

The Etiquette of Wedding Invitations

Some couples may believe that wedding invitations are not that important. They think that a wedding invitation it is nothing more than a piece of paper that they give out to their wedding guests which would be forgotten afterward.

This assumption is incorrect. In fact there is proper wedding etiquette even with invitations. This is because wedding invitations give your guests a preview on how your wedding will be conducted. They will know through wedding invitations what they should wear so they will not commit a faux pas in wedding etiquette for clothing and dress, and they will know how formal or informal the event may be so they'll know what to expect for the wedding reception.

Also, good wedding invitations leave a lasting impression for your wedding. Your guests will remember your wedding through just your wedding invitation.

Here are some tips on wedding etiquette on invitations:

Wedding Etiquette On Invitations Tip One:

What should be the phrasing on your invitation?

You can go as formal as you wish or as informal as you like. Formal wordings are those that we regularly see on wedding invitations such as:

Mr. and Mrs. Bates
request the honor of your presence
at the marriage of their daughter
Ms. Jessica Anne Bates
to
Mr. Matthew James Schmidt
son of Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt
...

You can replace the phrasing of the above example and apply your own wording, most especially if it is the couples who would do the inviting. Wedding etiquette on invitations doesn't prohibit people from being as poetic as they want themselves to be, or be funny to please their guests as they read the invitation.

Wedding Etiquette On Invitations Tip Two:

Who should be issuing the invitations? Wedding etiquette on invitations is not very strict. Before, if the father of the bride hosts the wedding, he should be the only person who would conduct the inviting. But today, some couples honor their parents and allow them do the inviting even if the couples themselves will fund their own wedding. Many of the traditional practices are now recognized as sexist, and modern couples are changing those aspects to better suit a modern world.

Wedding Etiquette On Invitations Tip Three:

When to mail invitations?

Wedding etiquette on mailing out of invitations must be done four to six weeks before the wedding day. But for couples who organize their wedding one or two years ahead, they can send out a "save the date" invitation since many things may be changed along the way. This is also true for couples who wish for a wedding with wedding destination theme. Wedding etiquette makes it clear that invitations must be sent out earlier than four to six weeks, actually even six months ahead, so that the guests can make their own hotel reservations ahead of time.

But remember, the "save the date" card is not yet the proper invitation. It is a breach of wedding etiquette to replace a proper wedding invitation with a "save the date" card. "Save the date" cards just serve as an initial announcement about your upcoming wedding. You should give your guests the courtesy to notify them of the exact venue of wedding ceremony and reception, the attire and the date and time.

Wedding Etiquette On Invitations Tip Four:

Remove the tissues that accompany engraved invitations. These tissues are designed to protect the paper from getting ink smudges before the invitation are delivered at your doorstep. It is a wedding etiquette misstep to include them in your invitation. It will spoil the look of your wedding invitation.

Wedding Etiquette On Invitations Tip Five:

On the issue of registry cards, wedding etiquette on invitations is very unambiguous that registry cards should not be included in the invitation. You may indicate that you have an online registry if you have any and you can request that your guests to visit your online registry. But it's a wedding etiquette blunder if you include your wedding registry cards. Keep in mind that gifts should always come as a surprise.

Wedding Etiquette On Invitations Tip Six:

Don't worry about RSVP cards. Your guests are adults and should know how to reply to an invitation. There is also wedding etiquette for guests in responding to invitations. They should respond to a formal or informal wedding invite as soon as they get them and reply should not be later than two weeks before the wedding.