

ANIMALS

# The unbreaking heart of rockhopper penguins

Here's one for you: What's black and white and true-blue all over? Need a hint? It has red eyes and pink feet, and, according to a study just published, is remarkably faithful to its mate...



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## Not all penguins are the same

We don't know how faithful these Galapagos penguins are to each other. But we now know that rockhopper penguins are monogamous, even when they are thousands of miles away from their loved ones. Researchers used tiny transmitters to follow the birds around. Even after being separated by thousands of miles, the love birds found each other once again to mate some more.



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## The early male bird catches the female

Seven pairs made it home and rekindled their relationships, while two birds came back solo. Around 90 percent of all birds are socially monogamous - but no more than ten percent also exercise chastity

Researcher turned the remaining penguins from their study either died at sea or moved away. Outside the partnership, Blueit females, for example, like to leave the nest in the early morning - while the male is still asleep - for a quicky in the neighborhood. If there's a male already up and singing, his chances for a brief affair are quite good. The brief affair showed the penguins generally stayed hundreds of kilometers apart as they feasted in the ocean.



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## Till death do swans part?

Swans form lifelong bonds. The males defend their nests with vigor. But the bird, which stands as a symbol for love and fidelity, also often has "extramarital" affairs. This is good for the gene pool of the birds. And the females make sure that all the eggs are fertilized.



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## Breeding as a common task

Swans belong to the family of geese. Almost all geese are socially monogamous. But unlike the Swans, most geese do not share the task of building nests together. That is work for the females. Therefore, both care for the ducklings, regardless if they carry the father's genes.

Evolution's case: why men cheat  
It's an age old question: why do some men cheat on their partners? A psychologist thinks he has an answer - or more precisely 27 of them. (02.06.2014)

[What birds are monogamous?](#)

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YORK, Berlin or Shanghai  
 15.09.2015  
 A new study shows that if we were to burn all the Earth's fossil fuels, the Antarctic ice sheet would melt. That would trigger massive sea level rise - with dramatic consequences for humanity.

Mankind's new ancestor -  
 Camp 4 Girls - Cheating at chess - Non-medical practitioners.  
 The survival of smartwatches.

SNOW? 14.09.2015  
 The public was extremely excited inside the swarm, a new possible ancient human. The presentation of his bones became a major media event. But an anthropologist told DW a bit of scepticism is called for.



**Male storks are well prepared**  
 The male stork arrives several days before the female does at its traditional nesting place, which the monogamous couple returns to - for well over a decade. Then the male prepares the nest. Only after the preparations will the female arrive. Because storks are usually not in great flocks, an affair is less likely than with other birds.  
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