

Deliriously happy Courteney Cox and David Arquette are opposites - except about being parents

Friends star Courteney Cox, 35, is hoping to celebrate the new millennium in a very special way - with the birth of a baby.

"I can't think of a better way to celebrate the year 2000 than with my new husband, anticipating a family together! Sharing your life with someone is more important than anything," states the actress, who married David Arquette in June.

"I'm a Gemini and I get bored so easily. I mean, I've moved six times in the past eight years. David's a Virgo and really likes stability. He's the calm one, but he's also so nutty, so sexy, and different from any man I've met.

"I'd always been shy of commitment, essentially because I didn't feel I had the strength to make a relationship last, but with David I feel very differently. I'm confident we're made for each other."

Yet the couple are such opposites even their closest friends doubted they would ever walk up the aisle.

"David and I are living proof that opposites do attract," insists Courteney. One of their many differences is age - David, 28, is seven years younger than his beautiful bride; David loves to spend money and Courteney likes to save; David likes to party with pals while Courteney prefers to cuddle up at home, just the two of them.

Even the cars they drive are

a giveaway, Courteney's practical Chevy utility contrasting sharply with David's racy Porsche.

"We're different in just about every way you can imagine," says cautious Courteney, who had David sign a pre-nuptial contract on their wedding eve.

"I think it's always dangerous when you meet someone and try to change them. But David and I have changed in the two years we've been together because we wanted to change for our own personal reasons, rather than out of making some sort of sacrifice for one another," she says in a veiled reference to David's former drug and booze habits.

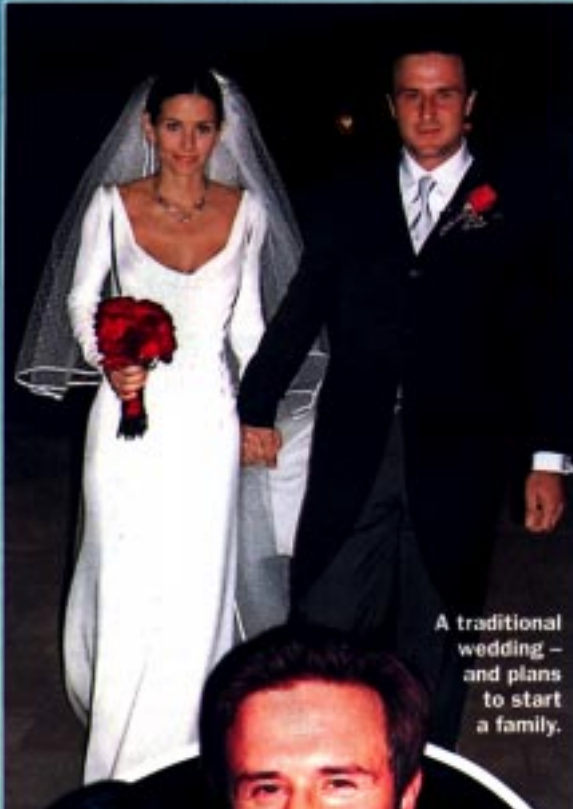
"That's something he's done for himself and not for me. That's the way these things work. We now have an understanding that we live a drug-free life, which is the only way we would want to bring a new life into this world. It's what both of us want.

"On our honeymoon, we discussed and reaffirmed a lot of those things and we share the same belief systems," says Courteney, who will shortly be seen in *Alien Love Triangle* opposite Kenneth Branagh and Heather Graham, and in *The Runner* with John Goodman.


"David was the last man on earth I'd expected to wind up living happily ever after with. We met at a party right before making *Scream* together," reflects Courteney, as they prepare to make *Scream 3*.

"It was strange. There was this electricity between us and I thought to myself, 'Wow!' All during the film we were in major crush mode, but I had just come out of a long-term relationship and he was dating more than one person."

While David describes that first meeting as love



A traditional wedding - and plans to start a family.



Back from their honeymoon, a casual Courteney and David dine out in LA.

Courteney courts a baby

at first sight, he recalls, "I think I scared her off. I was involved with the wrong crowd and was a little too crazy for her."

David says it was his mother's death from breast cancer in 1997 – and not any pressure from Courteney – which forced him to reassess his life. "It was only then that I was really able to charm Courteney and today I'm the luckiest man alive."

David adds, "I love making Courteney laugh." He also admits that he performs soft-shoe dances in the bedroom and even paints portraits of her.

"I like to be outrageous. As I'm always joking with my friends, after my peak years as an actor, I'll start my porn career," says David, who plays trumpet in his own rock band Ear2000.

I've mellowed out a lot since we've been together, and since we've been married I feel like I've reached another stage of serenity.

"And Courteney is having more fun. I'm having more fun, too, in a healthier, safer, sweeter way."

Despite their contrasting personalities, the one thing this couple do agree on is parenthood. "David is going to make an amazing dad. He's really into having a family," says Courteney, who dated *Batman* star Michael Keaton for five years.

"He's not afraid to be real. And we've never lied to each other, never."

"Babies are part of our future. I couldn't imagine my future without them. I think family is

very important. I once even considered being a single mum, but I'd prefer to do it the traditional way," she says.

On their honeymoon in Anguilla, according to a pal, the lovebirds threw her birth-control pills into the ocean during a jokey midnight ceremony.

Courteney is one of 13 siblings from the extended families of her divorced parents. David is one of five. She says, "We both come from big families, which is one of many things we share in common."

"Both of us were the youngest in our families, which gives you a certain outlook on life. We both love kids and it's not going to be long before we have our own."

And while Courteney has lived to regret her remark six years ago, when she famously said, "I'd like to be a mother before I'm 35," friends predict perhaps her dream may almost come true after all.

With nine months until she turns 36 on June 15 next year, she may well be a mother while she's still 35!

Story: Gill Pringle

