

BREAK THRU COUNSELING CENTER

Pre-Marital Conversation Inventory

INSTRUCTIONS:

This is a list of issues couples often face as part of their marriage. There are two answers for each item. Check the one that most accurately describes your feelings now. Do not share any answers with your fiancé or spouse until the form has been fully completed.

NOTE: Just because you checked “We probably need to talk more about this” does not necessarily mean we will discuss every topic during your counseling sessions. If a specific question is very important to you, or it an area of conflict, make sure you talk about this with your counselor. This inventory is for your benefit.

YOUR NAME

PARTNER'S NAME

HOW DO I FEEL ABOUT...

WE'VE WORKED THIS
OUT PRETTY WELL...

WE PROBABLY NEED
TO TALK MORE
ABOUT THIS...

1. HOUSING

a. Knowing where we will be living

b. Agreeing on how much money we should spend for housing.

c. Deciding how we want to furnish our home.

d. Being satisfied we will have sufficient privacy and space.

e. Having what we agree are the basic necessities and luxuries.

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2. MONEY MANAGEMENT

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Making our income cover our expenses. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Taking care of outstanding debts (including student loans). | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. Deciding who will pay the bills and how our family finances are going to be handled. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. Knowing more and agreeing more about budgeting. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. Agreeing who will spend the money each of us earns. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f. Discussing Life and Health Insurance, existing savings accounts, stocks, bonds, etc. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g. If married previously, discussed implications of ex-spouse and child support on family budget. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

3. OUR RELATIONSHIP AND IT'S GROWTH

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Adjusting to our different backgrounds and upbringing. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Telling each other clearly about the things that really irritate us. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. Expressing our real feelings to each other. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. Handling our arguments and conflicts. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. Willingness to seek counseling if one of us feels it is necessary. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

WE'VE WORKED THIS OUT PRETTY WELL... WE PROBABLY NEED TO TALK MORE ABOUT THIS...

4. EDUCATION

- a. Having similar feelings about current and additional educational plans.

5. EMPLOYMENT

- a. Agreeing whether the husband and Wife will be in the right job.
- b. Agreeing whether the wife or husband will work after marriage and for how long.
- c. Having job security: wondering if the job has any future in it.

6. HEALTH

- a. Have a recent, complete physical examination for both of us.
- b. Having agreement on specific plans for contraception and that plan's effects.
- c. Telling each other of any health issues that could affect us as a couple and our future.

7. RELIGIOUS MATTERS

- a. Determining the part we want the church to play in our marriage.
- b. Agreeing about attending church. (which church, and one or both of us)
- c. Knowing a church we want to attend.
- d. Knowing what it means to be a Christian.
- e. Understanding together how we want our children raised in the church.

	WE'VE WORKED THIS OUT PRETTY WELL...	WE PROBABLY NEED TO TALK MORE ABOUT THIS...
f. Discussing prayer as a couple and a devotional life for our family in our home.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>8. IN-LAWS AND RELATIVES</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. Getting along with our future in-laws.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Adjusting to possible interference from in-laws.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Borrowing from or lending money to our in-laws and relatives.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Agreeing on how often to visit parents and family.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Discussed holiday traditions and our participation in each other's larger family at these and other special times/events.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. If married previously, discussed and worked out issues concerning ex-spouse(s).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>9. CHILDREN</u>		
a. Both of us being interested in and really liking children.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Have talked about genetic testing before having children.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Having a pretty clear idea about when we want to have our first child... and how many...or if we want to have children.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Agreeing on the care, raising and discipline of children.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Agreeing on the wife/husband working outside the home or being a stay-at-home mom/dad.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

WE'VE WORKED THIS WE PROBABLY NEED
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ABOUT THIS...

- f. If married previously, we have worked through with each other and with the children the implications of a new blended family, discipline, visitation schedule or partial custody arrangements.

10. SEXUAL ADJUSTMENT

- a. Agreeing about premarital sexual conduct with one another.
- b. Knowing what we want to know about our own bodies, pregnancy, sexual adjustment, etc.
- c. Talked about use of pornography and other explicit materials in our sexual relationship.
- d. Openly expressing our real feelings to each other about sexuality and our own needs.
- e. Understanding how our parent's attitudes about sex have affected our present feelings.
- f. Meeting our own and the other's need for affection.
- g. Discussed plans for the sexual education of our children.

11. LEISURE TIME

- a. Agreeing on how to spend our leisure time.
- b. Agreeing on our choice of friends. (same sex or opposite sex)
- c. Agreeing on how much time each of us will spend with friends (our own friends).

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d. Talked about use of drinking, drugs,
gambling, partying, etc. as leisure
time activities(legal or illegal).

12. WEDDING PLANS

a. Agreeing that the wedding date chosen
Is the best date possible.

b. Agreeing on the style, arrangements,
and financing of the wedding.

c. Decision and agreement on where to
go for the wedding night and
honeymoon.

13. OTHER TOPICS I WOULD LIKE TO TALK ABOUT:
