

Our Most Intimate Marriage Survey Ever

Would you rather renew your vows or get a bigger rock? Cheat on your guy or be cheated on? More than 1,000 married women weighed in on these and other hot topics in a Redbookmag.com poll. See how your answers stack up and hear how women on each side explain their decision.



married two years

Your husband were bald or had a beer belly?

Bald: 59%
Beer belly: 41%

"Bald doesn't bother me at all. Look at Bruce Willis or Montel -- they're hot!"
--Laura Grimmer, Texas, married four years

"My father-in-law is bald and does the dreaded comb-over. I'd hate to see my husband doing that!"
--Jennifer B., Washington, DC, married eight years

Move in with your parents or his?

My parents: 65%
His parents: 35%

"The evil you know is less scary than the one you don't."
--Mari Farthing, Oklahoma, married 12 years

"My in-laws are better housekeepers, and they always cook."
--Michelle Rosario, Ohio, married 10 years

Your husband wash or fold?

Wash: 72%
Fold: 28%

Would you rather...

Get an hour-long massage from your husband or a professional masseuse?

A masseuse: 59%
My husband: 41%

"I'd prefer a professional. My husband rubs me like he's attacking a side of beef."
--Andra Lahr, Texas, married five years

"A massage from my husband would be sensual and relaxing -- and just the beginning of a whole night of fun."
--Kelly Moran, Pennsylvania,

"He clumps and balls rather than folds, so I'd rather he wash."
--Brooke Duree, Texas, married four years

"[I prefer he folds.] My husband won't sort laundry. Then he complains that he has pink underwear."
--Vanessa Helfrich, Idaho, married nine years

Have a husband who's stunningly smart or amazingly good-looking?

Smart: 79%
Good-looking: 21%

"Someday, when all that sex appeal has wrinkled and turned gray, we'll still be able to stimulate each other's minds."
--Sara Switzer, Massachusetts, married four months

"I'd love to have the eye candy all the time."
--Michele Cullen, California, married eight years

Have sex last thing at night or first thing in the morning?

Last thing at night: 68%
First thing in the morning: 32%

"At night. I'm so relaxed after sex I fall asleep in his arms."
--Cathy S., Texas, married 10 years

"I always get a great energy boost after lovemaking. It's a great way to start the day."
--Jamie Hathaway, Pennsylvania, married two years

Have a husband who's a terrific handyman or who's a great cook?

Handyman: 80%
Cook: 20%

"A man who can fix stuff and do his own painting is so sexy."
--Carolyn Koegel, New Jersey, married 10 years

"You can hire someone to fix things, but cooking is more intimate."
--Liza Allen, Arizona, married eight years

Renew your vows in a lavish ceremony on your next anniversary or get a new, bigger diamond ring?

Diamond ring: 63%
Renew vows: 37%

"Diamonds are forever, ceremonies are not!"
--Sheri Biggs, Texas, married one year

"I would love to tell the world that, if given the chance, I would choose my husband all over again."
--Jacqueline Mellor, Florida, married 21 years

Cheat on your husband or have him cheat on you?

Cheat on him: 53%
Be cheated on: 47%

"I'd rather make it up to him for messing up than imagine him doing it."
--Traci Turner, Wisconsin, married one year

"I couldn't break his heart by cheating."
--Stephanie Schultz, California, married seven years

Your husband forget your birthday or your anniversary?

Birthday: 57%
Anniversary: 43%

"He wasn't there when I was born, but he was when he married me. So he should definitely remember it."
--Jennifer Roland, Arizona, married five years

"I always forget our anniversary anyway. Birthdays are personal."
--Rebecca Finkelman, Maryland, married five years

Have a husband who argues with you a lot or a husband who does whatever you say?

Argues a lot: 51%
Does whatever I say: 49%

"I'd rather be aware of what he's thinking. If he has a problem, I want to know."
--Jeanne Fowler, New York, married 15 years

"We already both have strong personalities, so I'd like to see what he'd be like as a 'yes-man.'"
--Victoria Parent, Connecticut married eight years

Relive your wedding or your honeymoon?

Honeymoon: 59%
Wedding: 41%

"Sex is better than cake!"
--Cindy Pruitt, Alabama, married 18 years

"Our wedding was the amazing experience -- we relive our honeymoon all the time."
--Heather C., Texas, married two years

Have oral sex or intercourse?

Have intercourse: 78%
Have oral sex: 22%

"Oral sex is nice as foreplay, but I want the real thing."
--Danielle Matney, Illinois, married one year

"I love performing oral sex on my husband to see and hear his responses! Plus, I am always well-rewarded for it."
--April Kenney, Michigan, married two years

Be on top or bottom when you're having sex with your husband?

Top: 58%
Bottom: 42%

"Top. Sometimes a girl just has to do things herself."
--Amanda Swan, Alaska, married six years

"Bottom. I spend my whole day being a hard-ass; in the bedroom, I like for someone else to take control."
--Jennifer Maxwell, Louisiana, married four years

Your husband paid more attention to you or paid more attention to the kids?

Paid more attention to me: 57%
Paid more attention to the kids: 43%

"He pays attention to all of us, but couple-time is precious and makes us better parents."
--Angela Bristol, Massachusetts, married four years

"I think a man who is good with his kids and loves them unconditionally is even sexier than a man who is lavishing a lot of attention on me."
--Jessica Penttinen, Arizona, married five years

Have more time to cook your own meals or have more money so you can afford takeout more often?

Have more time to cook: 52%

Have more money to afford takeout: 48%

"We get takeout a lot of the time because it's faster than cooking, but I really miss having big dinners and sitting around talking about our day like I did when I was a kid."

--Charity Geist, Pennsylvania, married less than one year

"More takeout -- it means less cleanup."

--Jennifer Galusha, Florida, married eight years

Have a husband who always wants to go out on the town with you or a husband who always wants to stay home?

A husband who always wants to stay home: 65%

A husband who always wants to go out: 35%

"I'd much rather stay in and cuddle than be out and around a ton of people."

--Starla Jones, Alabama, married six months

"I'd rather go out. I love being seen with him."

--Sharon Owens, West Virginia, married six years

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