

You may start investigating little things like nursery colours or baby names.

The first month comes and goes without success. So you go at it again in the second month, then the third and maybe the fourth, still with no results.

Then something happens between you that you probably don't even realise. You start to wander in different mental directions.

She starts thinking:

*'What on earth is going on here? This is not going the way I thought it would go. Maybe I should start working out **exactly** when my ovulation is happening and invest in a thermometer. I hope everything's okay.'*

He starts thinking:

'What is she getting so stressed about. I'm sure it will happen if we just give it time. What time is the football on?'

So after a few months of carnal bliss, the shine starts to tarnish a little bit. Each month, your partner may become a little more anxious at the lack of results.

The next phase – Scientific Analysis

After months of no success, your partner will undergo a subtle (or not so subtle) change as she suddenly becomes a Scientific Analyst. She'll start to take her temperature on a regular basis and will fill out all sorts of charts that map her monthly cycle. She'll determine the optimum times to have sex. Suddenly, your spur of the moment romps become scheduled inconveniences during the day.

You may be prescribed a course of vitamin supplements or zinc tablets. Your sex life can change too. There will be times when you have to have sex because that's what the chart says. There'll also be times when you *don't* have sex because that's what the chart says. You'll learn to hate that little chart.

You may be consigned to wearing different underpants or no underpants at all. You'll go through the day, acutely aware of your boys hanging in the breeze – knowing full well that you're only doing it because you can't prove it doesn't work.

Still no success as you continue to get the red flag of failure each month. She may wonder out loud whether you've got problems. You'll reassure her that she's overreacting, that these things take time and she shouldn't worry about it. 'Give it time', you'll say, because