



Wrapper's Delight

Condoms have a reputation for killing the mood, but that notion may be all in your head (the big one). An Indiana University study found that using protection doesn't affect men's erections or either partner's pleasure. See how your safe-sex life compares with other couples' coverage.

1 / Type of Condom Worn During Orgasm

Latex	81%	71%
Natural skin/lambskin	5%	4%
Polyurethane	5%	<1%

2 / America's Top-Selling Condoms



3 / Condom Usage

Men, ages 18-34

36%

Men, ages 35-54

22%

Women, ages 18-34

24%

Women, ages 35-54

9%



38% of men stop using protection in long-term relationships

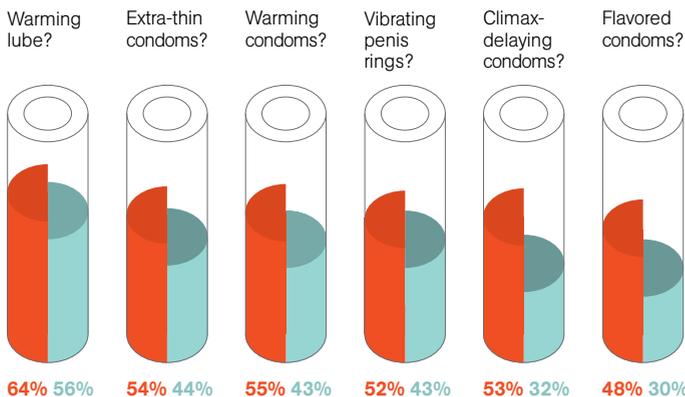


24% of women say the same

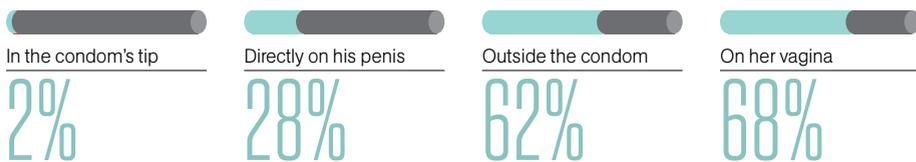
4 / Most Common Condom Concerns

Breakage	54%	60%
Too expensive	53%	56%
Interfere with pleasure	55%	44%
Won't prevent STDs	34%	43%
Won't prevent pregnancy	28%	37%

5 / Are You Game to Try...



6 / Where Lube Was Applied When She Climaxed



Sources: Mintel, *The Journal of Sexual Medicine*

STAY IN THE FRIEND ZONE

If your partner is also your best friend, congratulations. **Couples who focus on their friendship are less likely to split** than those who emphasize sexual chemistry, a new study from Purdue University reveals. The best part of all: Chummy couples are also more satisfied in the sack than sex-centered ones. "Friendships are frequently based on openness and shared interests," says study author Christopher Agnew, Ph.D. "So friendship with your partner may mean you're more open about your desires, leading to greater sexual fulfillment." So what are the best ways to foster a lasting friendship with your significant other? Be willing to forgive, put her needs before yours, and always try to give her the benefit of the doubt, advises Agnew.



FEELS LIKE THE FIRST TIME

Is your GF bringing another man into bed? **If a woman's first time was bad, she may be less sexually satisfied later**, a new University of Tennessee study reports. Women who felt pressured, anxious, or regretful about the way they lost their virginity rated their current sex life as less than satisfying. Because your first time is such a momentous event, it can shape long-term perceptions of sex, says study author Matthew Shaffer, Ph.D.(c). If her maiden voyage was a wreck, ask what she didn't like about her first time—and what makes her feel fulfilled now. Then focus on the latter.



For up-to-the-minute sex news and tips, go to news.MensHealth.com.