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## Tears of a Woman

"Mom, why are you crying?" a little boy asked his mom.

"Because I'm a woman" she told him.

"I don't understand," he said.

His mom just hugged him and said, "And you never will." Later the little boy asked his father,

"Why does mommy seem to cry for no reason?"

"All women cry for no reason" was all his dad could say.

The little boy grew up and became a man, still wondering why women cry.

Finally he put in a call to God. When God got on the phone the man said, "God, why do women cry so easily?"

God said, "When I made woman she had to be special. I made her shoulders strong enough to carry the weight of the world; yet, gentle enough to give comfort."

"I gave her an inner strength to endure childbirth and the rejection that many times comes from her children."

"I gave her a hardness that allows her to keep going when everyone else gives up and take care of her family through sickness and fatigue without complaining."

"I gave her the sensitivity to love her children under any and all circumstances, even when her child has hurt her very badly. This same sensitivity helps her to make a child's boo-boo feel better and shares in her teenagers anxieties and fears."

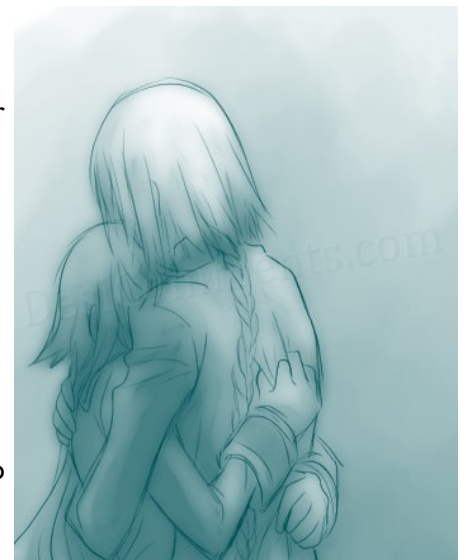
"I gave her strength to carry her husband through his faults and fashioned her from his rib to protect his heart."

"I gave her wisdom to know that a good husband never hurts his wife, but sometimes tests her strengths and her resolve to stand beside him unflinchingly."

"And finally, I gave her a tear to shed. This is hers exclusively to use whenever it is needed."

"You see my son," said God, "the beauty of a woman is not in the clothes she wears, the figure that she carries, or the way she combs her hair. The beauty of a woman must be seen in her eyes, because that is the doorway to her heart - the place where love resides."

Author Unknown



## What a girl wants...what a girl needs...what a girl knows...

### Mother May I?

Spoil her with a gift handmade from the heart. Here are a few quick and affordable ideas to get you started.

- **Clay pot bird bath:** You'll need terra cotta pot, terra cotta saucer, paint or rub-on stickers, strong glue and clear acrylic spray. Wipe down pot and saucer thoroughly and let completely dry. Invert pot and glue saucer to the top using a generous amount of glue. Decorate using paints and stickers. Coat the bird bath with several coats of acrylic spray.
- **Printable mothers' day coupons:** This quick and thoughtful idea simply takes paper, a printer or crayons/markers and creativity. Present mom for a coupon for everything from a hug to weeding the garden or taking out the trash.
- **Personalized calendar:** Use special pictures for each month and be sure to mark important dates like holidays, birthdays and anniversaries.
- **Blooming flower pen:** You'll need a pen, silk or plastic flower with stem, green floral tape and scissors. Hold the flower with the stem tightly against the pen. Trim the stem about 2 inches above the tip of the pen. Use floral tape to secure the flower to the pen. Stick a few in a jar or vase for a creative arrangement.



### Berry Blue

Blueberries are one of those “super foods” that has amazing health benefits for you. Keep these things in mind while cooking:

- Drain, rinse and pat dry canned blueberries before adding them to your recipe to prevent “bleeding.”
- Do not thaw frozen blueberries before using them in a recipe. This helps maintain texture and in general, blueberries won't bleed if the skins aren't broken.
- Blueberries can be used in equal proportion as a replacement for red currants, raspberries, blackberries, strawberries and huckleberries.

### Pull It Together

The ponytail is the ultimate easy style, especially on the go. To do: Pull your hair back haphazardly with your fingers and spritz with hairspray. Last, twist a stray tendril around your hair elastic; pin.

And the day came  
when the risk  
to remain tight  
in a bud  
was more painful  
than the risk it took  
to blossom.  
—Anais Nin

### The Big Chill

Keeping your freezer 2/3 full at all times creates the optimum space for allowing air circulation and minimal effort for the motor to work to keep the food frozen. If you don't have enough food to keep it full enough, fill it with containers of ice, or fill old milk jugs 3/4 full with water and place in the freezer until you have more food to put in.

### Spot On

Even if you do not have enough time for anything else, use a concealer, cover-up or powder makeup to mask blemishes and dark circles under your eyes. Concealing unsightly marks on one's face should take about one to two minutes if only treating specific problem areas. Visine eye drops may be applied to reduce redness of blemishes before applying concealer.





# Fashion Focus



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I see when men  
love women.  
They give them  
but a little of their  
lives. But women  
when they love give  
everything.  
—Oscar Wilde



## May

### Reasons to Celebrate

- 1 Loyalty Day
- 1 Mother Goose Day
- 2 Brothers' and Sisters' Day
- 3 National Teachers' Day
- 3 Lumpy Rug Day
- 5 Cinco de Mayo
- 6 International Tuba Day
- 8 Mothers' Day
- 8 V-E Day
- 10 Clean Up Your Room Day
- 11 Twilight Zone Day
- 12 Nurses' Day
- 12 Mary Kay Ash's Birthday
- 16 Love a Tree Day
- 18 Dirty Dishes Day
- 20 Pick Strawberries Day
- 21 Armed Forces Day
- 23 Lucky Penny Day
- 26 Sally Ride Day
- 27 Sunscreen Day
- 30 Memorial Day
- 31 Save Your Hearing Day

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plus

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*\*Party must be held and closed between May 1-31 at 11:59 pm PST. This Host Special is non-commissionable and is in addition to our Host Reward Program and as such, Host Dollars and Host half-price Rewards may not be used in combination with the discounted item(s). Parties must be booked within 30 days of original party.*

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## Get the Girls Together...

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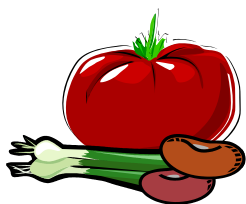


## Simple Chef!

Light Mexican Pizza

### Ingredients

prepared pizza crust  
Salsa  
pinto or black beans, drained and rinsed  
3 green onions, chopped  
1/3 cup chopped fresh basil  
chopped tomato  
shredded cheddar or Monterey Jack cheese  
tortilla chips, slightly broken or crumbled  
black olives  
sour cream  
avocado, sliced



1. Preheat oven to 375.
2. Place pizza crust on a large baking stone or pizza pan.
3. Spread on salsa evenly, leaving a 1/2 inch border around the edge. Add on an even layer of beans, green onions, basil and tomato. Sprinkle cheese and tortilla chips over top.
4. Bake in oven for 15 minutes or until cheese is melted and the chips are crisp and warm.
5. Slice pizza into wedges and top with remaining ingredients.



## Money Magic

Six Money-Saving Tips for Parents

- Limit your kids' exposure to TV. You'll find that instead of "a doll" on her birthday list, it's brand-specific.
- Buy clothes too large and off-season. Section off your closet as clothes that are too big so to not add confusion for the little one.
- Shop in thrift stores. Plan on going weekly and be prepared to leave empty handed. The more often you go in, the more likely you are to find bargain items you want or need. If you're selective in your purchases, you'll be able to get nice things for a fraction of the cost.
- Plan ahead. Buy next year's Halloween costumes right after Halloween is over.
- Have your kids make seasonal decorations instead of buying them.
- Make birthday cards and gift tags. You can even have a party and exchange card packs with friends to get a wide range of card making options.

By Jeanne Elle