

HAT GALS HIDE

Women keep many personal secrets from men — including their sexual fantasies and how much money they spend, a psychologist.

Women have always been somewhat mysterious," said Dr. Matti Gershenfeld.

There are a lot of things they prefer keeping secret." Among them are:

● **THEIR AGE AND WEIGHT:** "I've known long-married men who don't know their wives' true age.

"I know women who will never get on a scale when their mate is around, or who lie about their weight.

"Why? Women are fearful of being less desirable as they grow older."

● **THEIR NEST EGG:** "Women never completely trust men. They rely on their secret savings to ensure a measure of control over their lives," said Dr. Gershenfeld.

● **PERSONAL SPENDING:** "Most women never let on how much they spend on the hairdresser, on cosmetics, clothes or fashion accessories," Dr. Gershenfeld revealed. "They'd rather have men think they're 'natural beauties.'"

● **FEAR OF ABANDONMENT:** "No matter how lovely, accomplished or good a wife a woman is, she's never completely sure of her hold on her man. At every age, women fear abandonment and worry that the men in their lives will be seduced by female sirens. It is every woman's universal fear."

● **DEVOTION TO THEIR MOTHERS:** "Most women grow closer to their mothers as they grow older, Dr. Gershenfeld said.

"When they become mothers themselves, they develop a new appreciation of the women who bore them and are increasingly eager to maintain a close bond with their mothers. But since many men resent their wives' devotion to their mothers, women generally downplay feelings of affection and rarely reveal their strong attachment."

● **SEXUAL FANTASIES:** "Women don't want men to know if they fantasize about other men while making love with their mates," Dr. Gershenfeld said. "They keep these fantasies secret, for fear of offending their partners."

WHAT GUYS HIDE

Men hide their aches and pains from women — as well as many of their innermost feelings, says a psychologist.

"Most men are uncomfortable with the idea of a woman knowing too much about what makes them tick," declared Dr. Marc Lipton.

Here are some of the things men don't want women to know about them, according to Dr. Lipton:

● **CAREER ANXIETIES:** "Men tend to equate their personal worth with their job status," Dr. Lipton explained. "They often pretend they are extremely competent on the job — but rarely believe they are doing as well as they should, or as well as their friends or classmates."

● **SEXUAL INSECURITIES:** "Men are too embarrassed to admit it, but they crave reassurance from their partners that they're sexy, exciting, romantic and lovable."

● **INTELLECTUAL AND VERBAL INADEQUACIES:** "The female 'gift of gab' often makes men feel inadequate," Dr. Lipton revealed. "Men are hesitant to talk about anything they're not absolutely sure of."

● **EMOTIONAL TIES:** "Almost all men would prefer that women never find out how emotionally dependent they are.

"The average man is uncomfortable with his dependency feelings. To reduce his discomfort he establishes an emotional distance that blocks true intimacy."

● **SICKNESS OR PAIN:** "Men consider being sick unmasculine, a sign of weakness. Most men keep their aches and pains to themselves."

● **THEIR ABILITY TO ATTRACT OTHER WOMEN:** "Few men ever outgrow the desire to be Romeos," Dr. Lipton said.

"Though men don't seem to spend as much time and effort on primping and preening as women do, they are nonetheless eager for attention from the opposite sex."