

For And About You

By Harriett Muhammad

This is the third and final article of a series designed to answer questions presented by an 18-year-old concerning love and marriage.

You asked me to list some of the ways in which you could please your husband. I would like to give you a few general ways that would please most men.

One thing that most men appreciate is good food fixed the way they like it as often as possible.

Men may not always say so, but they do not particularly like these warm up, quicky meals that so many women fix these days. So, if you do not know how to really cook good from scratch, you had better start learning now. Leave those canned and boxed foods for emergencies and use fresh foods with the right spices. You will find that he will enjoy the taste more — and it is much cheaper.

Other things that please husbands have to do with a well kept, well run home, a wife who is physically clean and attractive to him, who will fix up for him and not just for other people, a wife who shows genuine interest in some of the things that interest him.

Most men like to be pampered a bit, so pamper them. All day long they have to face a cold, hard, competitive world. They would like to be able to find refuge in you. When you are out shopping — getting him something that is not really a gift — but a necessity, like underwear or a supply of socks, have it gift wrapped (free, of course) before you give them to him.

If you are able, fix a place in your home especially for him so that he will have a room to do with as he pleases. If this is impossible, let him have a special chair or a special section in a room to have as his own.

Best of all, be consistent in doing things to please your husband — do not do things as a "peace offering." do not do something special every so many weeks or months. If you initiate the practice of doing little things for him, he will respond, either by doing things for you in return or by being considerate of you or by oc-

asionally telling you how much he appreciates what you do.

Men seem to react more than to act when it comes to things like this, so if you do not make a move in this direction it is highly probable that neither will he. Do not be concerned with why they are the way they are; just understand them as they are and work on this basis.

Last, you ask: how can you develop into a WOMAN and not stay a girl, and how can you be more feminine and womanly.

Developing from a girl into a woman takes time, but more important it takes experience. You can be ever so old and still feel like a girl if you have never reached full maturity. You become mature when you are able to face life as it IS, not as you think it SHOULD be; when

you are able to assume adult responsibilities; when you reach a feeling of accomplishment either in being a wife, a mother or by doing a job you set out to do. If you want to be feminine and womanly, adopt the behavior that is considered feminine.

Watch the loudness of your voice, walk in a graceful manner, not in a manner that would be hard to determine as to whether a man or woman was walking. Check to see that you do not have hair styles that are on

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the short bob or butch side, or that you wear a lot of the tailored suits, shirts and ties that many women wear.

Study the women that you come in contact with. When one strikes you as being feminine, ask yourself what it is about her that gave you that impression. If it is a trait that would become you as a person, try it for a while

and see if it fits you.

If you want to be feminine, you will have to make a conscious effort. Women are not BORN feminine, they BECOME feminine — some easier and earlier than others.

Something on your mind? Write and tell me about it.

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