TAKE A STEP CLOSER

PIZZA DATE

Pizza! This date is all about those round, delicious pies. Oh yeah, and having a fun time with your spouse. That, too.

Ground Rules

- If you have kids, put them to bed or distract them with a movie in the other room or basement.
- Take a break from talking about the usual suspects (money, kids, in-laws).
- As much as humanly possible, stay off technology, unless instructed to by this date.
- Relax, reconnect, and occasionally flirt...

Get Ready

Choose Your Pizza: It could be baking your favorite frozen pizza, ordering a pizza, or reheating left over pizza. If you have kids, maybe you make a dessert pizza after they go to bed. Whatever pizza you choose, schedule a time to eat, enjoy, and walk through the rest of your date.

Set The Mood: While on your date, listen to this Spotify playlist (bit.ly/pizzadatenight) or use your own...

Making Your Marriage Pizza...

We'd like to think of a pizza as a metaphor for marriage. Think we're crazy? While you eat your pizza, go through the following steps together to see what we're talking about.

- What's the best pizza you ever had?
- If you could only have one pizza for the rest of your life, what would it be?
- What's the weirdest pizza topping you've ever seen?
- If you could eat at one restaurant every day, which restaurant would you choose?

Crust

Every marriage needs a strong foundation. Every pizza begins with the foundation of crust. Choose which crust best describes what your marriage is built on.

- Thin: we keep things light and fun
- Deep dish: we go deep and get real
- Chicago Style: full of midwestern family values
- Stuffed crust: there's something great hidden you didn't expect

Sauce

Every marriage needs something to keep it spicy and interesting. Every pizza has a layer of sauce to provide the spice. Which of these sauces most closely describes your marriage?

- Marinara: keep it classic, nothing fancy
- White sauce: we love trying new things
- Pesto: we love to be healthy
- **BBQ**: we keep it tangy

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Cheese

Every marriage needs something to hold things together. Every pizza has a layer of cheese(s) to hold all the toppings in place. The best way to protect your marriage is to enjoy it. Say Cheese and laugh together with this Couplie Scavenger Hunt (Couplie = Couples Selfie).

- Take a couplie sharing a piece of pizza (à la Lady & The Tramp)
- Take a couplie making funny faces
- Take a couplie hiding under a blanket
- Take a couplie using items to give each other fake mustaches
- Take a couplie upside down

Post your favorite couplie on social media, and set it as the background on your phone.

Toppings

The best thing about a pizza is that you can customize it with almost any topping (even pineapple). They can be random and delicious. To celebrate that, here's a list of random questions to go with various, popular pizza toppings.

- 1. Pepperoni: Were you popular in high school? Are you glad that you were or weren't?
- 2. Mushrooms: If you had to change your name, what would you change it to?
- 3. Green peppers: Would you rather not be able to read or not be able to count?
- 4. Olives: What has been your life's most embarrassing moment?
- **5. Anchovies**: What are you most qualified to teach others how to do?
- **6. Onions**: How would you live differently if you became famous?
- **7. Sausage**: If you could start a charity, what cause would it help?
- **8. Bacon**: If you had a talk show, who would be your first three guests?
- 9. Pineapple: What would the title of your autobiography be?
- 10. Extra cheese: Which sport would you most want to play professionally?
- **11. Tomatoes**: Who is the oldest person you've ever known?
- 12. Spinach: Which piece of technology do you wish didn't exist?
- **13. Fresh basil**: If we had to re-do our first date, where would we go?
- 14. Ham: What's the most vivid dream you ever had?
- 15. BBQ chicken: If you got a full-ride college scholarship right now, what would you study?

Dare Me

Make plans to surprise another couple/family with dinner by ordering pizza and have it delivered to their house. You may even want to send along a copy of this date to encourage them to make their marriage pizza...

Keep it Going This Week

Make three coupons for your spouse to do something nice for them, no questions asked: clean the bathroom, unload the dishwasher, mow the yard, back massage, etc... Give the coupons to your spouse to be used at any time they see fit. Then, actually do the thing you said you would once they cash in the coupon.