

Your Possible Home

Building Meaningful, Enduring Family Bonds in the Age of AI



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What Are We Building? (the couples' version)

When Mark and I finally described the homes we'd each been imagining, we were surprised by how similar the pictures were. That conversation told us more than a hundred dates could have. This worksheet is that conversation, with a structure around it. The rules are simple: you each complete Part One alone, without comparing notes, and you don't peek. The whole point is discovering what the other person carries, not negotiating a joint answer before you've heard two honest ones.

Part One — done separately

Imagine walking into your shared home ten years from now on an ordinary Tuesday evening. Don't design it. Just notice it.

What do you hear? _____

What's happening at the table? _____

How do people talk to each other when something goes wrong? _____

Who feels welcome here, and how would they know it? _____

What happens in this home that doesn't happen in most homes? _____

Now pull out your five values, plain words, no speeches:

1. _____

2. _____



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3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

And one more, just for you, sealed until Part Two: the thing I'm most afraid to say out loud about what I want: _____

Part Two — done together

Set aside an evening without screens. Trade pages, read silently, and then take turns. The reader asks the questions; the writer answers. No defending, no editing the other person's picture.

Where our pictures overlap: _____

Where they differ, and the reasons each version makes sense (differences aren't problems yet; they're information): _____

The thing on your page that surprised me: _____

The thing on your page that moved me: _____

Now build the shared list. Not a merger of ten values into a committee document — choose the five you'd both defend, even when tired, even when it costs something:

1. _____

2. _____



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3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Anything that didn't make the shared list but matters to one of you stays alive; it just belongs to that person's keeping rather than the household's center. Name those here so nothing important gets quietly dropped: _____

Part Three — the harder questions

These are the conversations couples postpone, and postponed isn't the same as resolved. You don't need full agreement tonight. You need to know where each of you stands and where the real conversations live. For each, mark: aligned, close, or needs a real conversation.

How money gets decided and who carries what: _____

What faith looks like in our home, and what we'd teach children: _____

How we'd handle conflict in front of kids: _____

What we owe extended family, and where the boundaries sit: _____



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How we'll know when one of us is drowning, and what the other does about it: _____

Anything marked "needs a real conversation" gets a date written next to it before the evening ends. Not the conversation itself — just the date you'll have it.

Close with one sentence, written together: We are building a home where _____.

Optional AI prompt: We each described the home we hope to build, and here are our two sets of values: [paste both lists]. Without telling us which values are better, identify where we're saying the same thing in different words, where the genuine differences are, and one question for each difference that would help us understand each other's reasoning. Keep your tone neutral; we're not looking for a referee.

