



Romantic Ideas

For LDR Couples

30 +

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Dear Readers,

As you know, maintaining romance in any relationship can be difficult but it can be even more challenging for couples separated by distance.

It's easy to think of the distance between you as an obstacle that limits what you can and can't do for one another, but really it's not. This book aims to give couples a little boost by providing a list of over 30 tips, ideas and a few activities that will help you keep the romance going for you and your special someone.

It is our hope that you will use these few tips to inspire your own sense of romantic creativity within your own relationship. Don't look at the distance between you as a limitation, but view it as a personal challenge to create new, un-thought of and creative ways to keep the romance alive despite the distance.

The Crew @

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1. Create a Special Greeting

Your relationship is special in a way that doesn't match any other. Show your s/o how special they are to you by finding a special way to greet them each time you meet.

2. Make a Desktop Background

Create a desktop background that features the both of you. It doesn't have to be expertly made, or overly complicated. Just include a photo of the both of you with a few personal notes, quotes or other messages. When you both go to use your computer, you'll both see that background that you made for the two of you.

3. Buy their Domain Name

Buy a domain name that uses your s/o name. Use the website to display poems, stories, photos, videos, etc. for your s/o. When you feel you've accumulated enough casually ask if they've ever searched to see if their domain name has been taken. When they find it has been, they'll type in the domain name and find all your gifts to them.

A few ideas:

1. A video or voice file of yourself reading or reciting a special message.
2. A collection of videos or pictures of special things that remind you of your s/o.
3. A slideshow of old photos of the two of you together, narrated by text or voice.
4. A collection of songs that remind you of your s/o.
5. "Your" song played across the website.
6. A handwritten love letter scanned and displayed on the website.
7. A favorite story from a visit together.
8. A fictional story written about the two of you.
9. Messages from their (or your) friends and family.

4. Send a coded Book Message

If you and your s/o are avid book readers, use the book to send a cute and fun love message to them. This can be done near or far and there are several ways to do this.

- On a separate sheet of paper or in an email, write down the book's name, the page number the first word is found on, the paragraph number the word is found in, the sentence number the word is found in and the number of words it is starting from the first word.

It would look something like this: **Pg42, P3, S3, W7**. It reads "**Page 42, Paragraph 3, Sentence 3, Word 7**" which could yield the word "You".

You could create an entire message by forming a puzzled note that would look something like this:

Pg42, P3, S3, W7 → "You"
Pg10, P1, S2, W2 → "are"
Pg11, P1, S6, W8 → "beautiful"

If you wanted a less difficult puzzle for your s/o, you could simply write the sentences out as well. Phrases could be used instead of individual words for a less taxing project.

Try it out with a single page, multiple pages, a single book or multiple books.

This can be done with online books, PDFs, e-books or you can include a slip of paper in a book you are sending as a gift.

- Sending a book to your s/o? Highlight or underline certain words in the pages of the book to include a secret message for them. Underlining words is a lot less noticeable, while highlighting them should draw their attention to your message quickly.
As with the previous idea, you can underline words or phrases or even single letters to create your message. Be sure to underline them in the order you want them to be read. Or, for an extra bit of puzzle, don't underline them in order and let your s/o scramble to figure your message out. Words or phrases that aren't underlined in any particular order could also be numbered.

5. Show them the musical side to your heart

Serenade your s/o over webcam, on the phone over an internet call. Play with a musical instrument or sing the song that reminds you most of them, or the song that is special to the both of you.

For a twist on this, pre-record your serenade and send it as an mp3 file, or burn it to a CD and ship it to your s/o.

6. Leave Surprise Voice Messages

Leave a voice message on your s/o phone when they least expect it. You can send an email or text message in the same way. Express how much you love them and enjoy your relationship together.

7. Advertise your Love!

Purchase an ad campaign on a website or forum you know your s/o frequents daily. Instead of an ad, place a message, photo or something you know they will appreciate there for them. If they frequent the website often, it will be a nice surprise for them! This can also work for a newspaper your s/o reads daily, or a magazine they love to read.

8. Have your own personal Book Club

For couples who live in the same time zone, read a few pages out of a favorite book together before bed over the phone. Take turns reading and talking about what you've read.

For couples who don't live in the same time zone, this can be done at other times of the day as well, and even over webcam.

9. Everybody Loves Mail!

Write your s/o a simple letter and mail it to them. It can be plain and simple, or long and elaborate. Everyone loves mail (as long as it isn't a bill), and your s/o will love knowing that you were thinking about them.

10. Order a Special Delivery

Have flowers, dinner, a gift or anything else delivered to you s/o as a surprise. This is a very easy and wonderful idea for couples who can't be physically together. Plan it during the times you know they will be home. Include special instructions or notes to be delivered along with the items you've ordered for them.

11. Take the Day Off

Arrange to both take a day off from work, and spend the entire day talking over the phone, chatting online or video chatting over webcam. Share meals together, read books together, watch movies together and make the day all about the two of you.

12. Dedication over Email

Choose a random day to send and dedicate a song, book, movie or even an online video to your s/o over email. Include a little dedication message so they'll know why this item was worth dedicating to them.

13. Make them the star of a Photo Shoot

For couples who video chat frequently, have a photo shoot day. Have your s/o pose for photos over webcam. Pose and make cute webcam photos together. Try to find ways to make the photos seem like you're together even if you aren't.

14. Start a Gift Week

Designate a special week where you and your s/o both exchange gifts every day for a week. The gifts can be anything from poems to drawings to videos.

15. Make them your Ringtone

Choose a special ringtone that you and your s/o can share. For an extra special touch, make the ringtone your special song together. When you both call or text each other, you'll hear a segment from your favorite song and know exactly who it is.

Another great idea is to actually use your s/o voice as your ringtone. Have them send you a recorded message saying something along the lines of "I'm calling you! Where are you? Pick up! It's ____." Or have them personalize it so that the ringtone is special to you.

16. Take an interest in their interests

The most romantic thing anyone can do for their s/o is to actively take an interest in something that they love –even if you don't. Your s/o will love and adore you for trying so hard to find ways that you can both connect together.

17. Send them a Picture a Day

Send your s/o a daily photo of yourself in silly outfits, strange locations or in everyday circumstances. Hold up notes, or signs to convey a message in each photo. Send them at random times of the day so as not to be predictable.

18. Saving all my love

Save emails, chats, and text messages from your s/o that made you smile. Compile them all into a bundle and send them as an email or a long letter, with your own personal letter attached expressing how happy those words made you.

19. Become Twitter-pated

Tweet a special message to or about your s/o every hour in a single day, every day, every day for a week or every day for a month to show them how special they really are to you.

20. Send Something Giant

Send a send a gift in a giant box or a giant cardboard greeting card to your s/o.

21. Always under the Same Sky

Stay up late and watch the stars together. Ask your s/o to count as many stars as they can and when they tire, tell them you love them more than all the stars they could ever count. Star gazing is something couples can do near or far.

22. Give Something Their Name

Distance can sometimes limit gift options. Naming something after your s/o is easy to do. Doing a quick Google search yields results for many things you can name after your special someone: A rose, a math theorem, a new species, a star, a new species of spider, a lunar crater, a penguin, a bench in central park or even a cockroach! The possibilities are endless.

23. Make Photo Notes

Write a love letter and divide it into sentences or words. Print those sentences out on paper and take your s/o on a photo trip to various locations. In each of these locations, take the sheets of paper with your message segments printed on them and stick them in the scenes for each photo -then snap away!

Examples:

"I love you" - photo snapped on a park bench.

"More than" - photo snapped on the sand of a beach.

"Anything" - photo snapped on a bed.

24. Send Your Scent

Send a letter with a spray of your own cologne/perfume. Smells are intricately connected with emotions & having access to your scent again will surely make that special someone's day.

25. The Surprise Anniversary

Pick a special day for an unusual anniversary. Surprise your s/o on this day with gifts, messages and other goodies relevant to the event you are celebrating. A few anniversary ideas:

Couple-versary: *The date you officially became a couple.*

Meet-aversary: *The date of your first meeting.*

Date-aversary: *An anniversary of your first date.*

Kiss-aversary: *The anniversary of a first kiss.*

Month-aversary: *An anniversary of each month together.*

26. The Old Love Note in a Book Trick

Buy your s/o a copy of their favorite book. Offer to read the book together. Slip a small love note inside one of the pages, so when they get to that page they'll have something far more interesting to read.

27. Post Card Notes

Write a love note to your s/o with sections of it spread out over a series of postcards. Send them in or out of order.

29. Save Those Special Dates

Write down each date that you've both been able to meet or visit, add a caption to each and get it framed. Example:

May 3rd, 2008- "This day I knew we'd be forever."

Dec 15th, 2009- "The best gift I could ever have."

30. Make a Scribble Book

Buy a notebook and make a scribble book of all the romantic thoughts you've ever had about your s/o but didn't have the guts to tell them face to face. Send it in the mail, or gift it face to face.

31. Create New Traditions

Every family has their own traditions. Create a new shared tradition between the two of you that is unique to your relationship and really make it your own.

32. Create a Documentary

Take a camera and a week to document your life without your s/o. Highlight the things you do without them and the things you'd do if they were there. Include special messages about them and how they bring joy to your life.

33. Dressing up For a Date

For a long distance webcam session, take the time to dress up the way you would if you were going on a physical date. This can be pre-arranged by the both of you or you can surprise your s/o by dressing up in a way that you know they will love.

34. Dedication over the Radio

Find out what radio stations your s/o listens to regularly -online or off. Plan to have a song dedicated to them or a special shout out to them at a time when you know they will be listening.

35. I 'wish' you were here

Giftwrap a wish bone, a small genie bottle & other wish related items and mail it to your s/o in a small giftwrapped box with a note that says "I have wished in every way that you were here right now. Maybe it'll work if you do it."