

Married and Having a Child

Age 30 - End Result – Birth of 1st Child

Married with one child.

Age 27 - Intermediate End Result #5 - Married

Working backwards it takes about a year to have a child so that means getting pregnant at age 29. I am assuming I am the type of person who wants to be married before I would consider having a baby, thus I need to be married by age 29. On top of that I want to have been married for at least 2 years before starting the child bearing process. So at age 27 I need to be married.

Age 26 - Intermediate End Result #4 – Living Together

If I am going to be married at Age 27 I feel I need to have lived with the other person for at least one year before getting married. Thus by the time I turn 26 we need to start living together.

Age 25 - Intermediate End Result #3 – Dating Seriously

Before I would start living with someone I would have to date them seriously for at least a year, thus I would have to start dating them seriously when I turn 25.

Age 24 - Intermediate End Result #2 – Met Significant Other & Dating

Since you don't usually start dating seriously on your first date I would have to have been dating them during the year after I turned 24

Age 22 - Intermediate End Result #1 – Graduate from College

Graduate from college, get a job and get a social life out in the real world.

Insights

I have placed a lot of constraints on myself: wanting to be married for 2 years before having a baby, wanting to live together for 1 year before getting married and wanting to date seriously for 1 year before living together. This backs everything up 4 years.

Then you have to add 1 year to actually have a baby and it is 5 years from the time we start dating seriously. What if it takes another year to have our 1st child, it is now 6 years.

This only gives me two years to meet the right person. Or another way to put it I only have time to have one serious relationship that doesn't work.