

# 52 Great Dates

A year's worth of date ideas for entertaining and unique experiences for you and your significant other.



By Jason Tweed and Nicole Jarrett

Edited by Kyley Hoffman

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# 52 Great Dates

A year worth of ideas and inspiration for couples, whether you are just starting out or you have been together for years

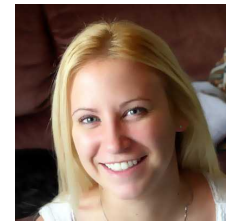
## Introduction

During a slow day in the office, Jason Tweed and Nikki Jarrett were lamenting about their boring romantic lives. They were both very much in love, Jason with his wife and Nikki with her fiancée, but their dates were becoming habits. The romance wasn't dead, but was increasingly predictable.



“Whenever I ask my wife Kristen about her ideal date, she simply says “dinner and a movie.” When Jason and Kristen get a night away from their four year old twins, Jason wants to do something new and exciting, but Kristen just wants a little break. She isn't opposed to trying something new; she just doesn't have the energy to investigate new ideas.

“Kirk is a romantic, but two things limit him. First his crazy work schedule means we date at odd hours, and second, with our impending wedding, every dollar counts.” Nikki and Kirk end up playing pool almost every weekend. When Nikki suggested trying something new, Kirk's best idea was trying new “beers of the world!”



Nikki and Jason thought briefly about dumping their significant others and dating each other. But pawning diamond rings and visiting divorce attorneys seemed like a lot of work, so they decided to write a book instead.

They created a short list of date ideas for their partners. It quickly turned into “52 Great Dates” after they realized that every couple probably experiences the same romantic lulls from time to time.

“We hope you enjoy this book half as much as we enjoyed writing it. We can tell you from personal experiences that many of these dates have enhanced our relationships, while others have simply given us funny memories to look back on when we are holding hands with our loved ones in old age.”

## How to Use This E-Book

Imagine a date every Friday night with the same person, but never having two Fridays the same. The concept for 52 Great Dates is simple, and hopefully, planning and enjoying your dates will be equally simple.

While you can use every date in this E-book in order, we wouldn't recommend it. You'll find a wide variety of dates, and while many will be enjoyable, others won't fit every couple.

**Skim every date** ó Each date has an overview paragraph and some will immediately appeal to you.

**Pick your favorites** ó Select five or six and read them thoroughly. Then choose one to be your first great date.

**Print your first date** ó Each date has been set up to print on a single sheet of paper. Select File > Print from your web browser or PDF reader. Then choose the option to print the current page.

**Research the date** ó Some of the dates require a little homework. We've provided web-links to get you started.

**Plan the date** ó Some of these dates can be planned in an afternoon, while others require more lead time.

**Surprise your date** ó Most of our dates can be great surprises. We highly recommend that you try to surprise your date whenever possible.

Have fun!

## Creating Your Own Great Dates

This is the process we used to develop these dates. We hope you will use it to invent your own great dates and use our samples as inspiration.

First, great dates take lots of planning. Let's face it, if great dates just happened spontaneously, you wouldn't be reading this e-book. While they take planning, this doesn't mean you need to spend more time planning the date than enjoying the date.

Second, scoring points with your mate is important. We all have an emotional bank account and these dates are designed to make deposits. Some of the dates are extravagant while others are amazingly simple. One commonality is that every one of them takes some type of investment in your partner and your relationship. These dates are designed to strengthen your relationship first, and have fun second.

Access is also important. People who live in big cities have one set of opportunities while people who live in the country have other possibilities. Some dates are far easier to pull off in your community, while others require travel. Consider the setting when you are choosing your dates.

Most of us have to watch our wallets or purses. We always took expenses into account. Many of the dates in this e-book are free or very low cost. Others are clearly more expensive. Then there's a third category of dates that appear cheap, but actually can run you into some serious bucks. We tried to give you as much information about expenses as we could.

People are like snowflakes. Every one is different. For many of the dates we have options or alternative experiences. Consider your mate when planning a date. Does she have a sense of humor? Is he physically fit? Do they love the arts or hate them? Rap or Rock n' Roll?

Great dates are safe dates. Nothing ruins a romantic evening like a trip to the emergency room. A couple of our dates have warnings to help prevent loss of life, limb, or property value. Follow them and you will likely stay alive and out of jail, don't and who knows. Then of course, danger may be your middle name! In that case, just don't sue us.

Finally, do your homework. Each date is set up in this e-book to print on a separate page. We tried to give you as much information as we could, but for a few you'll need to do a little more homework. For these, we provided you some web-links to get you started. One advantage to e-publishing is that we can link other sources. We love the internet! With that said, all the external links are run by other companies and occasionally you may find one that is broken or whose content has changed. For this we apologize, please don't sue us. If you do find a broken link email us at [updates@52dates.com](mailto:updates@52dates.com).

## Treasure Hunt Date

As the story goes, "X" marks the spot. Everybody loves a treasure hunt. The suspense will keep your date wondering what you have up your sleeve next. Women will love the fact that you put this much time into the date, and guys will think this is exceptionally fun and maybe challenging. And when you reach the secret destination, your date will be even more appreciative because of how much fun it was getting there.

Description: Create a treasure map to lead your date to your predetermined "date spot" (the restaurant, park, etc.) The keys to a successful treasure hunt is to create clues that are very accurate, but non-descript when looking at the map.

For example, don't use the McDonalds at the corner of Main and Chestnut at the last location so they can skip ahead. Start with a location that they know well. You may even start at their home. Use lots of numbers such as "three stop lights and turn left".



For an added bonus, you could tear the map up and plant additional pieces at locations along the way.

Consider using multiple modes of transportation. Have them drive a car to a particular supermarket then find a red bicycle and give them the combination to the lock. Have them ride to a friend's house and look in their shed for another map.

You can also involve other people. Make your date stop by a mini-mart and purchase something unusual and have the clerk slip them a map to your next location.

Successfully pulling off this date requires three things:

- Very accurate and precise directions (test them)
- Four or five steps, not too few or too many
- A mate with a sense of adventure

Optional equipment includes a talking parrot and an eye patch.

What you need: Supplies to make the treasure map (listed in the link below).

Cost: Basically it's free but this is just the beginning of the date. After all the build up you should plan something special.

Options: This date can be combined with other dates that have a destination so the fun can begin before the date even starts.

Warnings: Make sure both of you have a cell phone in case your date has trouble using your map and gets lost.

Notes: You can have an extra surprise waiting at the destination spot, such as flowers, candy, or a stuffed animal.

Links: [Treasure Map](#) ó This website has step by step instructions on how to make an authentic looking treasure map.

## The Auction Date

If you've never attended an estate sale, you're missing out. The random items that people actually pay money for is hilarious. And you'll be surprised what you end up with at the end of the sale too.

For the hard to sell items, the auctioneers combine them with better products and when you buy something you actually want, you get stuck with these other things that will end up going in the trash when you get home. But hey, it's a blast bidding against other people to see if they'll step out; the snack stands are usually loaded with goodies and drinks, and you can hang out and just talk with your date in between. But a word of caution, if you get an itch, or you start to get sleepy and feel like stretching, DON'T, I REPEAT DON'T stick your hand up in the air, because most likely you just bid 100 dollars on something you don't want and will never be able to get rid of, ha ha.

Description: Attend an estate or community auction together. Each of you get a set amount of money, preferably a small amount like \$10 or \$15. Attempt to buy the most ridiculous item possible, and then agree on which family member most would appreciate the "gift". If it's early yet, wrap your gift and deliver it.



What you need: A newspaper that has auction or yard sale listings.

Cost: You set the amount to spend.

Options:

- Travel around to yard sales on a Saturday Morning.
- Sit in front of your computer and bid no more than \$1 on any item on Ebay. See if you or your mate can win the best item for a buck.



Warnings: Don't attempt this date if your spouse is a recovering shopaholic, this could throw them into a relapse.

Notes: While you're at the auction, try winning a really ugly picture and then proceed to give it to a relative as a gift. If your relative loves you but hates the picture you'll know because it's hanging in their bathroom. If they hate the picture even more than they love you, they won't hang it up at all.

Links: [Government Police Auctions](#)

## The Chocolate Date

I've often thought it would be better for all Americans if they ate their meals in reverse. We should start with dessert and work backwards to the salad. My reasoning is that I'm always so full from eating the appetizers and the main dish that by the time I get to dessert I can't possibly put one more bite of food in my mouth. It's not proven, but I'm convinced that missing dessert on a regular basis can cause severe depression. So one way we can all avoid this problem is to eat an entire meal of dessert. So fondue your way to freedom!

Description: Tell your date you are making them a seven course meal. Then serve every course made entirely out of chocolate. Chocolate pudding, chocolate bars, chocolate milk, chocolate covered strawberries, hot chocolate, chocolate dip with pretzels, etc.

What you need: Recipe ingredients and lots of CHOCOLATE, duh!



Cost: Depends if you're a chocoholic like me. I'd probably buy the store out and that can get kind of expensive.

Options: Rent Willy Wonka and the chocolate factory to go along with your seven course chocolate meal. Something about that chocolate river makes me feel all warm and tingly inside.

Warnings: Some say chocolate is an aphrodisiac. And if that's true then a seven course meal containing chocolate in every course should be enough to get you both in the "mood".

Notes: Some scientists believe that eating chocolate and having sex release the same stimulant called PEA. Awesome, bonus! If you're interested in reading more about how love produces chemical changes in our body, check out the second link below.

Links:

1. [Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory](#)
2. [The Chemistry of Love](#)
3. [Kraft Foods](#) ó Type the word chocolate in the enter ingredients box and you'll be supplied with over 800 recipes that use chocolate.

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