



SPOT THE EXCUSES

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There is no excuses not to talk about condoms.

If you are getting very close with someone, communication is very important. Don't be afraid or embarrassed to insist that you, or your partner, wears a condom. The best time to talk about it is before you have sex - not in the heat of the moment! Saying nothing, - or saying the wrong thing - could cost an unplanned pregnancy, or a serious disease that affects others as well as you. So it's a pretty good idea to think about what some people say, what some of the dodgy excuses are and what the best answers might be!

Excuses

If They Say...

Just this once.

It's embarrassing to buy or carry condoms.

I can't feel a thing when I wear one.

I'll lose my erection by the time I stop and put the condom on.

It spoils the mood.

I don't have a condom with me.

We've already done it without one.
But we've been having sex without condoms.

You Can Say...

Once is all it takes to get an STI or get pregnant.

It's a lot more embarrassing to get or pass on an STI. If we're too embarrassed to deal with condoms, we're probably not ready to deal with sex anyway.

With all the new features, some condoms can actually make sex feel better for both of us.

I'll help you put it on - that'll help you keep it.

It puts me in the mood.
So does your attitude.
When I feel safer, I get hot.

I do.
Well that's a shame! No sex tonight I guess!
Then lets not take the risk.
Let's go and buy some and try out different styles.

Right and that was a mistake - let's be smart and not repeat it.
We can still prevent infection or re-infection.
I want to start using condoms now so we won't be at any more risk.
That means we can still prevent infection or re-infection.
I want to start using condoms right now so we won't be at any more risk.

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Excuses

If They Say...

Condoms don't feel as good as the real thing.

I hate the way condoms taste.

Condoms never fit men right, they always slip off.

They're too tight.
They hurt me and cut the blood off, I'm too big.

Putting it on spoils the mood.
It takes too long.

Condoms give me a rash, I'm allergic to them.

You don't feel as much.
It's like having a bath with your socks on.

They look and smell horrible, just thinking about them makes me go limp.

I can't afford them.

Just once won't hurt, we can get some tomorrow.

But you are on the pill aren't you? We don't need a condom.

You Can Say...

Doesn't it feel better to be safe?
Let's find something as close to the real thing as possible.
But it just causes hassle and worries not to wear one. It's unsafe.
Well lube helps a lot there - have you tried that?
AIDs feels worse.
I'd feel better.

Let's try a different brand. I like the mint flavoured ones – have you tried those?

They come in all shapes and sizes, , so let's try some on. We could have a fashion show.

Let's pick up some extra large, big boy.

You'll be turning me on every second.
What's the rush?
I'll wait.
I love it when you take your time.

You need to shop around - there are plenty to choose from.

You haven't tried the new ones then, have you?

Well you might have to get over it, because I'm not doing it without one. It's all or nothing.
Well I'm not doing it without one, so we will just have to see how desperate you get, won't we.

Then you can't afford a baby or to get sick.

No way Condoms tomorrow, sex tomorrow.

That's got nothing to do with catching an STI.
FACT: The Pill doesn't provide protection against STIs.
The Pill doesn't provide any protection against STIs that we might not even know we have. The Pill protects from pregnancy, but not from STIs we don't even know if we have.

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Excuses

If They Say...

Look at me, I don't have any diseases.

Trust Me.

You won't catch anything from me.

But you can't get pregnant if you're having a period.

The machine in the gents was empty.

I'll pull out before I come.

It's up to him. It's his decision.

But I love you.

You don't trust me.

I'm afraid to ask him to use a condom. He'll think I don't trust him.

I don't use condoms.

If you really cared about me, you wouldn't even ask me to use condoms.

I want to be closer to you because I love you so much.

They're not romantic.

You Can Say...

Yeah - so, how many people have you been with? When was the last time you went to the doctor or the clinic? You know that STIs are more common than you think?

And STI's often don't show so you could have one and be passing it on. If you are sexually active, going to the doctor is the only sure way of knowing if you have one or not.

If you love me, respect my health.

No true!

Too bad

Yeah, right The 'pulling out' method is not reliable as contraception and NO protection against STIs Girls - you can still get pregnant from pre-ejaculation fluid.

It's YOUR health. It's YOUR future It's YOUR body. It's YOUR decision too. Protect yourself!

I love you too. We still need to use condoms. Being in love can't protect us from AIDS.

It's not a matter of trust. It's a matter of health. The only way of knowing is to get checked out. So until you do that, I don't want to risk it. It's important to me that we're both protected.

If you can't ask him, you probably don't trust him. Be smart. You have a long life ahead of you.

I do - every time.

Shame - I don't have sex without condoms.

If you really cared about me you would realise there are risks to both of us here, and you would think about more than your own pleasure. If you love me, respect my health.

It's so romantic when you have a partner that cares about your health and future.

Worrying about STIs or pregnancy is not much fun either.

With condoms we don't need to worry.