

## Seven Ways to Have a Wonderful Anniversary

**Author:** Janette Vince

Article:

Anniversaries can be a time of stress for couples. Women worry that their husbands will forget all about them on that special day. Men worry that they'll forget and have to throw a gift together at the last minute. But it doesn't have to be this way.

Whether you've just remembered your anniversary is tomorrow, or whether you've been thinking about it for weeks, here are seven never-fail ways to give your spouse an anniversary they'll never forget.

**A romantic getaway** - From a weeklong sailing vacation on the Greek Islands to a weekend trip to a local bed-and-breakfast, nothing beats a spontaneous romantic getaway on your anniversary. Don't be discouraged from this idea if you don't have a big budget. It doesn't matter how much the vacation costs--what's important is that the two of you set aside time to be alone together and lose yourselves in that romantic mood, even if it's just for a few days. A new place also helps rev up the romance by adding novelty and a touch of luxury.

**A gift to remember** - Forget the flowers, chocolates and jewelry. Give your spouse a gift they're not expecting this year. For him, it's often best to give something special that corresponds to his interests. Has he always wanted to learn to fly planes or play guitar? Buy him some lessons. Does he have a favorite band? Get him concert tickets. Does he love sports? Get him great seats for the big match. For her, it's all about demonstrating that you've put thought and time into the gift. Go through your photo albums. Make a collage of your marriage--from your wedding day through important events like buying your house and the birth of your kids. Make the photos into a DVD movie or into a hardbound coffee-table book.

**A surprise party** - Planning a party is a great way to bring friends and family together to celebrate your love. It doesn't have to be an expensive party--but it does have to correspond to the interests of both. A dinner party, picnic-and-barbecue, pool party, or restaurant gathering are all great ideas. Unless you've got a big budget, keep it simple--paper plates and potluck are all fine.

**Renew your vows** - This is an extremely romantic idea, and one that doesn't have to break the bank. Gather your friends and family, a suitable vicar and renew your vows in a romantic place like a park, on the beach, or even in your home. Demonstrate to your spouse that you'd marry them all over again. These can be as elaborate or as simple as you want. Some couples plan vow-renewal ceremonies as complex as the weddings themselves, while others make them very informal and inexpensive. Either way you do it, it's sure to make for a wedding anniversary you'll have trouble topping next year.

**Write a love letter** - Nothing says "I love you" like, well...a letter that says "I love you." Of course, it's got to say a few other things as well. But don't give up on this idea just because you aren't a prize-winning writer. You don't have to write something brilliant, as long as it's heartfelt. And believe me, your spouse will never notice any spelling mistakes if the words you use are sincere.

Tell your spouse how attractive, sweet, or funny you thought they were when you met. Tell them how nervous you were on your first date. Tell them the moment you knew you wanted to marry them. Details are important--show your spouse how clearly you remember those special times.

**Watch your wedding video** - If you're not up for a big night out or vacation this year, spend a night inside. Get some popcorn, put on slippers and sweatpants, and spend an evening watching your wedding video and leafing through your wedding album. Make sure the kids are at a sleepover or over at Grandma's--this night should be all about the two of you. If you prefer, cook a simple meal for dinner--or order Chinese food. Above all, concentrate on each other and on your wedding day. It might be low-key, but it will set the stage for a perfectly romantic anniversary.

**Pamper each other** - An at-home spa day is a great way to have a wonderful anniversary. Spend an afternoon giving each other deep tissue massages and foot rubs. Don't forget to bring some adult toys to make your at-home spa treatments much more fun and memorable than an ordinary trip to the day spa!

The most important piece of advice I can give you about your anniversary is not to forget it! Mark your diary, calendar or whatever software you use to remember appointments and keep it in mind as the time draws nearer.

However, even if you leave it until the last minute, you can still have a memorable anniversary. These creative anniversary ideas are sure to give you wonderful anniversaries--at least for the next seven years.

**About the author:**

Janette Vince is managing director of [www.thanksdarling.com](http://www.thanksdarling.com) an online company offering a range of gifts and experience days for individuals and couples. For a range of leisure breaks visit <http://www.thanksdarling.com/48-5.htm>

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