

# Inexpensive Recipes for Valentine's Day Romance

By Frisco STYLE Staff

## A PRIVATE PICNIC

For Valentine's Day, in lieu of large crowds, long waits, over-priced dinners and finding a babysitter, we make our own romance at home. We usually go to Central Market that day to pick out some of the prepared items and finger foods for our picnic and a movie in the living room. After our son is in bed, together we prepare a large serving platter with our feast and we sit on the floor for the show.

This picnic is good for us because even if we spend \$50 on groceries it's cheaper than what we would spend on dinner, movie and a babysitter. And, we can make healthy choices, though we don't always...

Sometimes we get something warm from the prepared food section, like tamales. Other favorites are imported chocolates, fresh tortillas and some gourmet cheeses.

We usually get each other cards and sometimes gifts if there is something special we know the other wants. When we got married I asked him for roses for Valentine's Day but I told him to get them one or two days before Valentines because they are cheaper.

Since we became parents we have made more of a big deal

for birthdays over Valentine's Day just because it's less hassle, less cost and no crowds.

Leah Ratliff, Art Director

## A LITTLE EFFORT REAPS ROMANTIC REWARDS

Here are my tips for a great Valentine's Day that won't break the bank:

Home-cooked meal with a nice bottle of wine or sparkling water. Don't forget the special music!

Surprise your loved one with a hot bubble-bath, mood lighting (lots of candles work great) and soft music.

I recommend making a special CD mix of musical favorites; songs that have special meaning for the two of you. Play it as background music during dinner.

Write out special notes (e.g., "I love you," "You make me smile," "So glad you're my Valentine," "You make me feel special") and hide them in places where your significant other will surely find them (car seat, in a cereal box or coffee maker, inside a shoe or a jacket pocket, inside a laptop) on Valentine's Day. There's nothing better than finding sweet little surprises throughout the day.

Lisa Birdsong

Director of Client Services

*Valentine Picnic Items: clockwise from the Divina Sicilian marinated olives, Waterwheel Australian Crisp crackers, 21/25 pre-cooked shrimp, red seedless grapes, honey toasted cashews, marinated Bocconcini, roasted garlic & Monterey Jack bread with sun-dried tomato pesto and grilled salmon, Hass avocado, Love Dip, Gold pineapple, sprinkled with chocolate hearts and lips.*

photo by Chris Fritchie



Wine glasses available at Blue Door in Frisco photo by Chris Fritchie



## Movie & Music Suggestions for Romance at Home

Valentine's Day is easier than ever for those of us who look forward to some quiet time at home. Here are some suggestions from our staff on movies and music to celebrate with your favorite Valentine.

### MOVIES:

PS I Love You	Mamma Mia!
A Lot Like Love	Hitch
Moulin Rouge	August Rush
The Notebook	Love Actually
Sleepless in Seattle	
Daddy's Little Girls	
An Affair To Remember	
Monsoon Wedding	
Your own wedding video	

### MUSIC:

Miles Davis: Kind of Blue  
 Dido: Safe Trip Home  
 Kenny G: Rhythm & Romance  
 Michael McDonald: Soul Speak  
 Corinne Bailey Rae: Self-titled  
 Colbie Caillat: Coco  
 Norah Jones: Not Too Late  
 Leona Lewis: Spirit  
 Michael Bubl : It's Time  
 Emiliana Torrini: Love In The Time Of Science  
 Luther Vandross: The Ultimate Luther Vandross