



The Rules(TM) for Marriage: Time-tested Secrets for Making Your Marriage Work

By Ellen Fein, Sherrie Schneider

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You did the Rules-And They Worked! You captured the heart of your Mr. Right and are, at the very least, engaged. Maybe you're married ... or perhaps you and your partner got together without the help of The Rules. Now You're Looking for Ways to Keep Your Relationship Happy and Healthy. The Rules For Marriage is Here! In this new book, the authors of The Rules offer forty-two time-tested tips for keeping your marriage healthy and happy. Some will sound familiar, others are completely new. But they all lead to the same wonderful future-the one in which you and your husband stay together forever! Discover: * Rule #4: Keep up your own interests (have a life!) * Rule #15: Say what you mean, but don't say it mean * Rule #21: Don't force him to "talk" * Rule #35: Don't find fault with things you knew about when you married him So whatever your marital problems, The Rules for Marriage can help.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

According to authors Ellen Fein and Sherrie Schneider, the rules of a happy marriage are often very different from the rules a single woman should follow in order to get hitched in the first place. In their phenomenally successful dating guide, *The Rules*, Fein and Schneider urged single women to adopt a strategy of denial--don't call him, don't be too available, don't sleep with him early on. In marriage, however, it seems the rules have drastically changed. He wants sex? Give it to him. He doesn't want to talk? So be it. He wants to go to the game and you don't? Shut up and go. As Schneider stated in a promotional TV interview, "It's not about being right--it's about what works."

If you operate on the premise that most of the emotional work in a marriage is the responsibility of the woman, and that any marriage is preferable to no marriage at all, then this book is for you. "The fact is, to be happily married, a woman sometimes needs to treat her husband like a client or customer whom they want to keep happy (let him be right)," the authors write. "You're probably thinking, 'Why can't it be equal?' Why doesn't he have to do all the things you're suggesting, like 'Don't say the first mean word or make up first?' Our answer is because that is the way it is." For women who work hard in demanding jobs and then come home to manage children and a household, learning that they should completely put aside their needs, yet "continue to be a creature like any other," will not only come as a shock, but as an insult as well.

To be fair, some of the 43 rules in the book are the kind of useful common sense that would benefit any partnership. Untold numbers of marriage experts have been dishing out this kind of advice for years--say what you mean but don't say it meanly, be supportive, and don't nag. Fortunately, if lowering your expectations and letting your hubby win (Rules 5 and 9) don't work, the book also includes rules for divorce and second marriages. --*Marianne Painter*

From Publishers Weekly

For faithful followers of the *The Rules*, the authors of that wildly popular dating manual now provide a lifelong "maintenance" plan that is, more rules on how to hang onto husbands once they've been nabbed. Rule 36 ("It's easier to stay married than to get married") sums up their strategy. But many women will wonder about the payoff in marriage as depicted here, which for women involves being someone else's cheerleader for life, expecting neither sympathy nor applause for doing the chores and not forcing one's husband to talk, on the premise that men are from Mars. Even common-sense advice such as keep up your own interests and give him time alone when he comes home sounds callow in Fein and Schneider's hands. At least they don't pretend there's anything new in these "time-tested" rules. Other familiar fare includes scheduling a date night and reminders not to nag or to try to be a superwoman. Some of the original rules, like the one about having "long hair," are included. Others may be unpleasant for some readers: do things you don't want to do, like go to football games or see his family. The rules are clear on the subject of fidelity: the marriage is over if the husband cheats even once. Perhaps because of the disclosure of coauthor Fein's recent divorce, the book also covers the dos and don'ts of divorce have dignity and date ASAP and second marriages. (June) Forecast: Despite its arguably retrograde stance, this guide is as golden as a wedding band. The media has already begun to roll in though much has been related to Fein's divorce. But "Rules girls" will still flock to the author tour venues in five cities, and countless brides or brides-to-be will receive the book as a gift, serious or otherwise.

From Library Journal

When it first came out, *The Rules* (1996) was attacked for being anti-feminist and even misogynistic. That didn't keep it from becoming a best seller and spawning *The Rules II* and other spin-offs. *The Rules for Marriage* follows suit. With advice that runs along the lines of "So what if your husband blasts rock music at 6 a.m.! He likes it! You need to adjust. Use the time you would normally spend sleeping to go to the gym instead!" and "Wear sexy clothes when you go out even if you would rather be comfortable! It matters more what he thinks!" the Rules Girls aren't going to win any awards for promoting equality between the sexes. Some of their advice, however, isn't so bad; for example, they do tell women not to depend on their husbands for all of their fun and emotional support. But of the 43 rules, at least two-thirds are a little on the Phyllis Schlafly side. As a bonus, the authors go beyond telling you how to be a Rules Girl in your marriage they offer rules for divorce and for second marriages. (What a plus!) Still, there's bound to be demand, although Fein's recent divorce may undermine the Rules Girls' credibility.

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Donna Lacher:

Do you have favorite book? When you have, what is your favorite's book? Guide is very important thing for us to be aware of everything in the world. Each e-book has different aim or goal; it means that e-book has different type. Some people sense enjoy to spend their the perfect time to read a book. They are really reading whatever they take because their hobby is usually reading a book. Why not the person who don't like looking at a book? Sometime, particular person feel need book when they found difficult problem or exercise. Well, probably you will require this *The Rules(TM) for Marriage: Time-tested Secrets for Making Your Marriage Work*.

James Matter:

Nowadays reading books be than want or need but also turn into a life style. This reading routine give you lot of advantages. The benefits you got of course the knowledge the rest of the information inside the book in which improve your knowledge and information. The data you get based on what kind of publication you read, if you want send more knowledge just go with schooling books but if you want experience happy read one with theme for entertaining like comic or novel. The particular *The Rules(TM) for Marriage: Time-tested Secrets for Making Your Marriage Work* is kind of guide which is giving the reader unpredictable experience.

Guadalupe Hauser:

Playing with family in a very park, coming to see the ocean world or hanging out with buddies is thing that usually you might have done when you have spare time, after that why you don't try factor that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not sense tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition info. Even you love *The Rules(TM) for Marriage: Time-tested Secrets for Making Your Marriage Work*, you can enjoy both. It is very good combination right, you still would like to miss it? What kind of hangout type is it? Oh can happen its mind hangout men. What? Still don't have it, oh come on its called reading friends.

Robert McCauley:

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