

## Popular love songs stand the test of time

There are many different ways to convey feelings of affection. Some people pen poetry, others bestow gifts, while still others feel moved by music and lyrics. Songs have long been a popular way to convey emotions -- and love songs have been performed by artists from nearly every musical genre at some point in time.



endeared the famed crooner to many others.

-- **"My Heart Will Go On":** Celine Dion's theme from "Titanic" became one of the most popular love songs of all time after the film's 1997 debut.

-- **"I'll Stand by You":** This 1994 hit from The Pretenders can be interpreted as a song of romantic devotion or a commitment to friends.

-- **"You Are So Beautiful":** Joe Cocker makes the list again with this soulful 1975 hit.

-- **"Have I Told You Lately":** Originally written and recorded by Van Morrison, this song gained new life and notoriety when recorded by Rod Stewart.

-- **"My Girl":** Beloved R&B group The Temptations deliver a song about sunshine on a cloudy day in this classic.

-- **"I Will Always Love You":** Written and performed by Dolly Parton, this song is perhaps most known for the version performed by Whitney Houston for the soundtrack of her 1992 film "The Bodyguard."

-- **"Time After Time":** A song of devotion, Cyndi Lauper earned her first No. 1 single with this hit.

-- **"Hey There, Delilah":** A simple song of young love by the Plain White T's.

-- **"Unchained Melody":** The Righteous Brothers delivered the best-known version of this song, which helped create movie magic between Patrick Swayze and Demi Moore in the 1990 film "Ghost."

-- **"Just the Way You Are":** Billy Joel's classic in which he tells his beloved she is perfect as-is.

-- **"Your Song":** A simple, eloquently written song of love from Elton John.

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## Frugal ways to celebrate Valentine's Day

A day set aside to shower a loved one with gifts and touching words of affection, Valentine's Day brightens the often gloomy month of February. Established centuries ago with origins shrouded in mystery, Valentine's Day has evolved into one of the most popular -- and expensive -- days of the year. Many couples celebrate Valentine's Day with cards, gifts and nights out on the town, and such celebrations can stretch budgets.

Coming on the heels of post-holiday bills, Valentine's Day can feel like a costly prospect. Yet, even those on a budget can enjoy a special day to remember without breaking the bank. The following are several frugal ways to enjoy Valentine's Day.

### Create your own greeting card.

It can be challenging to find cards that offer just the right sentiments. Sometimes cards seem distant, too risqué or overly sentimental. Instead, create your own card. Find a decorative blank card or make one from card stock. Search through your digital photos and print one of the two of you together. Glue on a paper heart border, and then jot down some affectionate sentiments.

### Cleverly wrap favorite chocolate.

Chocolate is synonymous with Valentine's Day, and it's easy to spend a lot on gourmet chocolates without even knowing if your valentine will like what's inside the box. Stick to what you know he or she likes, even if it's a simple chocolate bar from a convenience store. Buy a few and then wrap them in a fancy box with ribbon.

### Go out for a small bite to eat.

If you're concerned about the cost of an expensive dinner out or anticipate being restricted to a certain menu, plan to dine at home. You can



opt to go out for cocktails prior or head to a café for dessert and cappuccino afterward. This way you'll still get the experience of going out without being forced to overspend.

### Purchase a rosebush.

Bouquets of roses are traditional gifts for Valentine's Day. However, thanks to the increased demand, the cost of roses tends to increase as Valentine's Day draws nearer. If you want to save money but still give roses, buy a plant that blooms each year. Buy a rosebush and plan to put it in the garden come spring when all danger of frost is gone.

### Turn older jewelry new again.

Diamonds and other jewelry can be costly. If a new piece simply isn't in the budget, consider repurposing an older piece of jewelry that isn't worn as often. It's amazing what a new setting on a ring can look like or how stones on a seldom-used necklace can be turned into fashionable stud earrings. If you have a good amount of mismatched gold jewelry lying around, you may be able to sell it or have it melted down and turned into a beautiful new creation.

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## LOVE YOUR SPACE

### Four Valentine's Day home decor ideas

From planning a romantic night in with your significant other to hosting friends for "Galentine's Day," Valentine's Day is a perfect opportunity to fill your home with love and heartfelt style.

Whether you add subtle accents or bold pops of color, decorating for the season of love is about adding intentional touches that make your spaces feel special.

### 1. Choose a Valentine's palette:

The classic red and pink motif is a perfect starting point. A few heart-shaped throw pillows, blush pink accessories or a rich red accent blanket can capture the spirit without overwhelming. If bold colors don't match your current design style, ground them with neutrals like soft whites, creams or grays to create a romantic look that feels intentional and cohesive.

### 2. Set the mood with lighting and texture:

Soft lighting -- think string lights draped along a mantel, clusters of warm-hued candles or a table lamp with a rosy glow -- can make rooms feel cozier, as can layering sensual textures like

velvet pillows, knit throws and lace or crochet accents. These elements feel inviting and chic, creating a relaxed, intimate atmosphere perfect for a celebratory evening at home.

### 3. Fresh florals and heart-felt accents:

A timeless Valentine's Day tradition, fresh flowers can bring life, color and fragrance to any room. A vase of red roses, pink tulips or mixed seasonal blooms can serve as a centerpiece on your dining room table or entry console. For an added seasonal touch, consider heart-shaped garlands or DIY paper hearts on shelves, mirrors or around picture frames.

### 4. Personalize with love:

Much like heart-warming gifts, the most meaningful decor often has a personal story. Frame a favorite photo, display a handwritten love note or incorporate a treasured keepsake into your Valentine's arrangement to make your space feel uniquely yours.

For more ideas to celebrate love every time you walk through the door, visit eLivingtoday.com.

--Family Features/

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## Interesting facts about U.S. presidents

Americans celebrate President's Day each year in mid-February. Though some may see the holiday, which is celebrated on a Monday, as a great opportunity to book a three-day weekend getaway, others may be inspired to learn about the many men who have held the highest office in the United States. For the latter, the following are some interesting facts about U.S. presidents, courtesy of History.com.

• Founding father and first U.S. president George Washington was a man with many hobbies, including dog breeding. Alex Hager of the Presidential Pet Museum told History.com that Washington likely developed his passion for dog breeding as a result of his love of fox hunting. Indeed, the American Kennel Club considers Washington the father of the American foxhound. It's also worth noting Washington's predilection for giving his dogs humorous names, including Drunkard, Tippler and Sweet Lips.

• Thirty-third president Harry S. Truman's name is somewhat misleading. The middle initial "S" is not an abbreviation for any particular name, but rather an homage to his grandfather Anderson Shipp Truman and Solomon Young.

• Richard Nixon, the nation's thirty-seventh president, was a highly skilled poker player. In fact, during his time serving in the United States Navy during World War II, Nixon won substantial sums of money playing poker, funds he ultimately used to finance his first political campaign.

## Did You Know?



Located at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C., the White House serves as the official residence for the President of the United States as well as the primary place where he or she conducts official business. The building was designed by Irish-born architect James Hoban, who was instrumental in creating many official buildings after emigrating to the United States. In June 1792, Hoban was summoned to the temporary U.S. capital in Philadelphia to compete in a design competition for the White House. George Washington, the first President of the United States, was fond of Hoban after admiring some of his work while touring the southern United States. Washington never got a chance to live in the White House, however. He is the only President never to live in the White House, as the building was not completed before the end of his second term.

• John Quincy Adams might be most recognized as the first man to follow his father and hold the office of the president. However, the sixth president had a notable career even after his time holding the highest office in the land. John Quincy Adams argued before the Supreme Court in a case that freed African captives who had rebelled aboard the slave ship Amistad. That rebellion and its subsequent court case was later dramatized in the 1997 Steven Spielberg film "Amistad," in which Adams was portrayed by Welsh actor Anthony Hopkins.

• It took some time before the United States had its first American-born president, but that happened upon the election of Martin Van Buren in 1837.

Prior to Van Buren's victory, all presidents had been born before 1776 and were thus British subjects at their time of birth.

• Many Americans fought long and hard to secure the right to vote, but one president never voted until his own name appeared on the ballot. Zachary Taylor, the nation's twelfth president, acknowledged he had never voted prior to 1848, the year he was elected president.

• Only two men in U.S. history have been elected to serve non-consecutive terms as president. The first to do so was Grover Cleveland, who served as

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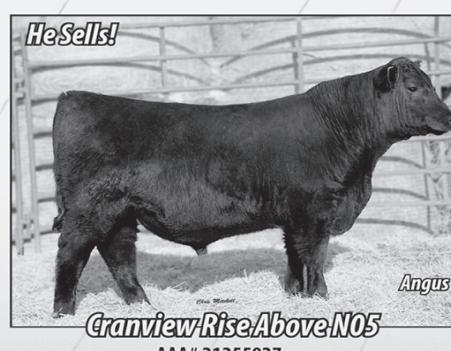
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# ANNUAL MEETING

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10 a.m.

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