

How to Speak *Wife*

He speaks blue, and she hears pink. Wires get crossed, and a small miscommunication in marriage can turn into a big issue.

Here's a tongue-in-cheek look at what she probably means when she speaks and what he's really saying.

Written by Katy Magazine's Editors (with a little help from our male staff members and significant others)

When She Says...

"We need to talk."

"Does this make me look fat?"

"It's not a big deal."

"I'll be ready in a minute."

"I'm so stressed out right now."

"I'm fine."

"How was your day?"

"Just let me do it."

"You don't have to buy me a gift."

"You don't treat me like you did when we were dating."

What She Means is...

Something has hurt my feelings, and I need to get it squared away.

Do you think I am attractive?

This bothers me. It doesn't bother you?

This doesn't mean I will be ready in 60 literal seconds. Give me 15 to 30 minutes.

I'd feel better if we could just talk about what is stressing me out, and I could have your undivided attention while I speak.

Something is bothering me. Ask me what's wrong. I may need a hug.

I want to reconnect with you after being apart the whole day.

You won't do it like I do it, so I'll just do it myself. That's okay.

This usually means I would like you to surprise me with something thoughtful.

Do the things you used to do when we dated. This is an invitation to show me that chivalry is not dead and neither is romance.





How to Speak **Husband**

When He Says...

"How was your day?"

"We're always late."

"I didn't hear my phone."

"I'm fine."

"What's the matter?"

"I don't want to talk about it."

"I fixed the..."

"I got this."

What He Means is...

I sincerely do want to know, but I'm not looking to start a 30-minute conversation. Please bottom line me.

I feel like being on time is not a priority to you. I am embarrassed to arrive late.

No, really. I didn't hear my phone. You're blowing up my phone with 18 texts about the same thing. I may need some space.

I really am fine. I don't need to talk about every detail from my day like you do, and that's okay.

I'm confused as to what I did or said that made you unhappy. Tell me what I need to do to make it better.

I am focused on something else and won't be able to focus on this conversation 100% right now.

Tell me I'm the man and give me a compliment.

You don't have to micromanage. Treat me like a competent adult. I know how to do things, too.

Tips and Tricks for Translating

HIM: Remind her with words and actions that you are glad she is your wife and best friend.
HER: Give him space to decompress from a stressful day. Don't immediately bombard him.

HIM: When she asks more than once, she's trying to convey the importance of the request.
HER: Don't hint. If you're waiting for him to read your mind, you might be waiting a while!

HIM: A sincere compliment and help in the kitchen will get you more loving in the bedroom.
HER: He needs to feel liked, appreciated, and attractive just like you do.

HIM: Put down your phone, close work email, and be in the moment when she is talking to you.
HER: Close social media apps and be present with him without having to update your status.

Special thanks to the real-life men and women who contributed their humorous honesty to this article.