

A close-up photograph of two lit sparklers. The sparklers are held by a hand, and they are emitting bright, golden sparks that are captured in mid-air. The background is dark and out of focus, featuring several bokeh light spots in shades of orange and yellow, suggesting an outdoor night setting. The overall mood is celebratory and festive.

**10 Tips**

**to Make Your Husband's**

**40th Birthday *Truly Unforgettable***



Whether your husband is looking forward to his 40th birthday or lamenting his youth, turning 40 is a big reason to celebrate.

If you're struggling to find ways to make your hubby's 40th birthday a memorable one, here are some suggestions to get your creative juices flowing...

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1

Make it a surprise

If he hasn't had a surprise party before, the big 4-0 may be the perfect chance. Find a local restaurant or bar willing to host your crew and tell your hubby you're heading out for a romantic dinner for just the two of you - and watch his face as he sees the room filled with friends and family.

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Now, you know your husband best. If he's the kind of guy to shy away from the spotlight, you might want to keep the guest list down to a few close friends and ask them to crouch behind your couch. Ambush your man when he comes home from work and celebrate low-key with a backyard BBQ or pizza and beers - after all, it's his day!

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2

Get dressed up



If your husband appreciates the opportunity to put on a suit and tie once in a while, his 40th birthday is the perfect excuse to dress to the nines and hit the town. As an added bonus, you'll have a reason to wear that new pair of heels! Make reservations in advance at an upscale restaurant or stop into a swanky bar for happy hour and enjoy living large for a little while.

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3

Get his friends involved

The more, the merrier!

Make his big day even bigger by letting his friends take part in the action. A brewery tour or prime tickets at a hockey game might not be the first thing that comes to your mind, but his friends may have some great suggestions you hadn't considered.

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If your man is the type who really appreciates some time with the guys, consider sending him and his friends out for a day to race go-karts or play some paintball.

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4

Consider a trip



If you can't remember the last time the two of you took a vacation, your hubby's 40th birthday may be a great excuse to get away for a weekend. You'll have a great time exploring a new city together, and with a little extra effort, you can plan something special to make sure his birthday is extra memorable. Consider splurging on the hotel suite or surprising him with a bottle of champagne at dinner.

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If the two of you consider yourselves seasoned travelers, it may be time to do something a bit bigger than normal. If he's usually the one to take the lead on your travel plans, take the reins and tackle it on your own. Plan an adventure abroad or a week-long road trip to someplace new. Relax at an all-inclusive resort, or take to the seas and celebrate with friends and family on a boozy cruise.

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If you always travel with the kids, consider letting them spend a few nights with the grandparents so the two of you can enjoy some much-needed alone time. The options are endless!

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5

Get sentimental

If your hubby appreciates a healthy dose of cheese in your relationship, consider hamming it up for his 40th birthday.

Write him a love letter.

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Put together a collage that captures your favorite moments, or fill a jar with 40 memories written on folded squares of paper. He can unwrap these all at once, or he can save them for the moments when he needs a quick pick-me-up. Even if he isn't the overly sentimental type, he is sure to appreciate the love and effort that went into such a thoughtful gesture.

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You don't have to keep this one to yourself, either. Ask his closest friends and family to write sentimental cards or send in a quick video clip wishing him a happy birthday and sharing a favorite memory.

Warning: this thoughtful gesture might leave your man sniffing back tears. It may be a good idea to share the sappy stuff at home, not at his birthday dinner.

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6

Get him excited about  
something new



Turning 40 might make your man feel like he's getting old.

Fight those feelings by getting him pumped up about something exciting. If he's always talked about learning how to play the guitar, sign him up for lessons at the local music studio.

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For the man who appreciates a good beer, consider a kit to teach him how to brew at home. Whether he finds it a fun novelty experience or uncovers a passion to pursue for the next 40 years, he'll appreciate the gesture!

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7

Get him something he's  
always wanted

Maybe your man has been quietly longing for a jersey autographed by his favorite team for years. Maybe his favorite band just happens to be playing a show in your area sometime soon.

Whether his dream is to dine at a Michelin-star restaurant or finally convert the basement into a man cave, this is one way you're sure to make his 40th birthday a memorable one.

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8

Do something  
adventurous



A massive dose of adrenaline might be just what he needs on his 40th birthday! If skydiving has always been at the top of his bucket list, sign him up - and if you aren't too scared, consider taking the plunge with him.

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Spend the extra money on the video recording so you can relive the experience for years to come! Other ideas for the adventure-seeking hubby in your life include:

- A private helicopter ride for two.
  - Skiing, snowboarding, or snowmobiling - if his birthday falls in the winter.
  - Horseback riding, to channel his inner cowboy.
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See what exciting activities exist in your area.

You might be surprised by what you find!



9

Eat like a king

Turning 40 sounds like the perfect excuse to splurge on the filet mignon, if you ask me. If you don't really love to cook, make reservations at a local restaurant and treat him to a special meal.

If your hubby has a palate for the finer things, consider booking in advance to secure a spot at the hottest new restaurant.

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If his idea of a perfect meal is a big burger and crispy fries, that's OK, too - head to the best local burger joint you can find and spoil him silly.

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# 10

Send him on a  
scavenger hunt



You can have tons of fun with this one. Flex your creative muscle and come up with clues to lead him around town. Unless your husband appreciates a good challenge, choose places he'll come up with easily - ideas include the place you met, his favorite bar, or your wedding venue.

Set up a small surprise at each location for an even bigger adventure.

# Happy Birthday!

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