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# 12 things couples in long-term relationships do

In a long-term relationship? We guarantee most of these will sound very familiar....

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Submitted by: Clemmie Millbank

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Rules for long-term couples. Image: Up/Disney Pixar

**There are a few rules that everyone in a long-term relationship comes to know, from sleep routines to household chores – don't worry marriage won't change any of them!**

## 7 SIGNS YOU'RE ALREADY AN OLD MARRIED COUPLE

### 1. You have strict bedtime rules

There are sides (obviously) and you also know their preferred sleeping style and a few acceptable cuddling positions.

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**2. Your most important conversations revolve around food**

You talk about what you're having for dinner while you're out at lunch.

**3. You live by the mantra "hairy legs are no big deal"**

Shaving is reserved for special occasions and the summer months. It's way too cold in January.

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**4. You accept that the big romantic gestures are gone**

It's true, those days of a dozen red roses and posh jewellery are no more. His gifts are now chocolate-based for that time of the month, and takeaways for when you feel blue – which are just as romantic.

**5. You could itemise every single piece of his wardrobe**

You have your favourites and the bits you really don't like. You also know the state of repair of each sock and pair of pants.



**6. You are 'ahem' comfortable with one another's bodily functions**

Whether it's sniggering at a loud parp or squeezing each other's spots, you take intimacy to a whole new level.

**7. You appreciate that silence is golden**

Sometimes the most important time a couple can spend with each other is just being quiet doing their own thing.

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**8. You know each other's biggest secrets**

Desperately want to forget that time you had gastroenteritis in Corfu? He won't let you...

**9. You have dedicated household jobs (beyond vacuuming/washing up)**

You're on spider catching, he's on unclogging the drain.



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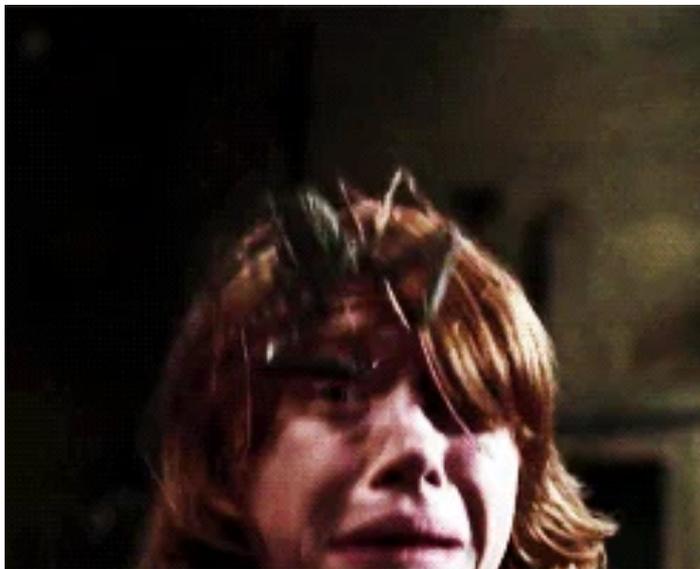
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**10. You recognise that you're not joined at the hip**

He loves rock climbing and you're terrified of heights. You love running, but it hurts his knees. You both know it's okay to go and do your own thing and have some time apart.

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**11. You communicate without words**

Hands signals, an eye roll or even just a look can tell you partner exactly how you're feeling, or create a good few minutes of giggling that no one else will get.

**12. Your priority each day is to get into comfortable clothes as soon as humanely possible**

Is the front door locked? Good. The bra is coming off and pyjama bottoms are going on – DO NOT answer the door to anyone.

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- No. I was genuinely shocked!

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