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# Dating advice

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## Sensible dating advice

Zillions of books are out there saying that if you just go to the right Starbucks, you'll run into your soulmate. After reporting this, and other dating stories, this reporter is disinclined to believe that. But there *is* legitimate dating advice out there. Here's a look at a few suggestions that actually make sense.

### Do's

- "You have to know what you want to get what you want." - April Masini, the 30-something hostess of relationship site askapril.com and author of four books, most recently *Think and Date Like a Man*. (iUniverse, 2005, \$15.95)
- "Take care of yourself. Start doing things to make yourself healthier and to feel better, such as massages, beauty treatments, working out." - Nancy Trent, 51, president and founder of Trent & Company, a Manhattan-based public relations firm
- "Go where the men are - golf course, tennis courts, and not a club where young women in their 20s are hanging out." - Masini
- "Remain open to love. It will find its way to your doorstep." - Kathryn Alice, 46, Venice, Calif.-based author of *Love Will Find You*. (Marlowe & Co., 2006, \$14.95)
- "Mingle in groups of less than 30 so you can have a conversation." - Maria Swan, 66, who runs www.realestate4singles.com in Phoenix

### Don'ts

- "Don't ask a man out. It's like giving a man a trophy for not running a marathon." - Masini
- "Avoid singles events. They can have an air of desperation not conducive to love." - Alice
- "Never have sex on the first date. If he doesn't have to work for it, he's not going to." - Masini
- "Don't go to wine-tasting classes or opera nights looking for love. The only men there are gay couples." - Swan

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