

Some Ideas for Lovers

This is May, well past Valentine's Day, but love is a year-around pursuit – building those special, intimate relationships.

So if you are looking for a gift or just a unique way to say *I love you*, what do you do?

What do you give when his dresser is full of cologne and the tie rack has plenty of choices? When you're both on diets? When she thinks flowers die too soon, and you've already spent next month's paycheck?

Here are some inexpensive ways gleaned from *Family Matters* – a non-profit ministry whose goal is to equip families for every age and stage of life – to tell the love of your life just how much you care:



1. Make a homemade card with a picture of the two of you on the cover. Get ideas for a verse by spending a few minutes browsing through a card shop.
2. Write a poem. It doesn't have to rhyme.
3. Send a love letter, listing the reasons "why *I love you so much*."
4. Pledge your love for a lifetime. Write it on calligraphy or design it on a desktop computer and print it out on parchment paper and have it framed.
5. Plan a surprise lunch, complete with picnic basket, sparkling grape juice and goblets.
6. Bake a giant cookie and write *I love you* with heart-shaped red dots or frosting. (Don't worry about the calories; it's not for eating!)
7. Kidnap the car for a thorough washing and detailing.
8. Compose a love song.
9. Buy favorite fruits that aren't in season, like a basket of strawberries or blueberries.
10. Hide little love notes in the car, a coat pocket, or desk.
11. Florist flowers are not the only way to say *I love you*. Pluck a single flower and write a message about how its beauty reminds you of your love. For greater impact, have it delivered at work.
12. Prepare a surprise candlelight, gourmet dinner for two.
13. Write the story of the growth of your relationship from your perspective, sharing your emotions and your joys. What a treasure!
14. Promise to change a habit that your love has been wanting you to change.

Perhaps one or more of these ideas will make the next birthday, anniversary or celebration of some other special event a home run for you!

How beautiful and pleasant you are, O loved one, with all your delights! (Song of Solomon 7:6 ESV).

– Beecher Hunter