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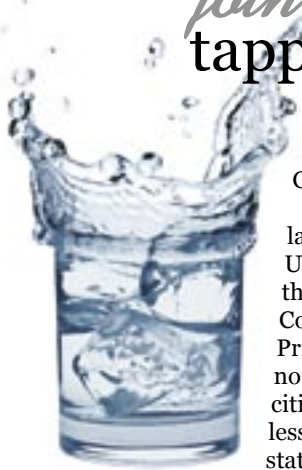
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Raise your glass!
Glass of water that is.
Did you know that last year, Brigham Young University was ranked the nation's most "Stone-Cold Sober" school by the Princeton Review. It's no big surprise that the citizens of Utah drink a lot less alcohol than any other state and water is definitely a drink of choice around

these parts. So why not celebrate it? This year, World Water Week will be held from March 22-28. UNICEF along with the Utah Tap website are asking you to join the cause and get involved.

The lack of clean and accessible drinking water is the second largest killer of children under five-years-old worldwide, causing 4,200 deaths from water-related diseases every day. Clean and plentiful drinking water is a privilege that millions take for granted. The Tap Project is the Titanium Award-winning fundraising program for UNICEF

that provides clean drinking water to millions of children around the world.

With \$1, UNICEF can provide 40 liters of safe drinking water, which is enough to give one child safe drinking water for 40 days, or 40 children safe drinking water for a day. Compare that to the average person in the United States uses 80 to 100 gallons of water each day. Being without water isn't even a thought to most Americans.

UNICEF is encouraging the residents of Utah to celebrate water and donate to the cause by either:

- 1) Go to a registered Tap project restaurant and donate \$1 or more for the tap water they normally get for free.
- 2) Text "TAP" to 864233 ("UNICEF") to make a \$5 donation on your mobile phone that will be charged to your phone bill.
- 3) Go to the Utah TAP website, www.utahtap.org to donate.

For over 40 years, UNICEF has been working in more than 80 countries providing sources of clean water, adequate sanitation facilities and hygiene programs, and prioritizing service delivery to the poorest children. All around the world, the Tap project will celebrate the privilege of clean drinking water, while helping UNICEF raise money for and awareness of the global water crisis. For more information about UNICEF, please visit www.unicefusa.org.

Winter Driving Tips

Driving in the snow can be anyone's worst nightmare. Provo and Orem are known as a hub for thousands of students from out of state—many whom have never experienced living in the snow, let alone driving in it. Here are some tips on how to be prepared for anything—whether you're used to driving in the snow, or you're a novice. These tips can help you stay safe and warm this winter.

1. Anticipate all other drivers around you. You might not be the one that hits an ice patch; it could be a fellow driver. Make sure to check your mirrors and drive with two hands in order to anticipate any sudden changes from other cars around you.
2. When driving in snow or ice do everything slowly and gently. Remember, in the snow, the tires are always just barely grabbing the road. Accelerate slowly and gently, turn slowly and gently, and brake slowly and gently.

3. Be careful to leave plenty of space between you and the car ahead of you.
4. Get a winter tune-up. Double check to make sure your fluids are filled and you have enough anti-freeze.
5. Don't just clear a small patch of ice from your windshield. Spend the extra two minutes and clear it all off.
6. Keep your gas tank filled, you don't want to get stranded and not have a heater.
7. Slow down for bridges, which are often icy even when the rest of the road is fine.
8. If your wheels start to spin or slide while going up a hill, ease off on the accelerator slightly and then gently resume speed. If you haven't driven in snow much invest some time in practicing in an empty parking lot making donuts,



braking hard, and intentionally skidding in a parking lot. This can help you get a feel of how to drive on a slick surface without having to stress about other cars.

9. When sliding -- don't pump anti-lock brakes, apply continuous pressure and steer. To correct a skid, **TURN THE WHEEL IN THE DIRECTION OF THE SKID**. If your rear end starts sliding to the right, turn the wheel to the right. If your rear end starts sliding to the left, turn your wheel to the left. Do not apply brakes while in a skid. If you are approaching a stop with alternate patches of ice and bare pavement between you and the stop, brake firmly as you cross the bare spot and coast over the ice.



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Spring Break

Planning The Perfect Trip

Whether you have time for a week trip or a weekend. Relieve the stress of every day classes by enjoying a few days off. So grab some friends, pack your bags and enjoy some well-deserved time off.

If you're on a budget, call a travel agent who specializes in student travel. Try any of these: Travel Services (800-648-4849), StudentCity.com (888-777-4642), StudentUniverse (800-272-9676), and STA Travel (800-781-4040).

If you're a procrastinator, go online for last minute steals and deals. When companies have packaged trips that have vacancies, they often use a consolidator site to

sell their leftover spots really cheap. You may have to be flexible on your travel dates, but it's definitely worth it. Visit sites such as last-minute-travel.com and bestfares.com.

If you're up for anything and you don't care where you go, try an auction site and bid away! Try priceline.com or hotwire.com to see what's being offered and check out other websites like orbitz.com to see what actual prices are. Go back to the site and place a bid (usually 20-40 percent less than the regular price).

If you're looking to volunteer on your vacation, consider a service trip. It usually takes a year to plan for one of these (some require passports and vaccinations) if you want to go to places like Peru, Thailand, and Ghana. You have to pay your own way, but you can go and help build a house, help at an orphanage, etc. But just think, you'll be giving back in another part of the world! For ideas, check out

charityguide.org, crossculturalsolutions.com, globeaware.org, globalvolunteers.org, and unitedplanet.org.

If you are looking for a road trip, pick a direction and drive! Try roadtripusa.com and roadtripamerica.com for ideas. Try and choose the biggest city within a 10 hour drive and go! Once there, visit museums, zoos and cool sites that grab your interest. Here are a couple of locations six hours or less away that can be a fun spring break trip or a cool weekend break.

*For places to stay while on these road trips try hotels.com, travelocity.com for great deals.

Las Vegas, Nevada

As one of the top hot spots in the nation for spring breaks, Las Vegas can be a great get away for your spring break. If you're not into the drinking and gambling, there are so many other things available. So jump in your car and get ready to go! Just take the I-15 South and you'll hit it within 5-6 hours.

While there check out the roller coasters, bungee jumping, helicopter tours, amazing shopping and outlet shopping, the M & M and Coca Cola Museums, the best buffets in the world (the Rio buffet is amazing!), and the Las Vegas strip with all of the amazing hotels and city lights. Each hotel offers something unique, so if you're into museums, shows, or shopping... ideas can be found at vegas.com!

Moab, Utah

Moab's amazing scenery isn't the only thing that attracts students to its location. The hiking, fishing, ATV and Hummer Trips, biking, river rafting, kayaking, and Utah's famous landmark, the arch, are all favorites to Moab and make it a great spring break location. For more information on activities in moab, please visit www.moab-utah.com.

To get there, take the I-15 South until you hit US-6 (Price Canyon) East. Take US-6 for 137 miles. Take the US-191 toward MOAB, go 31 miles until you hit the city. It'll take you about 3-4 hours. You can either camp (check out camping information at www.moab-utah.com) or stay in a hotel.

St. George, Utah

If you are looking for something warm, with lots of outdoor activities St. George is a great weekend trip. Just jump on the I-15 and drive south for 3-4 hours.

With Zion's National and Snow Canyon Park just around the corner, St. George is the place to go for rock climbing, biking, rappelling, and camping. There is also shopping available at on the east side of St. George. Other sightseeing includes the St. George LDS temple and Brigham Young's Winter House. For more activities and ideas, visit www.utah.com/cities/st_george.htm

Wendover, Nevada

A quick get away is what Wendover is best known for. Don't let this small city fool you, there are lots of cool things to do for a spring break weekend.

Activities include historic sites, trails, outdoor recreation (biking, hiking, horses, etc) as well as an excellent night life. You can also visit the WWII museum where you can see where the atomic bomb was created and built. For more information, visit www.westwendovercity.com.

To get there, take the I-15 North, Go west on the I-80 which will take you to West Wendover within 2-3 hours.

By Deborah Barlow-Taylor



Liven Up Your Friday Nights

Have you ever found yourself sitting around with your roommates on a Friday night complaining that there's never anything going on in Provo or Orem? Well, those nights are over! Here is your insider's guide to the happenings in Happy Valley.

Music Scene

There are several places in Provo that have live shows every weekend. Velour Live Music Gallery, located at 135 North University Avenue, is a small music venue dripping with atmosphere and hipsters. It usually holds concerts five or six days a week, and it always has shows on Friday and Saturdays. It has also been known to have late-night film screenings with drop-ins from movie actors. Visit www.velourlive.com for information on upcoming shows.

Muse Music, located at 151 North University Avenue (just down the street from Velour), is another small venue that holds shows throughout the week and every weekend. Saturdays are usually jazz night and Mondays are usually acoustic night. Most shows are \$5 and you can visit their website at www.musemusic.com. Muse Music has recently added a café to the venue, making it more conducive to hanging out and talking for a few hours before or after a show.

Party Scene

Provo and Orem have the ultimate party scene. You can find at least a couple of parties every weekend if you know where to look. Try scoping out the party scene on Facebook, which is where most people and organizations advertise their events. You can search for anything from trance/techno dance parties to fancy mocktail soirées to music-swapping affairs.

Another place to check for party invites is on various campus bulletin boards and at cafeterias. There are always people advertising for weekend parties on the local college campuses. Just by walking around a campus, you'll usually either spot a poster or receive a flier for some sort of shindig.

If none of the above are yielding results, there are some places that usually hold parties once or twice a month; try Southworth, Apx, Moxie, Seven Peaks and Eclipse. Also, most of the concerts that take place at Velour and Muse have after-parties which you can attend if you just follow the crowd.

Art Scene

Every first Friday of the month, the Provo art galleries are open late for the Gallery Stroll. Walk around to different galleries and stores and enjoy the art and snacks—all for free! You can relax and chat with local artists and designers or even buy a piece that catches your eye. Go to www.downtownprovo.org for a list of participating galleries and their addresses.

Even if it's not the first Friday of the month, there's still art to be enjoyed around Provo. There are always storefront galleries up, which



are vacant commercial properties transformed into spaces for artists to show their art. The locations of these can be found at the same website, but you can spot them easily just by walking around downtown Provo and peering into commercial windows.

Performing Arts Scene

Comedy Sportz, located at 36 West Center Street, has interactive comedy improvisations every Friday and Saturday night. There are two shows per night—one at 8:00 and another at 10:15. Come laugh out loud and enjoy the experience of a true blue local comedy club. For more information, visit www.comedysportzutah.com.

Support the local acting community and impress a date with dinner theatre at the Center Street Musical Theatre, located at 177 West Center Street. For information on which plays are showing and to purchase tickets, visit www.csmtc.com.

Now you have all the tools you need to combat Friday night boredom. If all else fails, there's always late night crowds at Denny's and IHOP. You're sure to make some friends.

By Ashley Walton

Meet New People... Be A Better Small Talker

Need some tips on how to small talk and meet new people at parties and other group events? Here is some great advice on how to be a better small talker.

1. Dress for the occasion. Looking your best will not only make you feel more confident and outgoing, you can also choose an outfit that is both flattering and comfortable. Remember you want to be able to focus more on the conversation than on how much your feet hurt because of your shoes.

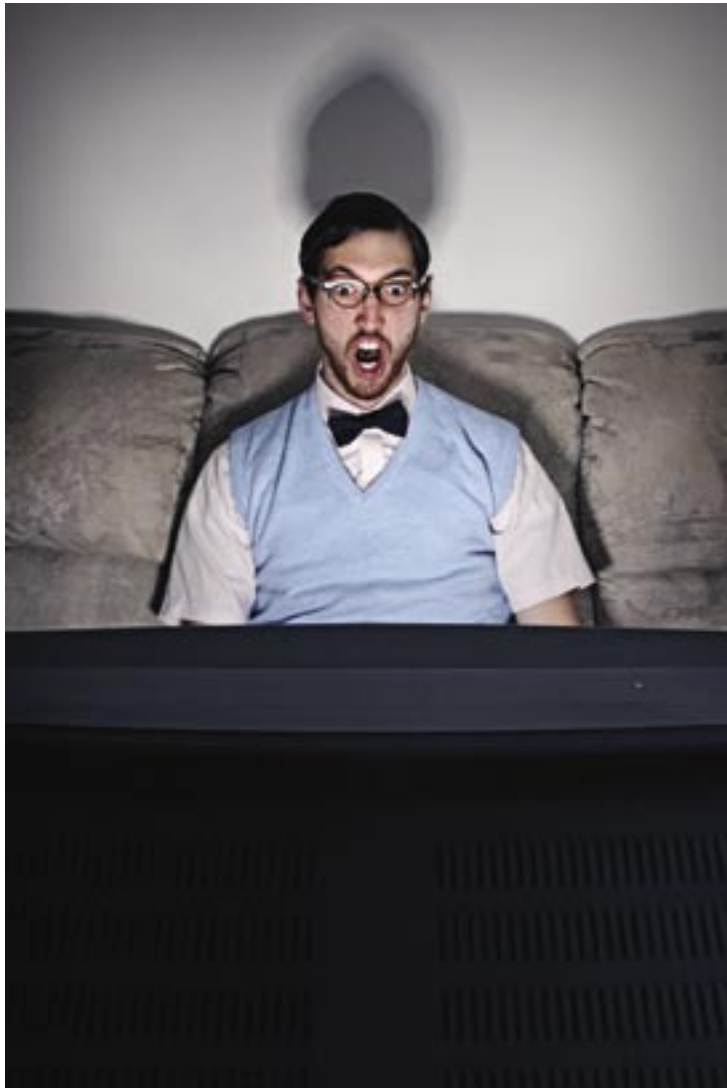
2. Ask good questions. Instead of asking questions that require more than a simple yes or no, ask them open-ended questions that you can go deeper with. For example... "Have you ever been here before?" and "Tell me about your last vacation." Questions like these will prevent the awkward silence that usually follows short, specific answers and gives your conversation room to grow as the other person reveals more about themselves.

3. Don't dampen the mood. Avoid complaining or sharing negative stories, such as

as office/school gossip. More people will be drawn to you if you are smiling and upbeat.

4. Kill them with kindness. Looking for a sure way to start a conversation? A little flattery never hurt. Complimenting someone on an unusual necklace or cool shirt, is an easy way to break the ice.

5. Have an Exit Strategy. If you get stuck in a conversation about stamp collecting... keep it simple and excuse yourself to refill your glass—most people will know you're moving on.



R-Rated Comedies

What ever happened to wit?

What are some of your favorite funny film moments? There's the spoof-tastic genius of films like "Hot Shots" and "Airplane." You gotta love the classic continual comebacks and rapid fire repartee of some of the great Marx brothers' movies. Oh, and I have to mention the great tongue-in-cheek black humor of "Thank You for Smoking."

I like to laugh. Come on, who doesn't enjoy a good guffaw. Still, I feel like I have to reach back in time to find worthy laughs versus the fare we are provided today. Rated R comedies crammed frame to frame with graphic language and lurid visuals are becoming more and more common, and the accessibility of clever humor is in jeopardy.

Don't get me wrong, I can't deny I enjoy a well placed whoopee cushion, but that can't be everything. Ancient Greek playwrights and even Shakespeare never shrank for throwing a bawdy, crude joke out there, but that was never the focus.

We live in a cynical, I've-seen-it-all, age typically called the "post-modern era." Comedy at this time is dominated by, uh, for lack of a better word "stupid comedy" or what ivy tower high brows might call "adolescent humor" which focuses on the gross. This type of humor is as old as storytelling itself, but one possible difference today is the presumption that audiences are less shock-able, thus the graphic nature of language and visuals.

Okay, I might be a one-person band here, but when I think of something as being "comical" it's usually has to do with a clever use of words, original story telling, or an innovative manipulation of some everyday trope. Think Rob Paravonian's rant on Pachelbel's Canon in D, or a Shakespearean version of "Who's on First." That's the kind of stuff I find funny, something that takes a little brainwork to a) construct the joke and b) to understand the joke.

In my humble opinion, I just don't understand why directors and writers feel they need to fill a film with crudity even if they have some truly witty moments buried underneath the sludge. From what I've heard, "Tropic Thunder" which came out this summer, successfully satirized contemporary Hollywood in all of its idiosyncratic inanities. So, why, might I question, do they have to include the foul language, needless nudity, and other gross gags to seemingly up the ante when they already have a brilliant concept?

Some of the most famous comedians hardly ever dropped F-bombs: Bill Cosby,

Johnny Carson, and Jerry Seinfeld. Restrictions have also bred many of comedy's finest hours teaching everyone a lesson in innuendo. Even the not-exactly-innocent kids of "South Park" turned censorship into comedy. Bleeped curses, the show's creators Matt Stone, and Trey Parker seemed to realize, might be funnier than the real thing.

Apart from my opining, the reality is that the numbers don't match. PG-13 rated movies out perform rated R movies any day of the week. An August 5th, 2008 CNN article titled "The lure of the R-rated comedy" crunched some number as this is what they came up with: "Of the 100 top-grossing comedies ranked by box-office tracker Media By Numbers, 47 were rated PG-13, 32 were PG and eight had G ratings. Only 13 were rated R." Yet

"Rated R comedies crammed frame to frame with graphic language and lurid visuals are becoming more and more common, and the accessibility of clever humor is in jeopardy."

more rated R comedies came out this summer versus PG-13, and studios are chugging out more rated R fare. Producer Peter Safran whose credits include "Scary Movie" and "Disaster Movie"

asserts, "The R rating allows the filmmakers to truly realize their vision. There's just a freedom that comes with it."

For those of you paying attention, I may have already flown the hypocritical banner because I mentioned rated R comedy "Thank You for Smoking" being a great example of satire. Yes, amongst all this rage against R comedies, I laud one of their own. But in my defense, I saw it edited. Apparently there was only one scene edited out. A sex scene. From what I can tell, that scene added or altered nothing in the story that prevented me from understanding the plot and the development of the characters. I thought it was a brilliant satire that probably would have received a wider reception had it not had the R rating—a rating that was due to one scene that could just as easily been left out.

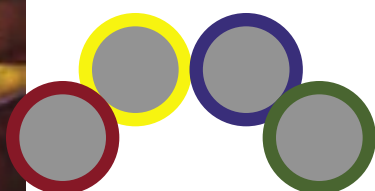
Still it must be conceded that PG-13 comedies are not likely to lose their dominance as far as the box office goes, but I wonder where the balance between slapstick and wit resides. One of my absolute favorite funny moments in a comedy is from "Happy Gilmore," not exactly what you call highbrow. Nevertheless, I love the part when nemesis Shooter McGavin says to our bumbling protagonist, "I eat pieces of @?#! like you for breakfast." With Happy's oh so clever retort, "You eat pieces of @?#! for breakfast!!" While most of the movie leaves much to be desired, you can't knock the awesomeness of that comeback. Love it!

By Chelsea Pyle



Rock Band It Up!

By Deborah Barlow-Taylor



Karaoke is so 2004—Now it's all about Rock Band, where you can put your singing, guitar, and drum skills to the test. Here are some ways to make playing Rock Band with friends something you'll never forget.

doesn't hurt to play at a lower difficulty so you can have more fun. The less you have to look at the screen, the more you can engage your other band members and the audience.

have fun trying to get it right while playing.

you are getting the pitch right. Make up words. It's fun and the crowd will love it!

Get a strobe light. Add a disco ball, strobe light, or other "stage" items to make it feel like a real show.

Make a night out of it....
Learn your part. It never hurts to practice beforehand. And it

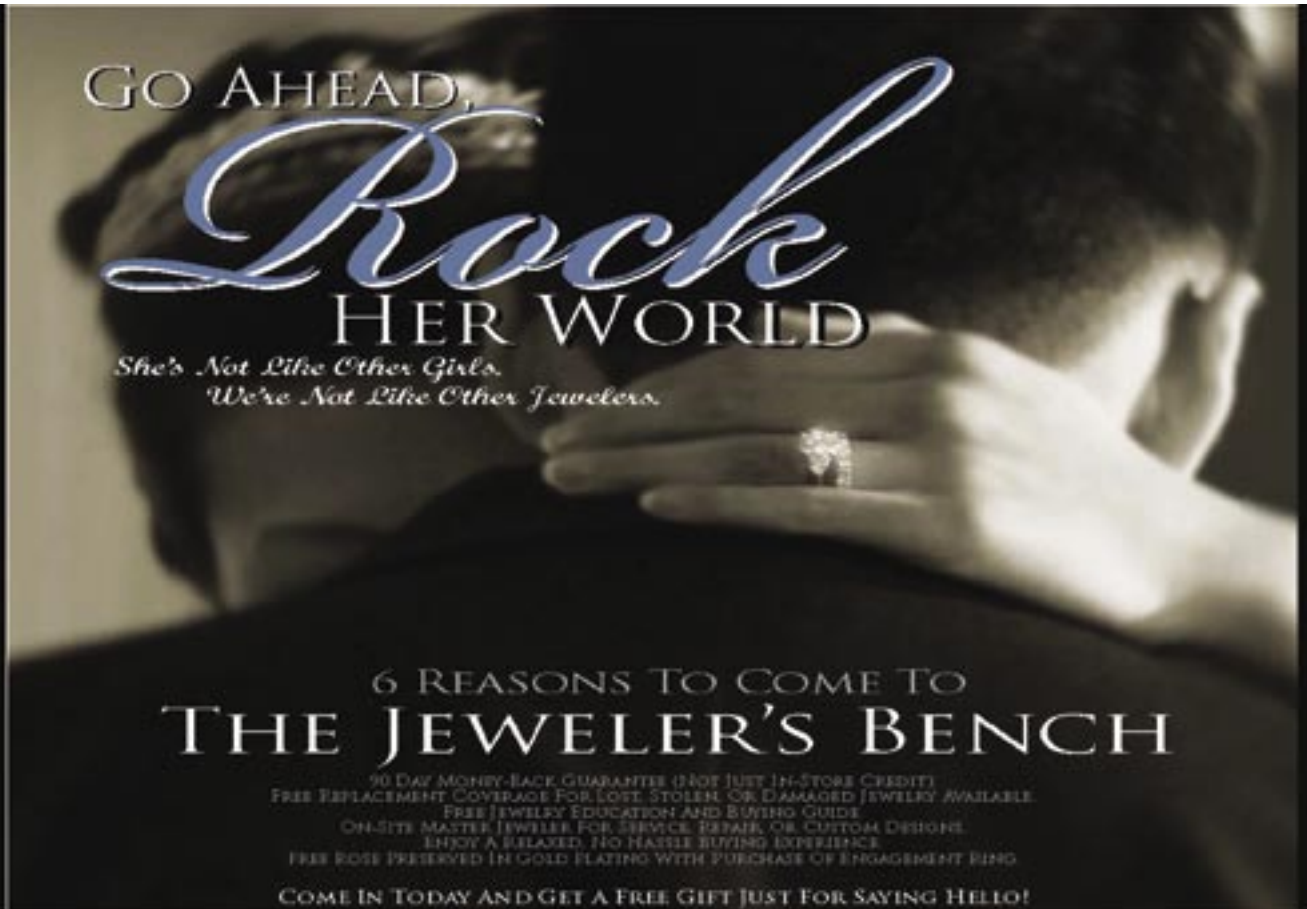
Practice synchronizing your moves—make it a production. Decide with fellow band members a few key movements so you can

Use costumes. Get bonus points by dressing like your character, or dressing up to get into character.

Bring your own groupies and invite an audience. Nothing makes it more fun than performing for others. Pretend you are a rock star and give the audience everything you've got.

Freestyle at the mic. Most of the time the game doesn't care what words you sing as long as

Video tape your performances. It's always fun to go back and watch yourself having a good time. And hey, maybe it'll be the next big hit on YouTube!



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Steps towards Debt Elimination

Recent statistics have shown that 74 percent of undergraduate students have at least one credit card with an average outstanding balance of close to \$2,000. Just over 30 percent of students have four or more cards.

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In addition to that, the average college graduate completes their higher education with about \$16,500 in student loan debt. If you consider the amount of students with car loans, it's possible that the average college student will have anywhere from \$18,000-\$30,000 in debt. This could mean payments that range between \$300 and \$550 every month!

We all plan on having lucrative careers and high paying jobs as soon as we get done with school, so we don't worry about our debts while we're still in school, but what happens if we don't have that cushy job when deferment ends? And how would you pay \$300 in credit card payments each month on a student income? It's best to avoid this situation, but let's be honest, we all want stuff and we want it now! So if you've found yourself in a financial bind, here are a few tips for making each dollar stretch as far as it can and eliminating debt.

1- Budget- If you don't know what one of these is, that's your first problem! If you don't have one, that's almost as dangerous! To create a budget, start by calculating your income, usually for a month. This is not your salary or pay rate, but what you take home from each check. Next, determine all of your expenses and list them in order of importance or priority (Just a hint, food

and rent are more important than shoes or Playstation 3's). Your budget should include your monthly payments on your debts.

2- Keep track of every penny- This sounds a lot like budgeting, but the difference is that your budget is just a plan and doesn't do any good unless you follow it. Write down everything you buy, keep receipts, and review your bank statements to see if you're actually following your budget. This is really important!

3- Cut up your cards- Close any unnecessary accounts. For most of us in school, this means any credit cards

beyond the one we keep for emergency use. If you're still paying on your credit card balances you can't close the accounts, but you can cut up, burn, shred, or otherwise render unusable the cards so that you can't use them.

4- Make your money less accessible-

Debit cards suck. How many of us actually write down what we use them for in those little checkbook registers? It's really tough to keep track of what we spend when we use debit cards all the time. Put most of your money in your savings account, that way you'll have to get online or go to the bank to actually transfer the funds over so you can use them. If you can't get to your money, you can't use it!

5. Educate yourself- The next time you get a credit card application in the mail, make yourself read the entire thing, all the small print! This should be enough to make you not want another card. People that don't understand interest, pay it, and those who do, make money off it. There are many resources to help you understand credit and debt and avoid getting in over your head. A good website to check out is www.debtfixers.org.

6- Consolidate- If you're really in over your head with consumer debt, you may want to investigate certain consolidation options. There are nonprofit consolidation services that work with your creditors to achieve a lower monthly payment and interest rate in order to help you pay off your debt faster. You can also consolidate student loans if you want.

7- Discipline yourself- Being financially responsible and getting out of debt takes serious discipline! If you follow these basic steps it will be easier to control your spending urges and negative tendencies.

8- Reward yourself- You haven't eaten out for a month or bought a new pair of shoes for three. Reward yourself, you've earned it! Don't go on a spending spree, but get yourself something you've wanted for a while, this will help relieve the pressure of being frugal and make it easier to continue being financially conservative.

By Seth Kelley





By Rachael Cutler

It's that time of year again. You either love it and look forward to it, or you dread it. Tax season. Make this the year you don't stress over it. Make this the year you finish early. Don't know where to start? Below are some hints, tricks, and just plain reminders to help you in the next few months.

- 1. Do it early.** Sure, taxes aren't due until April 15, but get them out of the way early. There are many benefits to doing your taxes early. First of all, if you're getting a large return, you'll get your money faster. If, on the other hand, you owe money, filing early helps give you the needed time to gather that money.
- 2. Do it right.** Know your stuff. If you don't have a clue where to start, there are many places you can go to for help. Go to your parents or experienced friends; even the accounting school on the BYU campus offers help for those students doing taxes. If you're willing to spend a little bit of money to make sure your taxes are done right, you can hire an accountant or go to firms such as H & R Block or Liberty Tax. You may also find online tax programs helpful, like TurboTax.
- 3. Wait.** Do I even need to file? This is a valid question. If you have made below a certain income, you do not need to file taxes. The IRS claims that millions fill out forms unnecessarily. It is a good idea to always file your taxes though, because you may be eligible for a refund of your Federal Income Tax withheld for the year regardless of whether you needed to file or not.
- 4. Be prepared.** Make sure that you collect all of the forms and information you need so you'll have all your bases covered. You will need a W-2 from all the employers that you or spouse worked for in 2007 as well as a tuition statement (1098-T form). Other forms you may need are investment income forms, income from tax refund forms, and others depending on your occupation.
- 5. Be organized.** Use tax time to organize yourself and your financial records. If you don't use financial software such as Quicken or QuickBooks, usually you can print off records and reports from your on-line banking. Break down your financial records and know where your money is going. Although not necessary for your taxes, it may be a great time to put together a budget for yourself for the new year.
- 6. Enjoy your refund.** The best part about taxes is obviously the refund you receive. If you're doing alright with money, consider spending your refund on something you've been saving up for or need but haven't had the money for. Even though it was your money to begin with, it feels like free money! Happy Tax Season!

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dry, dull, flaky skin no way!

Winter Skin Tips For All

Winter means a change in temperature and humidity. Protecting your skin from the cold, dry air may mean changing a few habits, but will make all the difference between dry, dull, flaky skin and radiant, glowing, healthy skin.

Step One: Moisturize! In this very dry and cold time of year your skin will suffer without sufficient moisture and hydration.

Guys -keeping your skin healthy by using a moisturizer will prevent dry cracks and flaking skin. Also, using a moisturizer with sunscreen will prevent burning and sun damage while you enjoy your favorite winter sport.

Ladies - no matter how wonderful your makeup is, it will not look good without a moisturized and beautiful canvas to start with. Keep your skin healthy and hydrated.

Use a moisturizer or sunscreen with an SPF 15 or higher to prevent sun damage. Try one of these moisturizers to prevent winter skin blues.

For Acne Prone Skin:

Proactiv's Oil Free Moisturizer with SPF 15 Available at a mall kiosk, Retail \$25.00

For Normal or Dry Skin:

JASON Red Elements Daily Moisturizing Crème with SPF 15. Available at www.Vitacost.com \$11.90

For Aging or Sensitive Skin:

GiGi Organics Day Hydrator SPF 15 Available at Sally's Beauty Supply \$14.99

Step Two: Exfoliate! At least twice a week exfoliate to remove dry, dead skin and allow new healthy skin to glow and retain moisture better. Dry skin causes premature lines and wrinkles, flaking, cracking, and a dull grey appearance. To keep skin fresh, use an exfoliating scrub like Beyond Belief ABH Pore Refining Exfoliating Scrub available at Sally's Beauty Supply for only \$5.99. This product helps remove the signs of aging skin with the revitalizing benefits of Alpha Beta Hydroxy acid, leaving skin radiant. Don't forget to read *Schooled Magazine*

get to exfoliate your body too, try using a sugar or salt scrub.

Step Three: Drink water! Hydrate your skin from the inside out. Get your eight glasses of water a day by carrying a water bottle with you everywhere you go. Getting plenty of water helps your skin retain its healthy glow and when you are properly hydrated you will look and feel better because water carries nutrients throughout your body. Water also flushes out toxins, improves circulation and blood flow and lubricates your joints giving you a happy healthy body and beautiful skin.

Step Four: Use a sunless tanner! During this time of year, find a little pick me up in using a sunless tanner. Try Jergens Natural Glow Express. It will give you a summer tan in only three days. Once you achieve the tan level you want, you can maintain your look by using Jergens Natural Glow and Jergens Natural Glow Face with SPF 20. You will be protecting your skin against damaging rays while keeping skin hydrated. Priced at \$7.99 it is a great deal and budget friendly!

By Julia Deaver



Mommy...I'm sick!!

When your mom is around, the flu is almost a vacation: You get to sleep all day, someone is at your beckon call, 7-UP is good for you, and you may even lose weight when you can't keep your food down.

Now that mother is gone, and unless you have a devoted significant other, being sick has become less eventful and more – sickly. You may have to learn to fend for yourself. Here are a few short tips for personal treatment. Of course, if you suspect something is seriously wrong you should always consult your doctor.

Tip 1: As a preemptive strike: Take good care of yourself. Common sense should tell you to get enough sleep and make sure you are eating right. Do all you can to keep yourself strong enough against potential illness.

Tip 2: You know those medicine bottles your mom would always pick up? It's time for you to figure out what they were -- not only their name, but also the proper dosage and

ingredients. Learn what is in your headache pill of choice that you respond to. This way, if your preference happens to be out of stock you will be able to find something similar for the relief you need.

Tip 3: Buy a medical dictionary complete with written symptoms and treatments of conditions. Your first physician should always be your doctor, but knowing what you're dealing with can never hurt and may even help you notice something you wouldn't have ordinarily.

Tip 4: Last but not least, make sure to wash your hands throughout the day. You never know what doorknob, keypad, or chair, someone touched after they coughed the flu virus on their hand.

Maybe living without mom isn't totally as bad as it seems – or perhaps you should look into the sweetheart department a bit more seriously.

By Amy West

Summer Sales Guide 2009

Find the company that is the right fit for you with the Summer Sales Guide Company Directory. Pages 14-19



Legitimate Money in Door to Door Sales

Students throughout the nation have experienced phenomenal financial benefits resulting from a summer of selling. It is estimated that each year more than 100,000 students participate in direct selling activities each summer.

The summer is a perfect time for students to put aside their studies and head out to earn money for the next school year. Traditionally students would seek employment at the local mall, or restaurant. However, within the last 10-15 years more and more students are looking at established summer sales programs to boost their cash reserves. Many companies have proven that they can take a student who has never sold before and within 2-3 months teach that individual everything they need to be successful in a summer of sales.

Typically, by the end of the first summer the previously inexperienced student has made more money than they ever thought possible, usually three times higher than what they would have earned at more traditional jobs. The results of second and third year representatives are usually significantly higher and continue to increase as management and other growth opportunities are presented. With the financial success that many students see in just one summer of selling, it is no surprise that many students choose to come back for summer after summer.

A summer of selling is not glamorous, and it is definitely not easy money. Many representatives work 7-9 hours a day in all weather conditions. Working these Monday through Saturday hours doesn't leave much time for fun summer activities. If you choose a summer of selling, you likely won't find much time to go to the beach, wake boarding, or to take a

“If you work hard, strive to improve and master the skill of being upbeat, you will succeed in a summer of selling!”

road trip, however you will find yourself face to face with an opportunity to make lots of money.

Door to Door Summer Sales Common Questions Answered

Why should I do door to door sales for my summer job?

Marketing products door to door is a valuable experience. Learning how to talk to people, learning what questions to ask, and learning the right time to ask them are important skills. If people learn these skills when they are young they will benefit for the rest of their lives. Learning that when someone says “no,” it's not personal. Learning that each door you knock is an independent variable, that the only connection between the “no” you received at your last door, and the answer that will be given at the next door, is you: your attitude, your presentation, and your professionalism. Sure you will learn a lot.

But most people sell for the money. Doing door to door sales you can make a lot of money. Enough money to buy your books, buy a car, and even

graduate college debt free.

What can I expect a summer of selling to be like?

You can expect that the company you choose to work for will treat you with respect. There are rumors floating around that “the marketing companies don't care about their employees”, “they don't care how many sales we make.” That is simply not true. The only way the companies succeed is if their sales reps succeed. You can expect a lot of rejection, the majority of the doors you knock on will

probably say “no,” but look at the details of your pay-scale, usually it only takes 75 “yes-es” over a summer for you to be rewarded quite handsomely.

If you work hard, strive to improve and master the skill of being upbeat, you will succeed in a summer of selling!

How can I be successful selling door to door?

Some think that selling is a bed of roses, well it may be, but even a bed of roses has some thorns. Some believe that if they simply show up for work they will make 20,000 dollars during the summer. That is simply not true.

In order to have a successful summer you need to show up to work, and then go to work. You need to knock on as many doors as possible, giving as many presentations as possible, getting as many “yes-es” as possible. You have to practice your presentation. Nobody enjoys role-playing but those who consistently role-play often make the most money.

To be successful leave your cell phone on silent. Don't reply to every text message, or answer every phone call. When you are on the doors time is money. If you walk slowly between doors, it is impossible to create urgency at the door step, if you are not urgent your potential customer will not be urgent.

There are days when even the best salesman will get nothing but “no” all day long. The defining attribute of the best sales representatives is that they just keep on knocking, keep on smiling, keep on presenting, and keep on asking.





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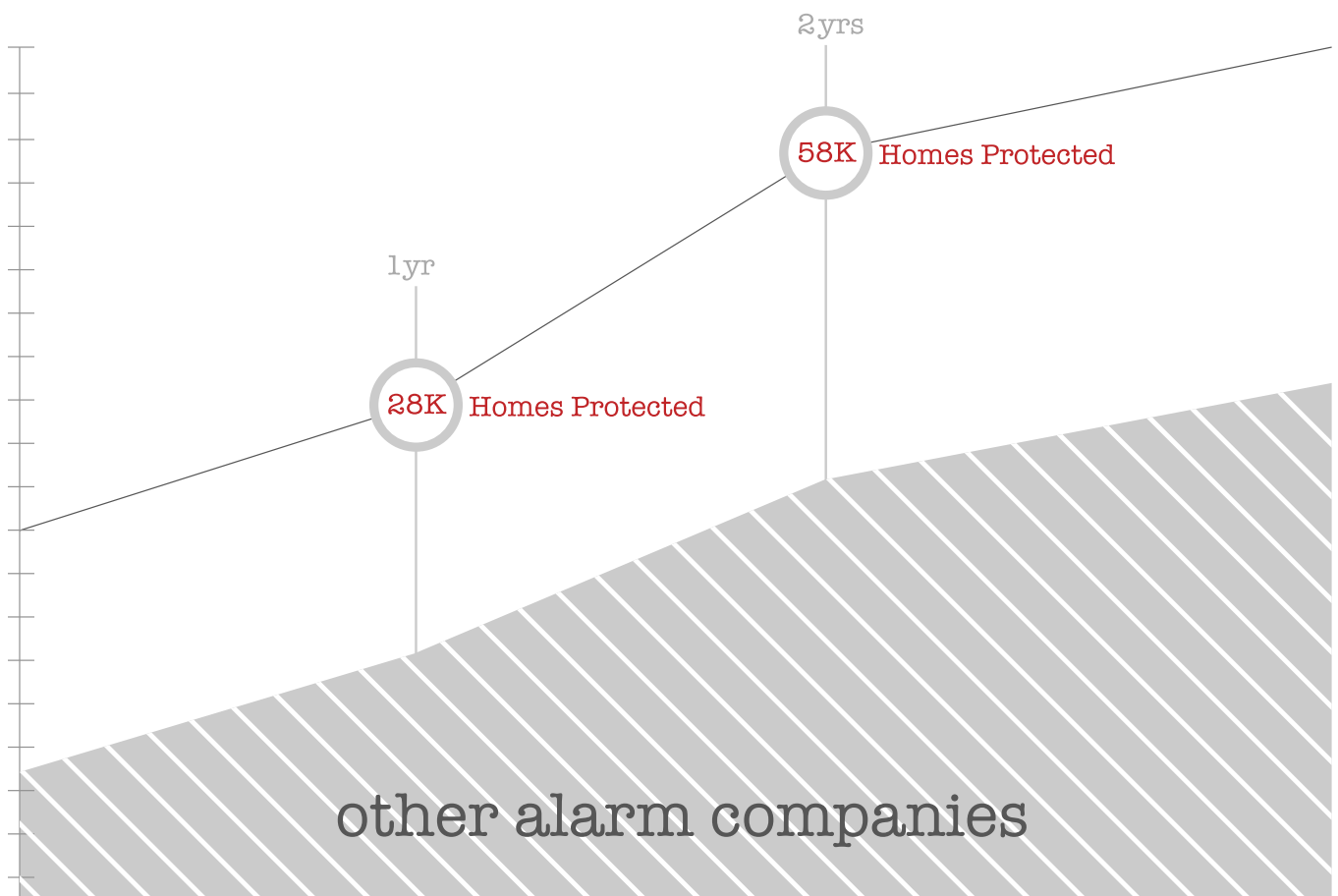
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Valentine's Day 101

Valentines Gift Ideas

By Esther Palmer and Rae Harris

The Classics

You may be tired of giving flowers and chocolates year after year, but pretty much no one is tired of getting them. Spice it up with a little creativity. How about a Valentine's box filled with everything red? Find all red candy and include some red roses and maybe a red book of poetry. Other Valentine's gifts traditionally include stuffed animals, jewelry or perfume. You can't go wrong with these Valentine's Day classics.

Make it Personal

The most memorable Valentine's Day gifts have that personal touch that turns them into something really special. How about making a scrapbook of memories for you and your sweetheart? Or make a scavenger hunt that goes to all your "special places". You could make a personalized CD of all your love's favorite songs, or songs that remind you of special memories together. You could also make a love jar and fill it with reasons you love the person. And if you really, really love them, how about a love calendar with 365 reasons you love them? So every day can remind them of you. For you guys out there, surprise her with a jewelry box, that didn't cost you an arm and a leg. Check out the Pandora line at Gold Smith Jewelers. Any gift that shows how much you were listening is a great idea! Anything from buying their favorite ice cream or getting them their favorite childhood game because they're always telling stories about it, shows them what a good friend you really are.

Don't Spend a Dime

There are many thoughtful and creative gifts that won't cost you anything. It may sound cheesy, but you can write someone a poem or song. Make it sincere and witty, and you have yourself an unforgettable Valentine's Day present. You can also make a coupon book filled with different favors, or make someone feel special by heart attacking their apartment.



Keep Your Valentine

Want to keep your Valentine long-term? Here are some dating tips that will not only help the magic last, but help enhance your dating style.

1. Dress to Impress

Wear your best clothes according to your activity. Outward expressions can sometimes be more than inward expressions on dates. Dressing up can show that you really appreciate that you are spending time with this person.

2. Be On Time

One of the most frustrating things can be having a reservation and then being late and having to wait an hour to eat due to the waiting list. Plan your preparation with enough time to spare. It does not look bad if you are ready early and waiting for your date to pick you up. You will not look eager, but you will look dependable.

3. Do Not Kiss on the First Date

If you actually "like" the person, the first date is not an opportunity to "score." Firstly, it shows great respect. Secondly, by holding out, it keeps the other person on their toes and wondering.

4. Have Some Old School Class

Men: Always open and close all doors for women,

Women: Always appreciate them for doing so.

5. Keep it Mysterious

Do not give too much information about yourself during the first few dates. This doesn't mean give one-worded answers, it means don't spill all your problems and secrets out on them at first. It leaves a little mystery and your date will want to come back to find out more.

6. Listen

Always make sure you listen to everything the other says very carefully. Make mental notes in your head. The other person is always impressed when you remember details about conversations.

7. Be Silent About Old Relationships

Do not mention your exes and do not ask about their old relationships in the first few dates. When dating someone new, it is the best thing to have a clean slate on a relationship and not worry about old baggage.

8. Follow-Up

Follow-up with a thank-you call or e-mail to your date within 48 hours. This shows that you do not want a date with them to be a one-time event. However, do not ask them out again too soon; leave a few days for pondering and space.

By Kristen Plumb



Utah Valley's Top 10 Most Romantic Restaurants

Need to plan a special night with intimate dining, delicious food, and unique atmosphere, here are Schooled Magazine's top 10 romantic restaurants in the area.

The Roof Restaurant (Salt Lake)

Phone Number: 539-1911
Buffet Dinner: \$36

The Roof Restaurant offers elegant dining with breathtaking views of the Salt Lake Valley and Temple Square. The gourmet buffet style dinner is delicious and includes a dessert table for you to pick from several delectable selections.

Chef's Table (Orem)

Phone Number: 235-9111
Lunch: \$7-14 Dinner: \$13-26

Looking down onto Provo, the view from the restaurant is beautiful, producing a very romantic atmosphere. The Chef's Table has received numerous awards for its fine quality and has a variety of scrumptious American and French dishes.

The Melting Pot (Salt Lake)

Phone Number: 521-6358
Dinner: \$16-49

Closed off from the world with low lights and intimate booths, you and your date spend

alone time sharing course after course of mouthwatering fondue. The experience is unforgettable.

Gloria's Little Italy (Provo)

Phone Number:
805-4913

Lunch: \$5-11

Dinner: \$9-20

This new addition to Center Street brings you to the heart of Italy. With its Romanesque atmosphere and the lingering scent of herbs and romance, the food is a first a first class ticket to a Venetian sunset.

PF Chang's (Orem)

Phone Number:
426-0900

Lunch: \$7-11

Dinner: \$7-20

With some of the best Asian cuisine in the state, PF Chang's is a chic way to impress any date. With the aroma of spices from the other side of

experience everything on the menu.

Tree Room (Sundance)

Phone Number: 223-4200
Dinner: \$9-46

This restaurant offers a unique rustic sophistication. The romantic atmosphere tied into the nature seen through all of its windows, reflects not only in the décor of the restaurant, but in the food itself. A candlelight dinner awaits you at this lodge-like restaurant.

Tucanos Brazilian Steakhouse (Provo)

Phone Number: 224-4774
Lunch: \$13 Dinner: \$20

Boasting a dining experience rich in flavor and heritage, the Brazilians know how to do it right when it comes to fresh cuisine. Mix tradition and fun with an evening full of tasteful food and tempting desserts.

Carraba's (Orem)

Phone Number: 765-1222
Dinner: \$7-20

Carraba's is a high class, family-owned, Italian restaurant. The food is tasty, the prices aren't too high, and what's more romantic than sharing a plate of spaghetti and meatballs with your date? Now that's amore!

Thai Ruby (Provo)

Phone Number: 375-6840
Dinner: \$8-14

Thai Ruby offers an intimate restaurant with soft lighting and music. Create something original for your date with Thai Ruby.

By Deborah Barlow-Taylor

A GUYS Guide to Chocolate & Flowers

So many options, so many mixed messages. With so many choices for what to get that special someone, it's easy to get confused. But don't worry, we've got you covered. Here is the perfect guide to help you figure out how to make your offerings say just the right thing. After all, is there any better way to express yourself then through chocolate and flowers? Of course not.

SCHOOLED'S CHOCOLATE GUIDE:

Godiva: Godiva is the luxurious chocolate. It lets your honey know that you're serious and that your relationship is definitely worth any cost.

Dove: Dove chocolate is smooth and sweet. It shows your relationship is happy and comfortable, and definitely something to hold on to.

Ghirardelli: Ghirardelli is classic and oh, so good. Give these to someone you're going to cherish, one mouthwatering bite at a time.

Sees: Sees chocolates are sweet and traditional. They're perfect for that relationship that's still in the early stages. Just to say, "I like where this is going".

Russell Stover: Russell Stover has been turning friends into sweethearts since before you were born. Give these to that special someone when you're hoping to make things a little more romantic.

Hershey's: Hershey's is low-key. It's cheap, it's friendly, and it's yummy. It's the perfect chocolate just to say, "I'm thinking of you."

SCHOOLED'S FLOWER GUIDE:

Red roses: Baby, I love you, that's all there is to it. Red roses are the most traditional flower for expressing love, love, love.

Pink/white/yellow roses: All roses are romantic. Trying a different color may show a relationship that's a little less serious, or just one that likes to be creative, doing things their own way.

Orchids: Orchids are the exotic flower. They represent both love and mystery. These flowers are perfect for an advancing romance, letting your girl know that no matter how much time passes, your curiosity is still piqued.

Lilies: Lilies are the perfect "we're on our way" flower. Give these to your budding sweetie and things are sure to get going.

Tulips: Tulips are fresh and different. And red tulips are particularly romantic. They're perfect for saying, "I want to be more than just friends."

Daisies: Daisies are the friendly flower. They're perfect for a relationship you're hoping to start or just to bring some cheer to any friend's V-Day.

By Rae Harris





Go for the Dark!

Pick dark chocolate this Valentine's Day. Research shows that it may help lower blood pressure and bad cholesterol since it contains flavonols. The darker the chocolate, the higher the flavonol content.



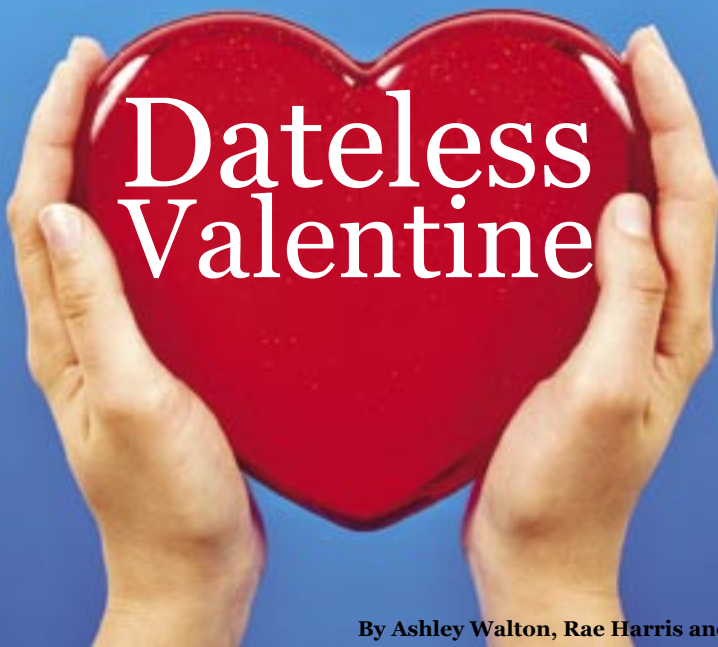
Did You Know? Each year, 180 million valentines are exchanged in the U.S. Try something different this year, and make your own V-Day card!



How to Write A Love Letter

Valentine's Day shouldn't be the only time you express your love. Surprise your sweetheart on another special day! Use these tips to help you get over writer's block and write what you truly mean for your love.

1. Can't figure out how to begin? Make a list of adjectives that describe everything you love about your significant other. Then use the list to start your letter. Or, just pretend you're writing a thank-you note and thank your special someone for all he/she does.
2. Make sure to point out the length of your relationship and how your feelings have grown over time.
3. Compliment the usual features like eyes, hair, or lips, but give praise in a new way. A good example of this would be "Your smile is my favorite distraction."



By Ashley Walton, Rae Harris and Esther Palmer

When planning a dateless Valentine's Day, there are really two routes you can take. The first is one of self-pity. The second route, and the one that I think is more fun, is one of independence. This alternative is a celebration of single-hood. It means you can kick back and say to yourself, "I don't need the validation (or the headache) of a man/woman in order to have a good time." And then you go out, and prove exactly that.

Splurge. Go out to eat with a group of friends at a nice restaurant. Order appetizers, good drinks and dessert. When's the last time you went out to eat without any members of the opposite gender? It's a completely different atmosphere than that of a date, and it's just as fun. You can even quietly snicker at the poor suckers around you who are stuck on awkward dates.

Mix. Make yourself a mix of songs that have nothing to do with love or relationships.

Give to others. Nothing will make you forget how much you hate Valentine's Day more than doing something for someone else.

Add it up. Think about all the money you save by not having a relationship. With that in mind, treat yourself to something you've had your eye on: maybe a CD, DVD, or a good book.

Invite your friends over for a white elephant gift exchange.

Make it a rule that all of the presents have to coincide with a Valentine's Day theme. For example, all of the gifts might have to be red or pink.

Celebrate all things dessert! Invite friends over for a dessert exchange and indulge.

You deserve it. Pre-arrange with a friend to send each other something. Bittersweets candy has the popular conversation hearts with untraditional sayings, such as "U+ME=GRIEF" and "DO MY DISHES."

Cheap Fun. Seek out and use coupons that are limited to "one per customer."

Pamper yourself. Whether you're a girl and your idea of pampering is a day at the spa, or you're a guy and your idea of pampering is a day on the slopes.

Family Ties. Call family members and wish them a happy day. Your mom and grandmother will get teary.

Hit the gym. Exercising is a surefire way to feel good. It gets your endorphins pumping and makes you oblivious to the outside world.

Be gutsy. Send a card to someone you've been crushing on. If you're shy, you can sign it "from a secret admirer." It will make their day. Be careful not to write anything too aggressive or creepy. Avoid the word "love," unless it is used in a sentence like "I love hanging out with you."

Party down. Throw a singles-only party. Throwing parties is a great cure for loneliness, and throwing a singles-only party may be a great way to meet your next valentine. Plus, throwing parties around holidays makes them easier to plan, because there's a built-in theme. You can all laugh about the bad dates you've had over the years. Make it a contest. All your dateless friends will thank you for something fun to do on Singles' Awareness Day.

And for you bitter singles... If Valentine's Day really makes you cringe and you want no part of the lovey-dovey holiday, you can try an alternate route—dress in black, watch war movies, sabotage your roommates' dates, throw water balloons at couples making out, or picket Valentine's Day outside of restaurants (not really).

Relish the fact that you are able to spend the day doing what you want on your own terms. You don't have to pretend to like Indian food or some silly stuffed animal or a tasteless CD. You can avoid the pressures of Valentine's Day altogether. Celebrate your autonomy—your freedom. After all, you're only single for so long, especially in Utah Valley.

XOXO!

How did the letters O and X become representative of hugs and kisses?

With so many symbols and expressions to define and show love, it's no wonder that love is a hard thing to explain.

The custom of XOXO dates back to the early Christian Era when the X was used as a legal signature by those who couldn't read or write. The letter X also represents the religious symbol of a cross, and kissing the X (similar to kissing the Bible) sealed the signer's sincerity.

The O was developed later and likely represents encircling arms.



*Not only is kissing good for your relationship, but also it's good for your health! Locking lips can boost your immune system, relieve stress, and even slow the aging process!



*A one-minute kiss works off 26 calories.



*Before marrying, American men will kiss approximately 24 women while women will lock lips with 17.5 men.



*Kissing reduces tooth decay because the extra saliva generated by lip-lock cleans your teeth.



Be A Better Kisser

By Kristen Plumb

1. Lean to the Right

People naturally lean to the right when kissing, so don't make kissing uncomfortable by leaning in to the left at first—otherwise there will be unnecessary bumps.

2. Close Your Eyes

Close your eyes when making out. It is just way too disconcerting and awkward to your partner if you have your eyes open.

3. Get Rid of the Gum

Sometimes gum can get sloppy and take away some of the moves you can do and have done to you.

4. Don't Overdo It On The First Kiss

For first kisses, keep it standard. Having a great first kiss opens the door to more kissing, so make sure you don't overdo it.

5. Cheek Kissing and Forehead Kissing

These types of kisses show that you really like the person and always make her feel special. Make sure you give her plenty of these special kisses!

6. Pause Before You Kiss

A well-timed pause can make your kiss more sensual- maybe add a giggle or a smirk and then kiss the person.

7. Compliment Each Other

Say things like "I really enjoyed that." By complimenting your partner, you are helping him to do things you like and also boosting his self-esteem.



By Kristen Plumb

Protect those precious lips

The cold winter weather has brought many students those dry, cracked and painful lips. Why? The skin of the lips is very thin, and the lips have very few lubricating and moisturizing glands. Many think that the dryness is instantly cured by licking the lips; however, the enzymes and bacteria in the saliva can actually increase the dryness. It is important to break or not begin the lip-licking cycle and apply a moisturizer or lip balm throughout the day.

To prevent and repair chapped lips, use either lip balm or petrolatum-based ointments such as Vaseline or Aquaphor. The object is to seal in moisture and form a protective barrier. If you are skiing or engaging in outdoor winter activities, it is key to use

a lip balm containing sunscreen. Hydrating by drinking plenty of water each day can also prevent chapped lips, though it is hard to remember that you are dehydrated in the cold. Dry lips may also be a sign of disorders like an allergic reaction to a skin care product, toothpaste, or lipstick.

Top 10 Lip Balms:

1. Chapstick
2. Shea Butter Lip Balm
3. Carmex Lip Balm
4. Kiehl's Lip Balm
5. Burt's Beeswax Lip Balm
6. Neutrogena Lip Moisturizer
7. Blistex Lip Balm
8. Neosporin Lip Treatment
9. Lip Smackers
10. Natural Ice Medicated Lip Treatment

Project

KW V3 Coilovers

kw-suspension.com

The new Variant 3 is state-of-the-art technology. The separate and independent compression along with rebound damping options allow a truly individual driving set-up. The KW suspension offers independently adjustable damping technology - rebound and compression damping. The coilovers are made with "inox-line" stainless steel technology and offer 14-level adjustable compression damping. The KW V3 was chosen because of the ability to have all of the features you will need at the track while still maintaining an amazing daily driveability.



RobiSpec Suspension Setup

robispec.com

RobiSpec is the place to take a car for the ultimate suspension setup. RobiSpec took the KW V3 Coilovers and started to work their magic. They installed the rear sway bar. Following the installation of the coilovers the car was then set up with a full race preparation using a precision racing laser alignment and corner balancing. RobiSpec is available for suspension set up at turbolaboratories.com in Orem.

Enkei GTC-01 Wheels

enkei.com

In racing there are no compromises and the passion to maximize performance is never ending. Direct from the racetrack to the street, M.A.T. Technology features forged processes. The Enkei GTC-01 18x10 with a 22 offset are great wheels to install on the Evo. When choosing a wheel you want to have it be as light and strong as possible. The Enkei GTC-01 is a great choice weighing in at just over 25 pounds

Nitto NT05 Tires

nittotire.com

The NT05 is a maximum performance summer tire that was developed using advanced computer simulation and extensive on-track testing. These development methods along with rigorous quality standards helped produce a street tire that provides precise and responsive handling and performance.

When mounted on the Enkei wheels the Nitto NT05 offered a perfect flush look.



VoltPhreaks VPH700 Lightweight Race Battery

voltphreaks.com

VoltPhreaks are passionate about two things -size and power. The VPH-700 only weighs 5.25 pounds compared to the 28 pounds of the stock battery. The lightweight race battery that VoltPhreaks produces puts out the same power if not more than a stock battery. The VPH 700 is made with the latest in lithium-iron nano technology and will last five to ten years with proper use.



EBCBRAKES.com

EBC Yellowstuff is an aramid fiber based brake compound and is possibly one of the first ever compounds that can be used for street and track driving.



SynapseEngineering.com

The Synchronic Blow Off valve is intended to significantly reduce or eliminate compressor surge and will not leak boost.



Twmpformance.com Short Shifter

The TWM short shifter reduces shift throw by 30% and shift knob height by 1.25" for optimal shift feel and performance. It is accompanied with a double stitched top grade Italian calfskin leather shift boot from redlinegoods.com.



carbontrix.com

The Evo X had to go wingless after getting to much attention from the fuzz. Carbon-Trix makes an amazing Carbon Fiber lip Spoiler and cover for the holes left from the wing. The installation is very easy and offers a clean look.



In this issue Road Race Engineering has gone to the extreme with the EVO X. The project is almost complete after working on suspension, tires, wheels and performance. All the sponsors of the project have come together, along with the help of Mike and the crew at Road Race Engineering, they have created an incredible Evo X. With all the work that was done to the car, it was Mike that was able to harness the power of all the new modifications with his amazing tuning capabilities.

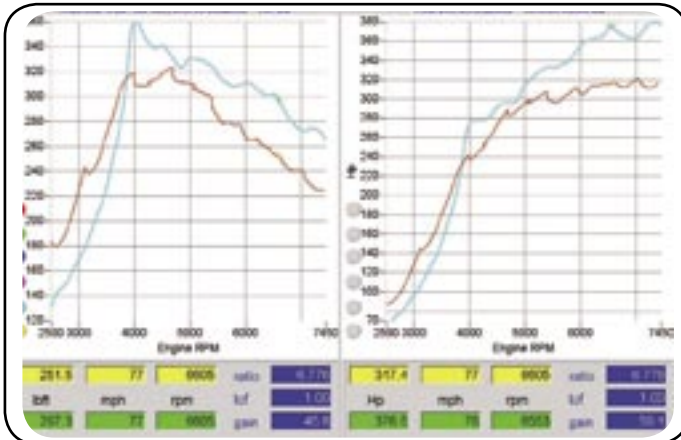
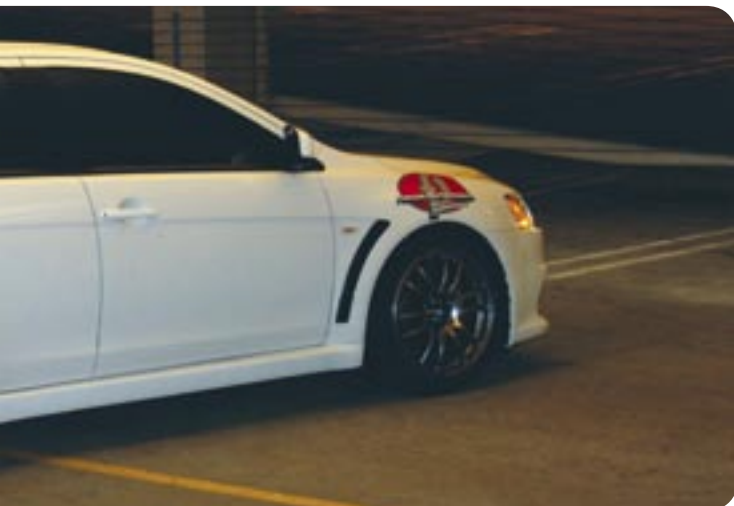


Evo X



Using the ECUTEK Software Mike is able to tune the engine and make it perform at its peak. With all of the parts installed from the sponsors Mike was able to pull out 376 wheel horsepower and 297lbft on 91 octane pump gas.

The Evo X will be entering the RedLine Time attack series (redlinetimeattack.com) starting in March. You can check out more pics and information, updates on the Project as well as race results at projectevox.blogspot.com.



| Performance |

Forced Performance R&D Turbo forcedperformance.com

The Forced Performance Red is a great solution for more power. The stock turbo is sent in and replaced with a fully built turbo. By changing out the internals of the stock turbo housing you are able to reach more power while still maintaining the stock appearance. Forced Performance is able to make consistent power gains with their product for only \$1400.



AGP Intercooler & Piping AGPTURBO.com

Intercooler-This core has a huge surface measuring in at 20x13x3.5. With the upgrade to this intercooler, there is noticeable and consistent power across the board due to a cooler air charge. Dyno results showed peak gains of 20 ft/lbs and 25 whp, and nowhere did it lose power throughout the RPM range.



Intercooler Piping- AGP's "Blacked Out" aluminum hard pipe kit completely replaces the factory rubber hoses that can expand under boost. Everything fit perfectly on the car and is able to offer the stealth look.



AEM Water/Methanol Injection Kit AEMPPOWER.com

AEM's Water / Methanol Injection Kit reduces air inlet temperatures and exhaust-gas temperatures, which allows you to increase boost pressure and advance timing without having to run on higher-octane fuel. It's like getting to run 100+ octane gas for the price of Premium. The Water / Methanol Injection Kit uses a boost-dependent, variable-flow progressive controller to determine the amount of water / methanol mixture (up to 50%) to feed into the inlet stream from the included one gallon reservoir.



DeatschWerks 800cc Injectors deatschwerks.com

At Deatschwerks they take a unique approach to building their high flow injectors. Other fuel injection companies offer only a couple different styles of injectors and leave fitting them up to the customer. At Deatschwerks every injector they produce is a drop-in fitment for its application. All Deatschwerks high flow fuel injectors are built using only quality OEM cores.



Mishimoto Radiator & Silicone Hosing mishimoto.com

This is the ideal upgrade to the stock Evo radiator. Having the turbo on the Evo produces a great amount of heat. The radiator was a direct OEM fit with no modification required and was very easy to install. The Mishimoto Silicone Hosing was also installed.





Top 15 Valentines Day Movies

If your plan is to stay in on Valentines Day, try one of these top Valentine Movies.

1. "Sleepless in Seattle"
2. "Breakfast at Tiffany's"
3. "The Notebook"
4. "Romeo and Juliet"
5. "Titanic"
6. "Notting Hill"
7. "Sabrina"
8. "While You Were Sleeping"
9. "Dirty Dancing"
10. "Princess Bride"
11. "Return to Me"
12. "Chocolat"
13. "Just Like Heaven"
14. "Two Weeks Notice"
15. "Wimbledon"

Start A D.T.R.

With Valentines Day coming up, some of us just want to know if it's worth it or not to spend the money on a relationship that may or may not be going anywhere. It's no secret that Valentines Day is not only a day of pledging your love or devotion to someone special, but it's also a huge drain on your wallet. So what do you do? How do you know what the other person expects? How big should you go?

A D.T.R. can solve this issue in a flash. Here are three great questions to help you start a D.T.R.

1. "Someone asked me out today, and I didn't know what to say, because I don't know where you and I stand in our relationship. What do you think?"
2. "I've had a lot of fun with you the last few weeks and I am starting to get really comfortable, I just wanted to ask you-- where do you see us going?"
3. "Someone asked me if you were my boyfriend/girlfriend today, and I didn't know what to tell them."

Stop A D.T.R.

Now if D.T.R. is the absolute last thing you want to do before Valentines Day and you want to either live it up with the other person spending money on you, or you just don't want to have to deal with it... Here are four things to help you stop a D.T.R. in it's track.

1. Have a coughing attack.
2. Fill your mouth with food and then change the subject.
3. Pretend you see someone you know who just walked by.
4. Just start making out with the person.



How to Plan the Best Valentine's Date

Don't give your date the run-of-the-mill dinner and a movie for Valentine's Day. It's a day specifically set apart as a celebration of love and relationships, and it calls for something a little more special. Here are some tips on how to blow away your date.

Dare to be Different

Go out of your way to plan a special event and do something you haven't done before. Get tickets to the symphony. Buy each other corny outfits. Go dancing. Plan a party with friends and do something romantic afterwards. Go star gazing. Cuddle up and make candlelight s'mores. Make each other t-shirts. Go to an exotic restaurant. The sky's the limit, so have an adventure! Just be sure you have a plan. If your plans consist of getting tickets or reservations somewhere, be sure to do it well in advance since Valentine's Day is a busy time for most establishments.

The Gift of Love

Ditch the jewelry and teddy bears. The cliché gifts of Valentine's Day don't really say anything about your feelings or your relationship. A box of chocolates just says, "I didn't know what to get you, so here you go." Give your other half something that he or she really wants—that nice jacket he's been eyeing or an art print to go in her bedroom. Get something silly or funny that has significance only to the two of you. Maybe you both admittedly know the dance to Michael Jackson's "Thriller" and it's time to buy the music video. Or maybe you know a favorite book or game from his childhood. Has your sweetie always wanted to learn how to roll sushi? Now's your chance to get her a nice sushi set. If you want to do something simpler, stock up on a favorite thing that he uses constantly. It could be cereal, guitar picks, tic-tacs, lip gloss—anything.

Don't Forget the Special Ingredient

Valentine's Day doesn't have to put a dent in your wallet. In fact, I'll tell you a secret: What really makes the women swoon is when you make them a present. I'm not suggesting you dust off your guitar and write a song or jot down that sonnet you've always been meaning to write (but if you have the guts to do that, more power to you). I'm just saying you could make a woman a sock puppet, and she would think it was the sweetest thing ever because you put some time and thought into it—and made it with your own two hands.

If sock puppets aren't your thing, food is always a sure sweet spot. Make your turtledove a romantic candlelight dinner or a tin of his favorite cookies. You could make a silly card or draw a funny picture of you two together. Make a mixed CD. Give her coupons for a massage or foot rub. You could take many of these suggestions and put them together in a gift basket full of different odds and ends.

Use the Element of Surprise

One of the most fun things about Valentine's Day is the suspense—the feeling of not knowing exactly what is going to happen. Surprise your honey bunch right off the bat with a sunrise breakfast, or kidnap him from work and take him out to lunch. Send a card or package in the mail or cover her front door in hearts. While she's out, cover her room with flowers, chocolates or little notes reminding her why you like her so much.

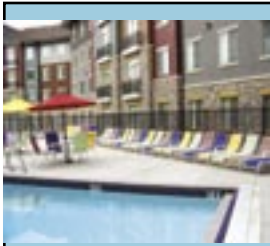
Most importantly, tailor your Valentine's Day to fit your personality and your relationship. Do something that no one else has ever done for your little sugar plum.

By Ashley Walton

2009

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**Need A Cool Place To Live Next Semester?
Check Out These Awesome Housing Options.
Pages 27-32**



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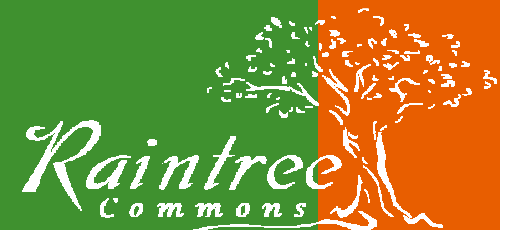
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