

# Date Night Deck of Cards

By Jessica Harris Daum



Yes, married couples should go on dates! God has given you each other to love. Tending your relationship by having fun together is a must. An hour of brainstorming and planning will give you a year's worth of dates. Then, let the luck of the draw take the stress out of deciding what to do with an evening together. Revive date night, whether at home or out on the town, and enjoy new adventures with the one you love.

## For

Adult, Couple

## Season

Summer

## Needed

Deck of cards, permanent marker, paper and a writing utensil, one hour



## Prepare in Advance

- Choose a time and place to spend an hour together creating your own date night deck of cards
- Dream ahead of time about ideas for fun and creative dates

## Activity Plan

1. Begin your time together by praying this or a similar prayer:

*God, you have given us each other to love. Help us to tend and care for our relationship by having fun together. Bless our conversation and give us creativity as we plan and dream. Amen.*

2. Brainstorm as many ideas for a date as you can. Write them on paper. Don't worry if the ideas are off-the-wall or impractical. During this brainstorming session, anything goes! Dates should fall into four categories: night in, night out, extra planning and/or expense, and all-day. To spark creativity, think of favorite things you've done or usually do, places you've wanted to visit in your area, activities you've been meaning to do together, and dream dates. Consider volunteering together as a meaningful and creative date. Some examples include: spaghetti and an Italian movie, Bed and Breakfast overnight, go-carting, browse a bookstore, hike and picnic, attend a community education class.
3. When the list is long, read through the ideas and talk about which you would like to include and which might not work well. Remember you have 52 cards, but you don't have to fill them all.
4. Write each date idea on a different card with permanent marker. Organize the date types by suit (such as: Hearts=Night In, Clubs=Night Out, Diamonds=Extra Planning or \$, and Spades=All Day).
5. Choose a day of the week that works well for you to have a regular date together. Earlier in the week, pull a card out of the deck to find out what you'll be doing on your date. If you'd like, choose from the suit representing the best date type for the week. If you've been busy, maybe you'd prefer to choose an at-home date from the "Night In" category. If it's your anniversary, you might want to pick an "Extra Planning or Expense" date for a special time together. Choose a card for this week's date now.

6. End this time of creativity and planning as you began, in prayer:

*God, we thank you for this time to dream and plan together. Help us to look forward to date nights with hopeful anticipation. Remind us that it is never too late to embark on a new adventure. Amen.*

