

Hey, good hooking

"After amazing sex with my girlfriend, I opened my idiotic mouth and said, 'This would've cost a fortune in Glasgow!' Before I could explain, she'd kicked me out of bed to sleep on the sofa. The next day she said she felt cheap, before booting me out for good. But she'd got it all wrong. On a normal night we'd go into Glasgow for dinner, but that night we'd stayed in, spent no money and still had a good time. That's what I meant – not anything to do with prostitutes! Four years on, I've learnt my lesson. I don't talk during or after sex unless I've thought out what I'm about to say for 10 minutes!"

Ryan, 29, supervisor, Gourrock, Scotland

The ex factor

"I was falling asleep after a good 'first lay' but she wanted to talk about feelings, which is a mean trick when a bloke is in an all-too-honest state of semi-consciousness. I let it slip that she was a device to help me get over an ex who'd messed up my head. I added sweetly, 'But thanks, you're doing a great job!' Surprisingly, she stuck around for a while – but with noticeably reduced self-esteem."

Olly, 28, architect, south London

Top dog

"I pulled a girl in a club and we went back to mine and slept together. In the morning I woke up and blurted out, 'Thank God! You're not a dog!' Amazingly she took it well, adding, 'Charming – I passed the test then?' We dated for a few weeks after that. I think it showed we had a similar sense of humour."

Mike, 31, IT contractor, Hertfordshire

A marked man

"I came home drunk one night and jumped into bed with my girlfriend, Debbie*. She woke up and, as we started to make out, I whispered into her ear, 'Don't worry, Debbie won't be back for ages,' then passed out. When I woke up, she'd written 'I am a twat' on my chest in permanent marker pen. I had no recollection of why I'd said it and although we're still together, she won't let me forget!"

James*, 22, account exec, Leicester

Football crazy

"When I was on holiday in Portugal with 10 lads, I met a girl who thought I looked like the footballer Frank Lampard. When she came back for a night of passion – after I'd had about five pints too many – I started taking the likeness a bit too far. 'Lampard's

gone in around the back,' I shouted (she was on all fours). 'He shoots! He scores!' (as I came). 'GOAL! What a goal by Lampard, back of the net!' (as I collapsed beside her). Fortunately, the girl thought it was funny – and so did the lads listening at the door."

Kurt, 31, actor, Grays, Essex

Butt of the joke

"The first time I slept with Sam*, it turned out she had a penchant for dirty talk and she reeled off the things she wanted to do to me. Then I realised I'd have to join in. I racked my brains for something to say but the only thing I could come up with was, 'I want to bite your big fat arse.' She looked at me in horror. I tried to explain that it just 'came out' but I don't think she believed me. We dated for a few more weeks, but it was never the same and eventually she stopped returning my calls. Her bum wasn't even that big!"

Pete*, 26, accountant, Manchester

MADE A BEDROOM BLOOPER?

Don't despair, says *Cosmo's* sex therapist, Rachel Morris, it's (usually) possible to backtrack

Turn it into a clunky compliment: "If, like Ryan, you said something you thought was innocent, don't try to take it back. Instead, put a positive slant on your comment. It may have been a bizarre compliment, but make them see it was a compliment all the same."

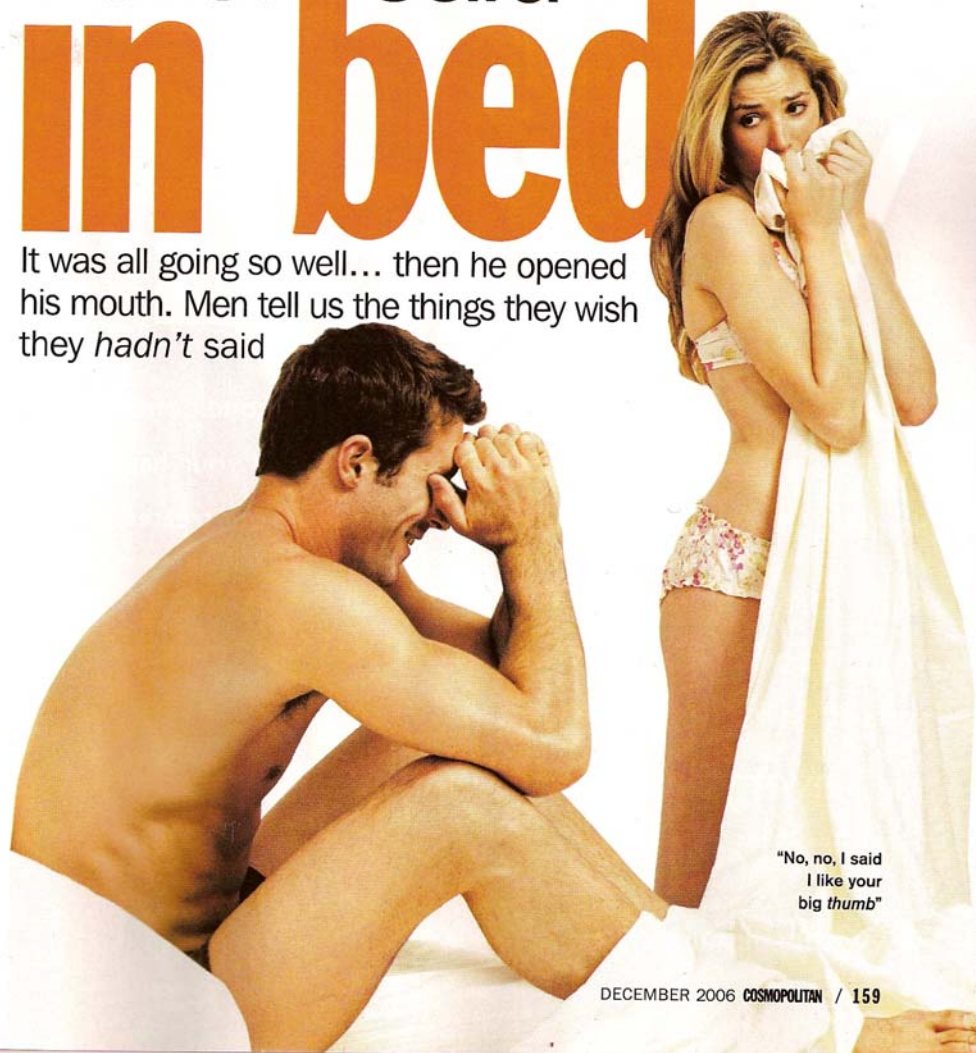
Explain your way out of it: "You're more likely to be forgiven if they understand what you were trying to get at – so explaining why you said something so stupid is key."

Embarrassment can be a good thing (honest!): "Revealing more about yourself than you meant to will break down barriers in your relationship and bring you even closer."

If all else fails, laugh: "And hope your other half does, too."

The worst thing I ever said in bed

It was all going so well... then he opened his mouth. Men tell us the things they wish they *hadn't* said



"No, no, I said I like your big thumb"