

## Recipe for An Army Wife

This week we set out on a journey to blog about “marrying and loving a soldier”. Being the internet resource person I am I immediately hit Google to find out what everyone was saying about being married to a soldier. I wondered if everyone else had the same thoughts I had. It’s funny (and not so funny) what kinds of things you’ll find when you Google “why marry a soldier” or “what makes a good Army wife”. I found many lists of why not to marry a soldier, and of course the old saying “if the Army wanted you to have a wife they would have issued you one.” In the midst of all the rubble though I did find a few interesting tidbits that I thought I’d share.

By this point in our blogging you know quite a bit about me personally, you know who my husband is and how we met, you know about our deployments and sacrifices, and you know my thoughts on military children. What else could I possibly share with you about being an Army wife?

I started to think about so many of you that reply to these blog posts and how finding something that relates to you personally makes you feel like you belong in this strange and sometimes very complex military world. The first thought I had was, “Great! I’ll tell them what it takes to be married to a soldier.” I’ll tell them “how” or “why”. Then I tried to answer that myself. The only answer I could come up with for “how” or “why” was that you just love him. You don’t really have a choice. It’s not like you chose him to be a soldier. Most of you fell in love with the man, and this was his occupation. I will say that I love my soldier because of his tremendous selflessness and bravery, but in the same breath I’d tell you that I fell in love with his gorgeous blue eyes and great legs too! So there is really no rhyme or reason, it just is.

So what advice could I offer about what it takes to be an Army wife? That’s when I found this recipe to share with you. Though it is very humorous, it is very true.

### *Recipe for an Army Wife*

*1 1/2 cups patience*

*1 lb. adaptability*

*3/4 cup tolerance*

*1 tsp. courage*

*Dash of adventure*

*Combine the above ingredients. Add 2 tablespoons of elbow grease. Marinate frequently with salty tears. Pour off excess fat. Sprinkle lightly with money. Season the mixture with international spices. "Knead" the dough until payday. Bake 20 years or until done. – Author Unknown*

Now don’t rush off to whip one of these up. The ingredients are sometimes very hard to find all at one time. At least in my corner of the world they are. I honestly don’t believe anyone could have said it better though. You do need all of these qualities and more, and

sometimes you find them in yourself when you didn't even know they existed. You're love of a soldier or your back and forth love affair with this life is not something you're ever really going to understand. There is no reasoning or explanation most of the time. You love a soldier. You live the life. Oddly enough, most of us wouldn't change a minute of it.