



The Nest Newlywed Handbook

Carley Roney

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If only the answer to every marital question were as easy as “I do!”

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Online wedding community TheKnot.com was fielding so many questions like these from their newly married members that they were inspired to create an entirely new site—TheNest.com—dedicated to the unique issues that face people in the first few years of marriage. A 24/7 virtual married-best-friend-who’s-been-there-before, the site and its thousands of just-married members dish out advice on everything from how to get your permanent roommate to pick up his or her dirty socks, to how to inspect a property when you’re buying your first home, to foolproof guidelines for entertaining the in-laws. Unlike single friends (who don’t have the experience to give tried and true advice) or Mom (who has lots of experience but tends to give too much advice), Nesties share their experiences with no strings attached—and free of the worries that come with real-world friendship.

Now the editors of The Nest have brought together the very best of this hard-won knowledge, plus their own astute insights into the early years of marriage, to create a unique resource for navigating the sometimes bumpy road of marriage. Touching on everything from money to sex and starting a family, they go where no etiquette book or self-help manual has gone before, providing real-life solutions for the myriad problems even the happiest couple can encounter when two become one.

The first in a series of books for any couple who wants every day of their new lives together to be as fulfilling and meaningful as the day they walked down the aisle, *The Nest Newlywed Handbook* goes beyond platitudes and pep talks to explore the many rich rewards of married life.

An offshoot of the hugely popular wedding website The Knot, The Nest started out as an online community of girls grappling with the emotional issues—and enormous to-do lists—that come with the first years of marriage. The Nest has grown into a weekly webzine, a print magazine, and now a book series—all 100% committed to the phrase “happily ever after.” Visit us at thenest.com.

Secrets every couple needs to know, from the website that put marriage on the map

Whether you’re about to tie the knot or are already well into your first years together, you are sure to have realized that this is not your parents’ marriage. Oh, how the rules—and roles—have changed. Who does the housework now that everyone works? If you want to keep your money separate—does it mean you’re not committed? Is it OK to order takeout when the in-laws come for dinner? *The Nest Newlywed Handbook* is your road map to modern married life, guiding you through the ins and outs of tackling life as a twosome.

Get tips and tricks on:

- Merging your money (or not)

- Building the family fortune
- Loving your in-laws
- Buying your first home
- Decorating as a duo
- Divvyng up the chores
- Keeping the flame alive
- Fighting nicely
- Talking about kids
- Maintaining your single friends
- Hosting during the holidays
- Figuring out the future

This book is filled with advice, detailed to-dos, checklists, quizzes, and worksheets that are sure to spark conversations, fix problems, and get your new life together on track and off to a good start.

The Nest Newlywed Handbook Details

Date : Published October 3rd 2006 by Potter Style

ISBN : 9780307340221

Author : Carley Roney

Format : Paperback 304 pages

Genre : Nonfiction, Marriage, Relationships, Reference, Self Help, Love

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From Reader Review The Nest Newlywed Handbook for online ebook

Denele says

No thanks, superficial and stereotypical.

Mo says

I like how the book is set up into different chapters (i.e. 'money', 'home', 'friends and fun') and that each chapter starts with quiz/probing questions that you can ask your mate (though I don't think my husband enjoyed answering the questions as much as I did). As with any general book about marriage, there were some topics that were a big hit and other topics that had pretty much no relevance to me and my hubbie. I was disappointed with the chapter on money, I think that the author made the assumption that most of us reading the book are working full-time in lucrative jobs (whereas my husband and I are both still college students). But overall, it's a good book to read while you're still glowing in the fact that you're a newlywed.

Donna D'Angelo Struck says

I think I would have found this book more helpful/useful if I was a younger newlywed. I would recommend this book to a 20 or even 30-something newlywed. The 40-something that I am already knew or had thought of most of the information in the book. That said, I thought it was a cute book and written in a nice, informal manner. I wouldn't hesitate to buy this book for a young bride (or groom) to be. The charts/forms at the end could be a great tool for some couples.

Ashley Katsuyama says

This would make a great shower gift. It's smartly written and laid out, and full of practical advice for newlywed couples.

Sherry says

You don't need marriage counseling! Read this! We're all crazy in our own ways, and rather than trying to make your marriage fit into a neat little box, this book emphasizes understanding you and your partner's differences. A real-world, no B.S. way of dealing with everything from finances, housework, arguing, shady pasts, to getting along with in-laws. This book applies not only to newlyweds...all married couples could benefit from this!

Madeline Ellis says

ha, i read this one on my honeymoon too. some of it was cheesy and dawson and i just read the quizzes and stuff to laugh.. but some of it was really helpful- just the technical parts of becoming a married couple, name change, check lists for things in the beginning etiquette type things. there is a nice part in the back that gets you to list out all of each others important information incase of anything, info i hadn't even thought about..it was a good book though could have had more to it.

Chanita.Shannon says

Got from library. No time to read it. Check it out again and order it.

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(From Amazon)

kaity says

I got this mainly for the financial section, which is moderately helpful. It gives the very basics of what should be on your radar, so you can then find resources that go more in depth.

Each chapter also has an inane quiz full of dated references. I did find the lists of questions at the start of chapters to be somewhat good for gauging where each person is coming from on various issues.

Pretty much, this book was exactly what I thought it would be: web content. Definitely borrow, unless you plan to make a lot of notes & use the appendix for keeping all the data it suggests (SSNs, bank account numbers, relatives' birthdays and anniversaries, etc.)

Amela says

If you're engaged, have a friend who's engaged, a daughter, sister, whoever! This is the book!

This book will literally "Save" Your Marriage, meaning, less arguments with each other, no more confusion, more time consuming, etc...

This book was inspired by members of the REAL couples website "theknot" with the help of it's members this book has everything from money management to how to handle your mother in law !

WHAT BOOK HAS THAT !?

this one of course!

MUST BUY FOR ENGAGED/NEWLY WEDS & EVEN IF YOU'VE BEEN MARRIED FOR A LITTLE WHILE IT MIGHT HELP YOU TOO! It's never too late! =D

Myridian says

This book was surprisingly good. I was expecting a froo froo discussion of tips for married folk (most of which are common sense and we already know). Instead this was a cogent summary of the main areas that cause marital distress (money, sex, living together, friendships, in-laws, kids) plus suggestions for the process of communication. While there are parts that have little to no relevance for us (in-laws, sex), there were plenty of good ideas in the other sections to make up for it. And if no section felt complete, having a good overview felt sufficiently helpful that this book can get you going in the right direction. I was particularly surprised that a section on communication strategies could have things that I hadn't thought of or addressed before.

Lisa Roberts says

I've just started reading this book but I love it. It definitely explains all the new experiences that you are going through and that they are normal and you are not alone. Marriage does bring about a life change, good, nevertheless change is always different and this just helps pave the path.

It talks about everything from to merge or not merge bank accounts, to buying your first home together, your sex life, your in-laws, having children, etc...everything you experience for the first time with your soulmate. No one teaches you these things in school you just have to learn along the way, this book is the best resource.

April says

Lots of tips, hints and insight for a couple. Personally I think most of the advice/conversations/etc is stuff that should occur before a couple is married. Lots of worksheets and info sheets in the back to fill out, my favorite one is the "Our Wish List" form... just a place to list the things that I, he, and we want to accomplish. You could make a list each year and see which goals have been met and which ones haven't been. Then make a new list based on where you are for the next year together. Overall, interesting, but nothing earth-shattering you haven't heard before.

Chrystal says

Interesting concept for a book. Based on American financial items, housing etc - so not totally working for a

Canadian like me, but the main concepts still get through. I did take a few thing away from this book, but mostly since we already lived together before getting married we have a lot of the items they talk about in place and working smoothly. :)

I would suggest this book for a couple who has not lived together prior to getting married.

Alexandria says

I should have known there were going to be problems with this book the moment I saw that The Nest had published it.

The Nest - and its affiliate sites The Knot and The Bump - are notoriously problematic. They are incredibly classist (I mean, we can all afford the latest baby gadgets and at least a one-week vacation away from home each year, right?!) and there is a lot of subtle racism that goes on.

With those large issues in mind, I was not surprised to see a lot of awful advice given and completely unrealistic expectations set. A really clear example of this is in the in-laws section. According to this book, every snarky thing your in-laws say should be met with a firm but polite response that completely ignores the negative connotations of their statement and pretends they meant something positive. I'm sorry, but no. If you don't call out bad behavior, it only gets worse. And if your spouse isn't willing to stand by your side or bow out of the argument and let the two adults involved handle it, then you need to have a serious conversation with your spouse. Be respectful but be direct. All the passive aggressive and apparent airhead comments will do, is make the situation worse.

The true irritation point came when I reached the chapters on balancing friends and time with your significant other, and on sex.

First of all, there is a huge swath of sexual behavior between "our sex life is like a chaste Harlequin romance with candles and flowers and simultaneous orgasms with nothing but sweet words spoken" and "our sex toys are anything and everything, our dirty talk will melt your ears, and sex in public is the best thing ever!"

By making these the most common approaches to sexuality, this book is making sex either sterile or awkward, and it doesn't have to be either. Most people I know fall into neither category (the "third" category they provide in the quizzes and advice sections is a pithier version of Harlequin Lady) and they have great, healthy sex lives. It is too irritating for words that the Nest has chosen to ignore healthy, involved sexuality in favor of their caricatures.

Regarding the section about friends: there was some good info (ex: have date nights, but also have alone nights and time with friends without your SO each week) but the Nest apparently thinks that all married women automatically become fixated on the idea that all their friends must get married. I have NEVER seen this in real life. Most of my friends are single and that is perfectly okay with me. I don't have to hide my marriage from them (as the Nest frequently suggests you do by not mentioning your SO at all while out at dinner and glossing over any stories centering on your relationship. Not sometimes, mind you, but ALWAYS) and they don't live in fear of me saying shit like "you better hurry if you want to have to kids" and "I can hook you up with someone from his work, there are a bunch of single guys". Or, my favorite "beggars can't be choosers. Who cares if there is no spark with him?!"

Apparently these are things "smug married women" say to their friends. Folks, if you have a friends like this: ditch them. They are toxic people and I guarantee that they were being just as shitty before they got married.

Just about other things. I mean... do the folks at the Nest really live in such shitty, catty circles that this was their idea of "smug"? This is not smug... this is downright mean and bordering on cruel.

Bottom Line: find another line of books. I've picked up a few others I will be reading through and I will hopefully have a better suggestion soon.

If you're grabbing this book for the baby section, I have two suggestions that are infinitely better: Expecting Better and Bringing up Bebe. By The Nest's standards, nobody I know should ever have a kid... ever. You apparently have to be in a starter house with a yard, be in a fast-growing career and have a huge bumper budget to qualify for the reproduction rumba. Classist. As. Fuck.

The only thing this book is good for is the questions you should be asking your spouse regarding children. But, honestly? If you're married and didn't ask at least half the questions they list prior to meeting at the altar, you may have put the cart before the horse here.

I cannot say it enough: Avoid anything this company produces. At best it's unrealistic, and at worse you're so far outside their demographic (wealthy white women) that the books will alternately make you feel like shit and seethe with rage.

Andrea says

This was a cute and informative book. I still have not figured out if this is based on 'the Nest' website or vice versa. Either way it was a fun way to read through some of the topics from the website. Since I got married at 39 after being together for 8 years I'm not starting from scratch so to speak. A lot of this information felt it was geared to maybe the younger couples. Although, working on your relationship and home should never be something you stop doing. I appreciated how helpful it would be for people starting out to have those tough conversations about finances, holidays, and not clicking with the in-laws. I wish I had help with some of that stuff we had to go through the pains of figuring out.
