

# O

THE OPRAH  
MAGAZINE

LIVE YOUR BEST LIFE

## GETTING GOOD AT LOVE

### How to

- Find it
- Risk it
- Let it go
- Make it grow
- Live it every day

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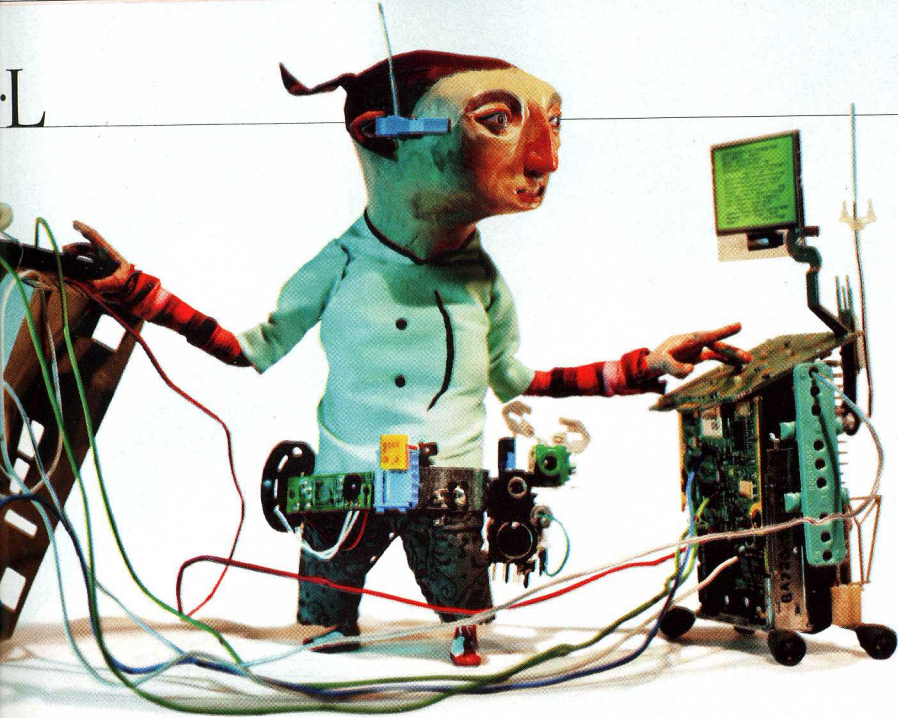
**THE  
HAPPINESS  
PLAN**

Latest research  
on finding joy  
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**SPECIAL REPORT  
SEXUAL  
ABUSE  
ME**

Could you  
husband  
be one  
of them

L



# The Hookup Artist

Perhardt demystifies home tech, one house call at a time

THERE IS A MAN out there who can make your life better. He makes house calls, but he's not a doctor. He kills bugs, but he's not an exterminator. He has a massive hard drive, but he doesn't know how to push all the right buttons, but he's not... Uh, where were we? Oh, yes: Perhardt, owner of Digital Habitat, in Westchester, New York, can repair any connection in your home. He told FARAH MILLER how he does it.

**When do you decide to make house calls?** It's kind of... I make my business stand... some problems can't be described over the phone. Some people think their disc... coffee cup holder.

**What's other wrong with computers that people make?** Some... some they have to use... discs that come with... al camera. But most new... machines include a great... called Photo Gallery. Or... download Picasa2, which... and free.

**What is one of the biggest problems to avoid with home tech?** You're saving large files—... video, photos—you can't go... in external hard drive.

You can get more than enough space for under \$200. There's a hard drive in a closet in my basement that holds everything.

**➔ It's the brain of the household!** I can keep my photos on the hard drive and set up TiVo in the living room so I can play a slideshow of my daughter on TV during her birthday party. And all my music is on the hard drive, which plays through my Sonos.

**➔ What's that?** Sonos is a wireless digital music system. You set up a unit—about the size of an alarm clock—in one room, place additional "satellite" players throughout the house, and use a remote control that looks like an oversize iPod. You can play music in any room you want. You can also tune in to internet radio stations like Pandora or Rhapsody.

**➔ What else gets saved on that magical hard drive in the basement?** Movies! We have a Vudu—that's movies on demand. The Nintendo Wii, for the kids. And of course, all the computers are hooked up to the hard drive.

**➔ How many computers do you have?** Three. No, four. Five. For now.

*If you've got a tech dilemma and Allie doesn't live nearby, never fear. An army of digital handymen is available nationwide through Geek Squad (geeksquad.com). But before calling a pro, you might want to check out popgadgets.net, a tech site geared toward women, or plug your questions into wikipedia.com, an ever-growing collection of user-generated instruction manuals.*

## Photo Finish

■ **Sitting at the cosmetics counter for a makeover can leave even an extrovert feeling sheepish. But you can revamp your looks in private at taaz.com—just upload a digital photo of yourself to start playing with the site's broad palette of hairstyles and makeup shades (O's editor at large, Gayle King, recently gave it a whirl). And the most fun? Tweaking photos of your favorite celebrity, your kid, or your husband. Go on, a little eyeliner never hurt anyone.**



GAYLE BEFORE



GAYLE AFTER

RIGHT: DAVID TURNER/STUDIO B. OLIVIA BARR. BOTTOM: BRIAN BOWEN SMITH/IAMS.



do... makes a... mouth? This is... An emotional level... And we've followed... drove us to make... all time. The MAZ... wheel-drive cars o... North American T... stirs our soul. And... most refined and r... yet. The totally, c... 100% new MAZDA6... never stop listening... Zoom-Zoom. Forever.

**If you have only...12 years or so:** Consider adopting a pet. October kicks off a three-month campaign headed by Felicity Huffman and Iams to find homes for some of the five million rescued animals currently in shelters (iamshome4theholidays.com).