you see them?

What one thing do you really appreciate that your partner does for you?

Share a dream you both have and talk about a way to make them come true.

How do your differences compliment each other?

Describe the perfect romantic evening from start to finish.

## **Long Distance Text Messages**

Imagine hearing the ding alerting you that you have a text... from him! "I can't stop thinking about you" is all it says. How great would that feel? Well, guys love romantic messages, too.

They want to know that you are thinking of them, that you can't wait to see them, and that they are the greatest thing on earth. Here is a huge list of sweet text message ideas your guy is sure to love.

- · You're hot
- · Let's kiss and make up
- Missing you...
- Can't wait to kiss you, baby
- · My heart aches for you
- I can't wait to be in your arms again
- I'm here and you're there. There doesn't know how lucky it is.
- · As long as I have you, I am always with you
- · I can't stand missing you this much
- I imagine kissing you to fall asleep at night and wake up feeling your arms around me
- 1000 miles away and you are still right here in my heart
- · You are far from my eyes, but close to my heart
- Being away from you is the hardest thing I've ever had to do
- I'd walk a thousand miles to touch you tonight
- · Our love keeps me warm when your arms aren't here to hold me
- When I get sad, I just close my eyes and imagine you next to me
- My dream come true would be waking up next to you
- I would wait forever to be with you
- I love your ways
- Be my teddy bear
- I'm all yours
- You are perfect to me
- · You take my breath away
- · You are the best
- Love me forever
- The best is yet to come
- I love you more every day

## **Long Distance Text Messages**

- · You are so beautiful
- · Can't get you out of my head
- I can't stop thinking about you
- You are my perfect match
- · I love you, my prince
- Even the heavens in all its majesty cannot compare to your wondrous smile
- Rains fall, winds blow, the sun shines... it all comes naturally, just like loving you
- · Your smile makes my heart beat faster
- I love you more than anything in the world
- · Your laughter fills my world with happiness
- · Your smile melts my heart
- You are my everything, my love
- Thank you for loving me
- · You are my world
- 8 letters, 3 words, 1 meaning. I LOVE YOU
- · My love for you will never die
- · Everything comes and goes, but my love for you will last forever
- I love you for being you
- Baby, you're the best thing that ever happened to me
- I hold you in my heart
- My love for your grows every day
- I am madly, deeply in love with you
- I'm so happy to be in love with you
- You are the beat in my heart, you are the fear in my soul, you are the tears I cry, you are my world
- Loving you is like breathing, so effortless and natural, but I'd die without it
- Loving you is all I want to do
- You brighten my days
- · I thank God for you
- · You hold my heart in your hands
- I would walk through fire for you
- Have I told you lately that I love you?
- I wish I had the words to tell you how I feel
- · You are the icing on my cake
- You are my best friend, my love

## **Long Distance Text Messages**

- · You are my sunshine
- I will tell you I love you with my last breath
- Till death do us part, I will always love you
- I'm all yours baby, heart, body and soul
- You are the man of my dreams
- With you, my life is complete
- Making you my husband/life is my greatest achievement
- When I put my arms around you, I know that I am home
- In case you didn't know, I'll be loving you always and forever
- Loving you is effortless
- You are one in a million
- Thank you for loving me
- I love the way you love me
- · You are always on my mind
- You are everything to me
- My happy place is with you
- The only thing that makes me sad is that I can't possible tell you how much I love you
- LOVE doesn't even begin to describe what I feel for you
- · You amaze me
- · You inspire me

## **Romantic Text Messages**

Showing your feelings has never been easier since the advent of the text message. Anytime or anywhere you can instantly shoot off a message across the globe to the one you love, letting them know they are on your mind.

Unfortunately, it isn't always easy coming up with witty romantic words of love. So, to help ease your burden, we've come up with a whole host of romantic messages that will set your love's heart atwitter with delight. If you have a great message that isn't included here, let us know and we'll include it in our list! Happy Texting!

- Let these words not only touch your eyes, let them travel through your soul, and let them rest in your heart as you rest in mine...I love you.
- You're still the one...
- Words alone will never be able to express the depth of my love for you.
- In case you didn't know, I'll be loving you always and forever!!
- Just when I thought it couldn't get better, you prove me wrong! I love you!
- Falling in love with you was the easiest thing I've done in my life.
- Hand in hand and heart to heart my love for you shall never part.
- Even though we are apart, my love you will never part.
- I'll love the sun for days, the moon for nights, and YOU for forever.
- Loving you makes my heart explode with happiness.

## **Romantic Text Messages**

- Rains fall, winds blow, the sun shines... it all comes naturally, just like loving you.
- Simply said... I love you...
- Being with you is like having every single one of my wishes come true.
- Loving you has been the best thing to ever happen to me!
- Just had to let you know... you're the best! I love you!
- There is no long distance about love; it always finds a way to bring hearts together, no matter how many miles are between them.
- You are the sun in my day, the wind in my sky, the waves in my ocean, and the beat in my heart.
- I wish I was there to hold you tight instead of just send this loving, "Good Night."
- Thank you for being the one who calms all my inner fears.
- Your love is all I'll ever need.

## 4 Ways to Keep Your LDR Spicy Hot!

Let's face it - being in a long distance relationship sometimes just sucks. There's really no other way to put it. The lack of physical intimacy can put a real strain on long distance couples. Things that other couples may take for granted like just holding hands can feel like a dream waiting to come true.

Due to this huge intimacy gap in an LDR, it's important to keep the sexiness alive and have both partners still feel wanted and desired. To help ease the pain, here are five ideas to help keep you feeling more sensually connected no matter how far away you may be from each other.

• Truth or Dare: Let things get a little steamy with a fun game of truth or dare. The best way to play this game is with a webcam, but with a little creativity you could use a digital camera, a phone and/or email. To get you started, here are some same truth or dares you may want to use.

#### · Truths:

What was your most embarrassing moment?

Who was the most influential person during your childhood?

If you could teach one "truism" to the world, what would it be?

What one memento would you rescue if your home caught fire?

What first impression do you hope others receive from you?

What social scenario do you fear most?

If you live to be 100, what things would you like to be able to say you've done or learned?

## 4 Ways to Keep Your LDR Spicy Hot!

Dares:

#### (Funny)

Make them sing a song off-key.

Have them recite the alphabet backwards.

Have them do a silly dance.

#### (Sexy)

Have them remove an item of clothing for you.

Make them do a sultry dance.

Have them tell you something sexy.

• Lingerie Show: Gather up your sexiest outfits and show off your sexy self with a fun lingerie show for your partner. This is easiest accomplished with a webcam, but you could also create a slideshow from pictures of you in lingerie as well. Go a step further with this idea and use their favorites to create a sexy calendar.

#### Sexy Text Messages

Keep them thinking of you all day (and night) with some steamy text messages. To get their heart pumpin' try one of these suggestions: I can describe you with one word... delicious!

I dream of you here with me with nothing on but our imaginations.

I can almost feel you here... caressing me... touching me...

In the deep of the night I dream of your touch.

I am dying to feel your touch all over my body.

Did you dream of me touching you last night?

When you can count all the stars in the sky; that's when I'll stop wanting you.

# 4 Ways to Keep Your LDR Spicy Hot!

• Sexy Phone Calls One of the best tools you have in your sensual arsenal is your voice. Make the best of it with a little sexy phone chatter. If you're not sure what to say, read an erotic poem or story or start by sharing some of your more sensual fantasies. For a full in-depth look on this topic read the next page

### **Sexy Phone Calls**

If you are in a long distance relationship or find yourself away from your lover for any amount of time, you have the opportunity to have a sensual encounter over the phone! Surprise your lover with a bit of sexy flirting and leave thoughts of you fresh in his mind, or go a little further and really excite him. In this article, I won't be telling you how to have phone sex like they do in the movies. In fact, I don't even know how to do that. Instead, I'll be inspiring you to use your own personality and sexuality to excite your man over the phone when you are apart.

Adding a bit of sensuality to your phone conversations allows your man freedom of imagination. You will be in the lead, but you must keep your focus on loving him in his language: sex.

#### The Softer Side - Phone Flirting

By far the easiest, sweetest way to consistently excite your man is flirting with him. When he calls you and asks you what you are doing, give him a little white lie. In a sexy voice, tell him you're doing the dishes naked. Tell him you are getting dressed for the day and you decided to wear that little black negligee he loves to see you in. Of course, he won't believe you, but he'll be left imagining the picture you painted for him with your words. Got a camera phone? Take a photo of his favorite part of your body and send it to him during his 10 o'clock meeting (just make sure it's not the meeting to discuss his promotion).

#### **Diving A Little Deeper**

Make some plans or suggest a future encounter. For example, tell him that the night he gets home, you are going to have the kids at their grandparents' so that the two of you can "catch up." Use your voice to make sure that he knows exactly what kind of "catching up" you plan on doing. Tell him that you bought a new piece of lingerie you can't wait for him to see it. Leave the rest to his imagination, or add a bit more detail to make sure he knows what he's missing.

#### Go For It

## **Top Ten Long Distance Birthday Ideas**

Celebrating their big day apart this year? Let them know you're still thinking about them with these great ideas for celebrating a birthday long distance style.

- 1. Spend your birthday together, even though you are apart by sending a birthday celebration package! In your package, make sure to include cake mix, candles, matches, streamers, balloons, and a romantic movie. Prepare your own party with the same movie and treats. (For those who aren't "baking" oriented, send your partner some special birthday cookies instead.) For an extra touch, have dinner delivered to your love at the same time you have yours delivered. At a prearranged time, call your love on the phone so that you can share your celebration together.
- 2. Hop in the car or on a plane and surprise them with the best gift of all you! You could surprise them at their office, call them from the airport, or if you have access to their home, be waiting inside with dinner and a romantic bath for two.

"For my birthday last year, when my boyfriend and I lived apart, I was expecting a phone call, but he surprised me by calling me from the airport! He'd flown in just to spend my birthday with me. That night, he blindfolded me and fed me fondue, having me guess what I was eating. He carried me to the bathroom where he had a candlelit bath for two waiting. After our bath, he gave me a body massage. It was the best surprise birthday celebration ever!"

- --submitted by Anonymous
- 3. Send them a package or letter with directions for a little adventure. Give them clues (like scavenger hunt clues specific directions or riddles) that will take them from their home to their birthday surprise! You could direct them to a local bakery to get the birthday cake you pre-ordered for them, to a restaurant for a special birthday meal, or to a store where their birthday gift is waiting. If you know the area where they live, you could make the walk to their surprise part of the birthday experience. There are endless options limited only by your creativity for this idea, think Elizabethtown -- a super original romantic comedy where Kirsten Dunst takes Orlando Bloom on an adventure across the country without being with him.

## **Top Ten Long Distance Birthday Ideas**

Call him to let him know you're thinking of him and the way he touches you. Tell him how much you wish you were rolling around in the sheets together. Tell him that you can't wait for the next opportunity to feel him on top of you. Reminisce about your last go 'round or about the last time he did that thing you love. Voice your desires to him in detailed descriptions. Don't direct his actions or ask him questions about what he is "doing." Just talk to him, asking for nothing in return, allowing him freedom to do whatever he wants. It may turn out that sometimes, he gets excited, but doesn't act on it. Other times, you may get a clue at some point that he has been. Either way, the goal is still achieved. He's got you on his mind. You are hot for each other and you're both anticipating for your next sensual encounter.

As for you, don't pressure yourself to take action either. Do whatever comes naturally. This is about your man, but if you take it further, I'm sure he won't mind. Let it be an experience that develops naturally. Don't force participation on him or on yourself. Neither of you should expect the other to perform or inform the other about what they did or didn't do. Reaffirm with him as needed. Try to enter into a phone sexapade with only one expectation: making your guy ache for the next chance he gets to touch you.

#### Commonly asked questions:

#### How do I get over being nervous?

Be realistic. What is the worst that could happen? You decide to go for it and have some serious phone sex, but you laugh in the middle of talking dirty and can't go on? Your man is still going to be dreaming of you, and he'll think you're great and adorable for making the attempt. Even better, he will be counting down the hours until he gets to come home to you.

#### When is a good time to have phone sex?

Sexy phone talk is not just for couples in long distance relationships. If you find yourself away from your love for a weekend, one night, or even just an afternoon, you can whisper words to your guy that will make him ache for your touch. Any time your lover and you are separated is an opportunity, but it is important to make sure he is alone and in an appropriate place to chat if you think your conversation might get lengthy.

## **Top Ten Long Distance Birthday Ideas**

If he's fishing with the kids or hanging with his buddies, you could both end up feeling pretty embarrassed over the bad timing. If you get interrupted, play it cool. Don't panic. Tell him in your sweetest sexy voice that you'll have to talk later because something came up. That way, he will still be left pining for you.

#### What do men want to hear?

The same thing you do. They want to hear that you desire them and that you want them to long for you as well. They want to know that they can please you and that you want to please them. However, just stating that doesn't do the trick. Be creative and detailed. When you are describing the sexual encounter you hope to have with him the next time you're together, tell him everything. Think back to the last time he ran his fingers up your thigh, pulled your hair, kissed your tummy, or whatever you enjoy him doing and paint the picture as best you can. Rehearsing your descriptions in your head could be helpful, but spontaneous creation of a fantasy is the way to go. Most men want you to be graphic without being vulgar. Just be their sexy, sweet fantasy girl.

#### Are all guys into this?

Make no mistake about it - they all are. There is some level of erotic banter that works for every woman and every man. You get to set the tone to your comfort level and trust me, he will be thrilled with whatever you choose. If you still have doubts about his enthusiasm, try giving him a little at a time. Start with the lighter tips and leave them at that. After your concerns are alleviated, consider leading him into a phone sexapade.

Remember that sexy phone conversations are just one of the many ways that you can show your man love his way.

## Virtual Blowjob Script

Your hot guy has just sent you over the moon, now it is his turn Time to give him a blowjob and I know you might be shy to give one in real life, so why not try it sexting-style? The key to a great sexting blowjob is simple! Just paint a vivid picture with your words. Text one part of the story at a time. You don't need a scene for this story. He's a guy, he will be ready for this sexting treat anytime!

BONUS TIP! I have voiced this script for you, to help you get an idea how to be seductive with your voice, listen above.

You can! Sexting naughty words to your man will give him an instant boner- just follow this script from start to finish and I promise he love this!

Here's how to sext a blow job-text this script exactly as it is written!

- 1. I want to give you a massage, I can't wait to run my hands over your body.. If I were there, I would make you lay on your belly and straddle you.
- 2. I have your favorite massage oil and I can't wait to rub your back. I lean over and my nipples just graze the smooth shiny skin between your shoulder blades. I feel them stiffen as they skim your back.
- 3. I feel you squirm under me, I know you want to turn over and kiss me, take me, but I won't let you. It is my time, my turn to choose the time.
- 4. My hands start to stroke your sides and my fingers slip under your hip bones. I feel you raise your hips as I stretch my fingers in so close to you but stopping just short.
- 5. Should I go on?

# Virtual Blowjob Script

- 6. I slide off to one side and tell you to turn over now.
- 7. I crawl up until I can finally kiss you. I am on top and I am touching your lips so gently with mine. You reach hungry for a deeper kiss and I lean away...teasing you. I move backwards kissing your chin...down your neck, my breast brushing your chest as I move down.
- 8. My tongue circles each nipple licking, nipping at the skin on your chest and one hand drifts between your legs. I take the balls in my hands and massage them gently as while I kiss and lick my way down your belly. Your fingers wrap themselves in my hair and you pull me close.
- 9. I stop and look up at you and whisper, "I can't wait to f\*\*k you with my mouth." (You might just get a whimper at this point.)
- 10. I keep kissing down your lower belly letting my cheek rest against your throbbing self and look up at you. What do you want, I whisper looking deeply into your eyes.
- 11. I wrap your cock in my hand and slowly slip my lips around and over it. My tongue moves slowly under the ridge and around the tip in a figure 8.
- 12. Next I trace my lips with your stiffness and then slowly take you into my warm wet mouth. I <u>love</u> how it feels to stretch my lips and take you in. All the way in and then pulling away slowly until I reach your head again. Your hands stroke my back and shoulders and I shiver in delight.
- 13. Laying down next to you I run the outside of my teeth up and down the underside of your cock. I moan in my throat at how good it feels to lick and kiss you as I fondle the balls and tickle the soft skin of your smooth thighs.

# Virtual Blowjob Script

- 14. I kiss and nip (carefully) down under the balls and kiss and suck my way toward the soft skin down under.
- 15. I slowly work my way back up, hand on the base of your cock and start to suck and massage you. As I suck and glide I feel you straining to cum wishing you could make it last but needing release. I hear you panting and calling my name. I smile and suck harder.
- 16. I speed up my hand sliding up and down at the same time I am sucking and swirling the tip. At last I feel your body convulse and the <u>orgasm</u> hits you. I know to be so still while I hold you in my mouth. I feel you soften and whisper my name.
- 17. I crawl up to rest in your arms. You kiss me tenderly and I feel your hands stroking my back and hips. We snuggle together and breathe in the warm summer air. Sleep will come soon.

It will take a little practice but you will find sexting is a real turn on when you relax and enjoy him. The good news is that you can't mess up here. Even if it is your first time, he will be over the moon being pleasured like that and appreciate your efforts for sure.

# LDR Book Club Date Night

Being in a long distance relationship doesn't always afford you much one-on-one time with your partner. For those times when you still want to be doing something together, but aren't able to talk or chat, consider starting your own book club for two. A personal book club is a great way to have something in common that you are both doing daily. You'll also get an opportunity to share and discover new insights into your partner's way of thinking, and uncover some new likes and dislikes.

### **Getting Started**

To get started, you'll need to pick out a book together. Then pick one night a month to share your thoughts and ideas about your book selection together. Spend the rest of the month reading your book club pick. You can share notes or play a fun little competitive game to see who's reading faster than the other.

### **Making It Romantic**

#### Book & A Movie

Get two date nights in one with a book based on a movie. When you're done with the book, plan another date night to watch the movie at the same time. On your book club date night, compare what you liked about the book versus the movie.

#### His & Hers Book Picks

Take turns choosing which book you'll both be reading. The first selection can be his, then the next one hers and so on. This will give you both a great opportunity to learn more about your partner's interests.

#### **Book & Dinner**

On your book club date night, arrange to have dinner sent to each other and make it a book and a dinner date. You can talk about your thoughts over web cam chat and it will feel almost as close to being in person.

### **Secret Messages**

Make reading the books even more interesting by creating clues to find words in the book that, when put together, will make a secret message you want them to read.

# **Long Distance Love Games**

This was sent to Saltyvixenstories.com by a user:

My heart lives in New York but my body is stuck in the Deserts of Nevada, so to keep our relationship full of fun and laughter, my love & I play corny little games with fun prizes.

First we send each other snail mail with colored envelopes inside. Each envelope has a 4x7 card inside that represents a prize. After winning a game your love should choose one of the envelopes to find out what they've won.

Game 1: Over the phone. As fast as possible we each pick a number and try to add them together. Without writing the numbers down, it can be pretty tough. (We are very competitive) We go ten rounds and the person who gets the most correct answers wins.

**Game2:** We send each other crossword puzzles of things we've done together or places we've gone. The first to complete the puzzle sends an email with the answers and wins the prize.

**Game3:** Right down ten questions to ask your love, make the questions multiple choice. Over the phone ask your heart the questions, the person with the most correct answers wins. This game is extremely fun especially when you add questions like, "who is the smartest, funniest, cutest person you know?"

These games show the effort your willing to put forward to keep your relationship fun. Along with great prizes like, gift certificates from Giftcertificates.com, A date for the next time you promise to visit, risqué photos, love coupons or whatever your hearts desire, you'll both be wrapped up in winning and collecting your love prizes.

# **Long Distance Love Games**

4. Plan a countdown! Send them small gifts leading up to their birthday. They can be notes, sentimental tokens, small gifts, or pieces to a larger gift.

"Last year for my boyfriend for Valentine's Day, I decided to do something different. I bought one of those little kid puzzles from the toy store, the ones that have like 15 pieces. I spray painted the entire puzzle white. After the paint was dry, I wrote a date on the front of each piece. On the back, I wrote what happened on that date. I did a puzzle piece for the first time that we met, our first kiss, the first time he met my parents, etc. We had a long distance relationship, and so I started mailing him the pieces. When I went out to visit him for Valentine's Day, I brought him the final piece. All of the pieces were finally together, and I'd brought a frame with me so we could keep the puzzle forever. I told him that we fit together like the pieces of a puzzle. He thought that it was the sweetest Valentine's present that he had ever gotten."

--submitted by Beth

5. Send your love a framed picture of you, or of something to remind them of you. It can be sweet, silly, or even sexy!

"I went to the Dominican Republic for a while without my boyfriend. It was hard on us being apart, so one day while lying on the beach I decided to write, I (Heart) and my boy's initials in the sand. I used seaweed and other grasses from the water to trace the message. I took a picture when I was finished. I bought a 5 x 7 light colored wooden frame and hot glued on some shells I had gathered. I then put the picture centered on a piece of aqua paper and in blue ink typed out the quote, "I wrote your name in the sand, but the waves washed it away...", glued it above the picture and then put the remainder of the quote, "...so I wrote your name in my heart, and that's where it will stay" underneath the picture. After I got back, I gave it to my boyfriend when he was having a bad day and it cheered him right up!"

--submitted by Lindsay

# **Long Distance Love Games**

- 6. Send them out for a night out with the guys/girls. Make reservations at a restaurant, send tickets to a show, or even for a day at the spa. Make it extra special by doing things like calling the restaurant to have a bottle of champagne sent to their table or have a personalized cake, card, or gift delivered to them. Those extra little touches will make it feel like you're there with them.
- 7. Send them a homemade gift like a message in a bottle, a scrapbook, a love journal, a love letter, or a box of love.
- "I thought of a great way of telling my boyfriend how much I loved him. This idea is particularly good if you know programming. I created a simple program that will pop up a love message each time the computer is started. The messages that popped up included reasons I love him, what makes him so special, etc. I emailed it to him and told him how to install it without telling him what it was. The next time he started his computer he was so surprised! He loved it so much!"

  --submitted by Leena
- 8. Send or a video of you via text. It could be a day in your life, a very special birthday message, or a video of memories.
- 9. Surprise your love with tickets to come to you or meet you somewhere for the birthday celebration! Think extravagant, think unforgettable. You could plan the rendezvous out completely or meet somewhere and discover a new place together.
- 10. Send them the classic long distance gift a singing telegram.

# **Preserving Your Memories**

An element of online relationships that can be missing in real life relationships is the ability to record almost all aspects of the relationship. If stored and saved, you have the makings of a wonderful keepsake to look on and cherish for years to come. Below are a few ideas for preserving the memories of your online relationship.

### Love Journal

A love journal is the perfect solution for recording or keeping love poems, letters and written correspondence. Some online couples each start a journal to record their thoughts about each other. Then, after a month or so, they swap journals through the mail.

### **Photo Collages**

When you're far away from your love, you can never get enough of their image. With this in mind, take a group of your favorite photos and make a photo collage out of it. For a big impression, take the collage your local photocopying center and have them enlarge it to poster size.

#### **Memories Poster**

Following the same idea as the photo collage, gather a few favorite pictures, love letters, poems, etc. On a large piece of poster (tag) board arrange the items artfully. When finished roll it up and send it to your partner in tube shaped box. You may also want to have the poster laminated for safekeeping.

### **Book of Love**

Gather every piece of correspondence you and partner have maintained. Search through old instant message histories you may have. Dig through old e-mails. Find old love letters. Print everything out, and arrange in a chronological order. Then arrange the data to make your book of love. You could use the printed sheets as the actual pages of the book, or you can adhere them to a photo album or scrapbook.

# Gifts That Fit In An Envelope

While we all would love to send large gift packages or presents to our online or long distance loves, sometimes it just isn't practical. That doesn't mean, however, that your gift can't be romantic or thoughtful! Below are 15 gifts to send your partner that are perfect for mailing in an envelope.

- A gift card to their favorite store.
- · A phone card to talk to you with.
- A list of 101 reasons why you love your partner.
- Why send just one letter? Send a card every day for a week.
- · Send an original love poem.
- Write your love story. Print it out on paper with a graphical background such as clouds.
- Have a friend take pictures of you in silly or romantic poses. Glue captions to your favorites and send your love the finished product!
- Press a dozen roses onto index cards. With each rose include a reason why you love your partner or a love quote.
- Give your partner a list of reasons why you are glad they were born.
- Send copies of articles that would interest your partner.
- Send them a copy of their astrological chart.
- Give them love coupons.
- Every week send them one essay on something about you.
- Send them a "ransom-style" love letter.

# Gifts That Fit In An Envelope

When you send your gift, take extra care in decorating it so your partner will have something to look forward to when they see it. Spray your perfume or cologne on the envelope.

Decorate it with stickers or cute drawings. Use your imagination!

Yes, the "Old School" way of flirting is still good to do! Think what your grandma did when they wrote letters to her future husband? She would spray perfume on the envelope. Just a few sprays, not the whole bottle.

## 38 Little Gifts To Mail Your Partner

Want to cheer up your partner's day or give them a little token of your affection? Giving your long distance partner a sweet little nothing has never been so easy, or thrifty. For the perfect romantic pick me up, send one of these gift ideas.

### Small Gifts to Tuck Into An Envelope

When you want to mail something quickly and avoid the post office consider one of these small tokens of affection that will fit perfectly into an envelope.

Gift card to their favorite store

Love poem Pictures of you

Greeting card

Movie, theater, sports, or concert

tickets

Necklace

Love quotes

Page from an erotic novel

Pressed flower

Magazine article you know they'd

like

100 reasons why you love them

Recipe for you both to cook on the

same night

Key (Tell them it's the key to your

heart)

Puzzle piece (because they complete

you)

Crossword or sudoku puzzle

Romantic bookmark

## 38 Little Gifts To Mail Your Partner

### **Small Packages**

Small frequent gifts show that you're constantly thinking about your partner, and they don't leave you with a huge post office receipt. Some of these gifts can also be sent in slightly larger padded envelope, saving you even more in postage fees.

Small batch of cookies or brownies

Candy Hugs & Kisses

Small candle

Small trial or sample perfumes/cologne

Paperback book

Framed picture of you Heart paperweight

Small figurine

Magazine Stuffed toy Silk rose

Framed poem

Book of love quotes

Journal of your thoughts

Blank journal

Disposable camera to use and send

back to you

Playing cards with a reason you love

them written on each

Personalized pillowcase (use a

permanent marker)

DVD (yes, still valid today!)

CD of your favorite songs (you can

buy CDs today...)
Sexy undergarments

Puzzle

Tape with a message you recorded

for them.

Video of a typical day in your life.

# **Handling The Absence**

One of the most difficult parts of a long distance or online relationship is handling the fact that you are not physically there with your partner. This lack of physical presence can make the whole relationship seem like an illusion.

I am sure that almost every person in an LDR has wondered at some point about whether the relationship was actually real or just wishful thinking. With this in mind, it is very important to create a presence for yourself in your partner's life to provide a stable reality that you are a couple and that you are a part of one another. Listed below are some ideas and resources to help you achieve this.

#### Communication

### Don't fall out of touch, even for a short time:

- Return all texts at the earliest opportunity
- If you are going out of town or are otherwise going to be unable to respond, let your partner know as soon as possible so they don't think something is wrong or start to have doubts.
- · Keep all online dates.

## Talk regularly- text/phone/facetime video chat:

 Your voice adds that touch of reality to the relationship and makes you more than just text on a screen

## Video Chat if possible or at least send pictures regularly

- Can you imagine how differently you would feel if you could actually see your partner when you talk to them? You can bet that they would feel the same. Rather than having to imagine how you looked when you laughed or smiled, they could actually see it.
- It nullify's any of those doubts you have about whether they will like the way you look.

### Get to know as much as you can about each other

 Tell your partner about your day to day life, your friends, your relatives, your job etc. Make them feel like they are an integral part of your life. At the same time, find out as much as you can about them too

# **Handling The Absence**

- Be there when needed
  - One of the worst mistakes you can make in any relationship is to not be there for your partner when they need you. This is especially true of a long distance relationship as there are already inherent doubts and this will just reinforce those doubts.
  - Seek your partner's advice, listen to what they say and make them feel special and important to you.

#### Love

Love is the backbone of any relationship. As long as the other partner feels that you completely and unconditionally love them, those doubts will not have a chance to creep in. It is up to you to make sure they know exactly how you feel about them. Some ideas include:

- Reinforce your affection with poems, stories and love letters
- Send them care packages, postcards and gifts
- Create a personalized love craft and send it to them

### Presence

Make sure you have a presence in your partner's life. Continually reinforce the fact that you are there, that this relationship is real and there is no way that you are going to let a little thing like distance get in your way.

If you do the things listed above, you will create a good presence in your relationship.

Good luck!

# 7 Days of LDR Romance

The act of loving your long distance partner isn't the challenge in a long distance relationship. It's the showing of that affection that can present problems. Not only do you have to deal with typical relationship issues such as busy schedules, money issues and any disagreements, but you have to do it without any physical contact. This can make "being romantic" a bit difficult, as sharing a kiss or a soft touch just isn't possible.

To help overcome this problem, here's a list of seven days of romantic gestures you can do for your long distance love. Every idea is affordable, but some may take a little more time than others. Adapt the ideas and make them your own if necessary. When your seven days are up, your partner will have no doubt of how you feel, and you'll be creating a memory your partner will talk about for quite some time afterward.

### Day One: Love You Pillow

Personalized pillows are one of my favorite long distance gift ideas. They can be romantic, funny or even sensual, allowing you some great personal creativity. In fact, you can even use iron-ons to give your partner a nightly reminder of you as Jennifer, an saltyvixenstories.com reader suggests. "For a long distance gift, I made him a pillow and ironed-on a picture of us together sleeping on one side. On the other side I wrote with a fabric marker "I love you" in 30 different languages. Now, every time he goes to bed, he can see and think of me!"

## Day Two: A Day in the Life

When you're apart, the one thing you want to know more is how they're spending their days. You want a glimpse of the everyday things your partner goes through to keep the connection feeling real. One saltyvixenstories.com reader offers an excellent way to achieve this. "I wanted to show him a day in my life, so I took pictures throughout my day. Then I put them together and added notes about everything that's going on. It's a way of making it feel like you're much closer than you actually are, which is a nice sentiment."

## Day Three: Message In A Bottle

Who can resist the allure of a secret message meant just for you? John, another saltyvixenstories.com reader, gives us an excellent and very inexpensive way to present this idea. "My girlfriend and I currently live apart from each other.

# 7 Days of LDR Romance

I wanted to send her a special note in the mail, so I came up with this idea. I got a clear plastic soda bottle, and took all the wrapping off it. I typed up a note to her and printed it on some paper that looked like a scroll. I rolled it up nice and tight and tied it in a bow. I put the note in the bottle, and screwed the top on. I taped her address to the outside of the bottle, and it only cost me .55 cents in the US mail! She absolutely loved it! Trust me, it will be one of the best inexpensive surprises ever!"

### Day Four: A Story of Us

Keeping the connection real is an important ingredient to a successful long distance romance. Therefore, having reminders of time you've spent together are very important. Rami, a saltyvixenstories.com reader gives us a fun and entertaining way to present this idea. "I did this for my guy, and it was truly enlightening! It always helps if you have some theme, for example, a snow day together. You make a collage of pictures, notes, emails, etc. Then write a story about them. It really shows how much the time spent together meant, and it's creative!" For those who are computer savvy, consider giving this as slideshow presentation.

### Day Five: Getting to Know You

Like Lynsita, a fellow saltyvixenstories.com reader, many long distance couples are looking for new ways to establish a deeper emotional bond with they're partners. Here she offers some great advice, "When you can't physically be together, getting to know each other more deeply on an emotional and intellectual level can be a very good use of time apart in a long-distance relationship. My boyfriend and I started an online journal. Each one of us posts a journal topic and we both respond to it. We've journaled about everything from our likes and dislikes to our hopes for the future together, religion, personal goals and our views on future family values." These journals also offer a great way to record your relationship. In a few years you can look back and see how you've grown and changed as a couple.

## Day Six: Audio Love Letter

There's not much that can compare to the sweet sound of your partner's voice when you're apart. Write down a few short, loving, and encouraging messages for your partner. Now, either record them onto a voice recorder or call your partner and leave a series of voicemail messages they can play back whenever they need their "fix" of you.

# 7 Days of LDR Romance

### Day Seven: A Daily Reminder

Sudden pains of longing for your partner can happen just about anywhere. To remind your partner that you're there for them, even when you're not, consider giving them something small they can take with them anywhere like this saltyvixenstories.com reader's long distance love did for her. "For Valentine's Day, the guy I just started dating, sent me a card and half of a two dollar bill with the note: 'I gave you a half of a \$2 bill. I will have the other half in my wallet with me at all times. When we are together my half and your half will be a whole, and those ones make a two like you and me, 1+1=2.' It is in my wallet and every so often when I miss him I pull it out and hold it."

# The Red Flags Of An Online Relationship

In a medium where faith in a potential partner is being put at an all-time high, it is important to know if you're stepping blindly. If you're considering an online relationship, or are currently in one, there are a few things you should be prepared to look out for. While each situation is unique, and it is important to go by your instinct, the following list should help you spot any red flags you might encounter.

RED FLAG #1: Won't show you current or full body photos. While looks may not be important to you, your partner's ability to tell the truth should be. A lot of DatingApps, have older photos. One guy posted a photo that was from the late 1980s and said it was his current photo LOL. Full body photos, you can show them on the apps or do what I do, get to know them, text and then send photos. Also if a man, you just virtually met freely gives out his dick pic without asking, that is a HUGE Red Flag. Run.

**RED FLAG #2:** They do not have any solid contact numbers. You've progressed to telephone contact, but the problem is you can't ever contact them! If any of the following situations sound familiar, be prepared to further investigate the possibility of a spouse, live-in, or other situation you may not be aware of.

- You have to text them and they do not respond and yet they are on their social media pages posting.
- They use an app to chat. We live in a world of texting, you. don't need an App to chat.
- You can only call during certain periods of time. Again, if this
  applies to you, try calling at different time periods to see who
  answers the phone.
- They will only call, therefore not allowing you to call them.

**RED FLAG #3: Reality VS. Fantasy.** There are many different viewpoints towards a relationship founded through the Internet. To save future hurt and embarrassment, make sure you know your potential partner's philosophies.

Do they view an Internet relationship as a real relationship, or is it a way to live out a fantasy life? If it's the later, be careful to avoid being their latest cyber fling.

# The Red Flags Of An Online Relationship

### RED FLAG #4: Asks for money.

Avoid getting into financial trouble by following a simple rule; don't send money.

**RED FLAG #5: You're the only one making an effort or altering your lifestyle to have this relationship.** This is a telltale sign of things to come if you develop an off-line romance. No relationship should be solely one person giving and the other taking. If you find this happening to you, talk about it to your partner and ask them to meet you half way in your efforts

**RED FLAG #6: Your potential partner is overly insecure about your off- line or online activities.** Just as in any relationship, a person who is overly insecure about something can end up being an emotionally draining experience.

Take a step back, and really look at whether this is something you're willing to put up with if the relationship happened to last two to three years. If not, move on and find someone more independent.

Remember, any relationship will have its red flags. If you're really ready for a relationship, you'll be able to spot them, handle them and get on with your life with little or no loss.

# **Jealousy And Your Online Love**

Online relationships are the ultimate test in faith and trust in a person. For this reason alone, jealousy is often something online couples have to deal with at one point or another.

More than often you'll find the jealousy is the source of an insecurity you, or your partner may need to deal with. If the green-eyed monster has bitten you, try a few of the suggestions below to gain a new perspective on your situation.

### Get busy!

If you've got time to be jealous, you've got too much time on your hands! Find a new interest, develop a new hobby or finish some uncompleted projects. When your mind is idle it needs things to keep it entertained. Don't let stories or gossip about your partner be your source of entertainment.

### Are your fears warranted?

Is your online love actually doing things that should make you jealous? Make a list of the suspicious behavior. How real are the things listed, and how many do you feel could be imagined? If you're feeling jealous of their online activities, make sure it's not just because you feel left out. Increase your self-worth.

Jealousy is often present when we feel bad or self-conscious about ourselves. Do something to make you feel better about who you are. Get a new hairstyle, buy new clothes, or learn a new skill. Don't let your insecurities get in the way of a good relationship.

## Make enough time for real conversations.

If you don't know what's going on in your partner's life, or vice versa it is easy to let your mind wander. Make sure you talk to each other about your dreams, what's going on in your life and things you want to do as a couple. The more you feel you know your partner, the less likely you will be to feel jealous.

# **Online Dating Ideas:**

How many times have you wondered how to keep the romance alive and maintain the closeness of a real life relationship with your online or long distance love? Well, we've turned the classic "romantic" favorites into online versions to help you find the answers! Below are five of our favorite romantic gestures, turned online.

Remember just like in real life, the more effort and time you put into planning your romantic date the better the results are for each of you!

Online Dating Version: Rent the same movie and chat together while watching it. It can be very close to being together in real life. :) If you can handle the phone bill another alternative is to be on the phone together while watching it.

Real Life: A romantic dinner.

Online Dating Version: Much like the surprise evening at home idea minus the special chat room. Set a specific meal to make or enjoy at the same time. Either join each other in a chat or on the phone. For an added effect with your meal, go to a recipe web site and pick out a meal plan you'd like you both to prepare.

Keep in mind each other's cooking skills. Then, as part of your "date" start making the meal together at the same time while keeping in touch through chatting or on the phone. It can be quite fun for you never know what might happen, including a few cooking mistakes. :) If you don't want to bother with cooking, order the dinner through a meal delivery service.

**Real Life:** A romantic bath for two.

Online Dating Version: This idea can really only be done while you're talking on the phone together. :) Set a day and a time to share a wonderful bath together. Choose which bubble bath you want to use, the music you'd like to play, scent of your candles and anything else you'd like to add. This can be a fun gift idea as well. Create a romantic bath gift basket that will include everything you want your partner to use. Include a love note and an invitation to romance to complete the gift!

# **Online Dating Ideas:**

Online Dating Version: In a recent poll taken on saltyvixenstories.com, we asked members when they felt the closest to their partners.

Surprisingly many people said when in bed at night and talking to their partners. Recreate a online dating version of this either by treating yourselves to long distance phone call or set a date and time to talk with each other just before you both (or at least one of you) will fall asleep.

Making talking with your love be the very last thing you do before going to bed at night, can end up being one of the most romantic moments in your relationship.

# 10 Things To Do Online:

- Share your "when we see each other" fantasies.
- Create virtual treats for each other.
- · Text.
- If moving in together is in your future, look for items to furnish your new place.
- Play online games.
- Send loving messages or cards to each other.
- Share online kisses!
- Talk about how your day went or about how you feel about each other.
- Facetime romance chat
- Create an intimate setting at your place, and have your partner do the same and talk to each other on the phone or computer or text!

# **Dealing With An Online Breakup**

Alas, not every online love relationship will make it through as a success story. An online breakup can seem even more empty and alone than breaking off a traditional relationship.

Thoughts of self-doubt, wasted time and more can overflow your mind. If you find yourself trying to handle an online breakup use the following tips to help heal and move on.

- Become more active outside of the computer/laptop/tablet/phone.
   Chances are while you were together you spent entirely too much time inside. Get outdoors and visit some old friends.
- Develop a new Internet hobby or interest such as playing games, learning how to make web pages, or researching your family tree.
- Start chatting with old friends you haven't talked to in a while.
- Remove all reminders of your Internet love including pictures, letters and other memorabilia. You don't need to throw it away; just remove it so you can't see them for a while.
- Start a daily journal to release all of your feelings. Chances are you
  may not be comfortable talking with other people about your online
  relationship. This is an excellent way to make sure things don't get
  bottled up and cause issues in future relationships.
- Start a podcast, I have one: Salty Vixen's Coffee Talk: <a href="https://www.iheart.com/podcast/269-salty-vixens-coffee-talk-251858677/">https://www.iheart.com/podcast/269-salty-vixens-coffee-talk-251858677/</a>

## Taking The Big Step: Turning Online Love Into Real Life

Are you in the process of moving in with your online love? The transition from Internet-lovers to real-life lovers can be very stressful.

Online lovers don't usually have much opportunity to be with each other in normal real-life situations. I think many couples fail to realize that you are not just moving into another person's home, you are moving into their life.

Yes, you have shared intimate details with each other over the web, phone and in real life before, but this is different. You are setting up a new life, with new friends, new family and, in a lot of cases, a completely different culture.

- Know as much about the place you are moving to as possible. What are the people like? What is the culture like? Is there anything special you need to know? The web is an excellent tool for this.
- Be aware that this is a big change for both of you and living together
  make take a little getting used to after the initial euphoria has worn
  off. Be prepared that it is probably not going to be as easy as you
  imagined and your relationship is something you will have to work
  at, just like anybody else.
- If you are the person moving to be with the other, set up your own interests and activities in the new city. If you like sports, go find a local sports team and sign up for it or join a local club that you have an interest in. It is very important that you go out and meet new friends of your own and build a life for yourself there.
- Give each other enough space. If you are the one moving in with your partner, realize that they are giving up their home to you and allow them time to adjust to the situation. On the other hand, if you are the one giving up your home to your partner, realize how much they have given up to be with you and try to make their transition as easy as possible.

## Taking The Big Step: Turning Online Love Into Real Life

- Acknowledge the fact that you are now living together and are committed to building a life together. Within the first few days, go out an celebrate or throw a "getting together party." Whatever you do, make it a big affair. It does not have to be a huge party but it does have to be something that has huge sentimental importance to you both.
- Lastly, be extra romantic. Surprise each other with breakfast in bed.
  Leave notes for each other. Go out of your way to make the other
  person feel special and know how happy you are to have them in
  your life.

## **Tips For Meeting Your Online Love**

When it comes to common sense, online relationships are no different from a "real" world relationship. It's important that you use it!! If you pay attention to your instincts and the signs around you, chances are you're not going to run into many problems. Through the course of my own Online relationships I have found there a few basic tips to keep in mind before and during meeting your online love.

- 1.Make sure to talk to as many people as possible (as often as possible) who actually know your online love in the real world. This may sound a bit different, but it establishes what type of person they are and also what type of friends that have. Just like in a "real" world relationship you can tell a lot about a person by their choice in friends. Doing this also lets you know it is not some psycho hiding out somewhere. :)
- 2. While each situation varies, know your online love for at least 3 months before meeting. Doing this gives you both a chance to really get to know each other and make sure this is something you want to do. Typically, as a rule, you will find you will really "know" a person by 3 to 6 months. This is great tip to follow to really protect yourself... especially from your emotions! :)
- 3. Try to meet in a neutral place or city. Meeting in neutral territory can have many advantages, one you can share the cost of everything (especially if you meet half-way). Two, it gives you both a chance to really get to know each other in real-life without any usual life happenings that might occur. And three, you get a special romantic getaway for two in a city you might not have visited before!
- 4. For your first meeting try to have a friend accompany you. This can give you a great peace of mind as well as having a neutral party there to help brake the ice. Trust me on this one... it is a good thing to have!
- 5. Make it fun! Most cities (especially major cities) have extensive online guides. Visit a few of them together on the web and plan out an itinerary of everything you both want to do. This will help with the torture of waiting until you get to see each other and also help your love in deciding the never-ending question of... what should we do!

If you are going to meet your on-line love also keep these tips in mind.

## **Tips For Meeting Your Online Love**

- 6. Stay in a hotel and/or have a way out in case things don't turn out the way you had hoped. This allows for a neutral setting for your stay to take place. If you feel comfortable with your situation once you arrive then go ahead and stay with your love, if that is an option... or relish in the luxuries of a visit in your hotel!
- 7. Try to get a feel for the city you'll be staying in and know emergency numbers and locations for that particular city. You never know... even after all your efforts you may still run into a situation you had hoped you were prepared for... it's always best to be!

And, in conclusion, which is probably the best tip I could give you, follow your instincts. Don't let yourself get involved in something you may not feel comfortable with or have a feeling will not be safe. If you follow these tips (and your instincts!) you should have a wonderful time. I wish you the greatest of luck and... fun!!:)

## **Distant Love by Salty Vixen**

In the middle of the night,
I go out and stand in the moonlight.
I wonder what you're doing now.
I close my eyes and ask how?
How could I fall in love with someone I've never met?
How do I know they're attractive,
When I haven't seen them yet?
How do I know they're sweet and fun?
Why do I feel like I should pack my things and run.
Run to their arms and kiss their lips,
And trace their face with my fingertips.
I can't seem to keep my head out of the clouds above.
My heart longs to be with my distant love.

Salty Vixen

Author.

Musician.

Deep Thinker.

**Hopeless Romantic.** 

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