Essential Manners for Couples: From Snoring and Sex to Finances and Fighting Fair-What Works, What Doesn't, and Why by Peter Post

From the man who closed the lid forever on the toilet seat debate in the New York Times bestseller Essential Manners for Men comes the follow-up book that paves the way for couples everywhere to fix relationship problems before they start. Peter Post offers the secrets to a long and happy marriage or partnership -- without psychoanalysis or prescription medication. The good news: often just a few simple words or actions can mend a rift. Essential Manners for Couples reveals how easy it can be to keep the spark in your relationship. With self-deprecating humor, clarity, and wit, Peter recounts couples most mischievous manners foibles (his own included). Essential Manners for Couples is based on Emily Post Institute surveys, Peters years of fielding thousands of etiquette questions, popular demand from couples attending his national lectures and workshops, and his experience as a husband and father. Peter looks at couples private lives and public lives, revealing the common flashpoints -- the places, situations, and times when inconsiderate behavior is most likely to invade your blissful coupledom. He offers etiquette imperatives -- simple truths and concise nuggets of advice not to be ignored, including: Permissive flirting: How to define parameters and enjoy verbal combat with the opposite sex. The Chore I.Q. test -- are you really divvying up the workload fairly? When you hate her friends: socializing with the enemy. Enter children: Good parents still spend time together as a couple. Bedroom etiquette -- getting beyond the headache excuse. Interactions with in-laws -- smooth merge or crash and burn? Where to go for the holidays: surviving family visits and how to say no. Balancing life with your other significant other -- your work ... and much more. Essential Manners for Couples is a must-have resource for the couple who wants to celebrate their union and strengthen it. As Peter Post says, By using the principles of etiquette, couples can avoid many of the potholes on the road
of their shared life, and the ones they do hit are smaller and more manageable. With this book in hand, you'll enhance your relationship, head off hostilities, and have fun doing it.

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My Personal Review:
What's the etiquette for sex, dividing the chores, snoring, where to go for the holidays, sleeping on the couch, getting along with the spouse's friends?
The author reminds us that actions, appearance and words greatly affect our relationships. The recommendations he makes may seem at times to be obvious, but too often couples forget to base their own actions on "consideration, respect and honesty." He lists "Etiquette Imperatives" that cover the not-to-be-ignored basics for couples. Peter Post is the great-grandson of Emily Post and he wrote Essential Manners for Men plus monthly etiquette columns. The reviews have been quite favorable:
**"Thorough...straightforward....Resolving those hot-button issues...may well prevent a public flame-out." (New York Times)
**"stresses handholding and communication." (Atlanta Journal Constitution)
**"Most of us could stand to be reminded once in a while to be nice to each other." (Chicago Sun-Times)

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