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You Found the Ring! Here's How *Not* to Ruin the Proposal Now That You Know It's Coming

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Photo: Getty Images

It was innocent enough: Fresh out of clean pajamas, you rifled through your boyfriend's underwear drawer in search of boxers to wear to bed when your hand wrapped around a little velvet box. Now you *know* a proposal is coming. What's a girl to do?

If he walks in while you're gawking at the ring, now is "the perfect time to proclaim innocence — and surprise!" advises April Masini, relationship expert and advice columnist at Askapril.com. Explain your unintentional discovery, she says, but focus on how thrilled you are at the outcome. Remember, "an innocent discovery is less important than a proposal with the ring, and maybe this is the great story you get to tell your great, great grandchildren about one of the best days in your lives, together."

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Of course, if you haven't been caught and you're vying for "a romantic proposal with champagne and violins, you may want to put the ring back where it was, and back away from the hiding place without letting on you've seen it," Masini says. When he finally pops the question, "focus on the actual ring or the rest of your lives together," suggests Masini. This will make your emotions seem more genuine. "When you're trying to act surprised and you're not actually surprised, you're just going to make it worse by back-pedaling poorly. Saying, 'the ring is beautiful!' is a much better and more genuine way to approach the proposal after you've found out about it ahead of time."

You can also use your insider information to your advantage. "If you know a proposal is coming, get ready!" Masini says. "Have a regular manicure appointment on the books. Buy cute proposal outfits, and be photo-ready so you can capture the moment as if you always have a glam squad around. You might as well make the best of the knowledge!"

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