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**Returning From Your Wedding: Regarding Presents**

**By Porche Reingold**

The great thing about coming back from the honeymoon is that you can still look forward to opening that massive pile of wrapping that you left behind. You will want to schedule a day for the present opening, and welcome any who want to attend. Often this will be limited to family members, with both sets of parents and any siblings attending as well as the bride and groom. Make sure you have a system in place whereby the opened presents and wrapping are set far away from the main pile, as you will not want any envelopes to be thrown away accidentally. In addition to being important indicators of who gave you what, they may contain vast sums of money.

The maid of honor should be present for the gift opening, as it is her final duty to record who gave which gifts. This is an ultra-necessary step, as without this list it will be impossible to write the thank-you notes.

Inevitably, you will receive duplicates and often multiples of gifts. Many couples find that there is one gift that everyone seems to have gotten them- towels, cutlery, toaster ovens, or spice racks. Before you return any of these, consider the future. For some items, such as towels, there really is no such thing as too much. The same is true for cutlery- you may not think that a couple sets is suitable for your new living situation, but cutlery tends to get lost very easily and also to be used very quickly. Having several sets is not such a bad thing. Items such as toasters, toaster ovens, and spice racks you will want to return, however, as only one will be needed.

If you have registered for china, make sure to carefully repack the dishes and transport them back to your home to store in a strong cabinet.

**Thank-You Notes**

Thank-you notes are the last standing and only rock-solid must-do of etiquette. There is no way around thank-you notes, and you will need to write one for every guest who attended your wedding. Attending your wedding and/or giving you a gift are people's way of showing they appreciate you, and the thank-you note is your way of saying you appreciate them in turn.

## Returning From Your Wedding: Regarding Presents

Thank-you notes should be sent within two weeks after returning from your honeymoon. Often, wedding thank-you notes are included with photography or invitation packages. These cards are ideal, as thank-you notes require a personal touch, which demonstrates that you have indeed received the gift and are grateful for it. If the person to whom you are addressing the card was a member of the wedding party or otherwise especially helpful, make sure and include that fact in your note. Remember, though, to keep it a note, not a letter.

Your first line should thank the person for attending your special day, with a special thank-you for services coming second. The last line should thank the guest for the gift. If you received a cash gift from a guest, let them know it has been put to good use. Likewise, if the gift was an item, thank them for it specifically and include a note of personal satisfaction- "Thank you for the utensil set. It matches our dishes and we will be sure to have it set it out on your next visit!" If you returned the gift that the guest gave you, only include that fact if you enjoy a very close, non-related relationship with them. Otherwise, mention the gift, the odds are that if they visit they will not remember the specific brand or

colour that they gave you.

Not much else needs to be said. If you frequently see the person then you might want to include a statement about seeing them on a future occasion, and then wrap it up with a salutation.

Porche Reingold maintains a website focused on helping couples plan their dream wedding. Visit her site at:

<http://theweddingblogs.com>

## **Wedding Favor Guide: What You Need To Know About Wedding Favors**

**By Melissa Burton**

When guests are invited to a wedding they usually leave with what is called a wedding favor. These are traditionally sugar coated almonds in little net bags with a ribbon tied around them. But these days people are being more unique and creative and starting out with their own design and logo for the wedding favors.

Many people theme their wedding and they usually match the theme of the wedding to the wedding favors for example if you are have a Christmas wedding than your favours could be little snowmen wrapped up as Christmas presents. Many people are avoiding the traditional almond favors and turning to something a little bit more creative.

I have read stories from people who have used long stem silk roses as their favors with their wedding details attached by ribbon; people have used watering cans with tea light candles inside them, couple have bought champagne flutes and had their wedding message inscribed for each guest to take home and others use picture frames with wedding pictures or details inside of them!

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The traditional favor is no longer favoured! You can purchase your own wedding favors from specialised shops or over the internet, the internet deals greatly in wedding favors and there is something for everyone, or you can make your own favors and be somewhat creative as to what they will be! The internet provides vast resources for purchasing your wedding favors online; it is cheaper buying on the internet than it is buying in the shops.

Wedding favors are every ones memory of the couples's special day and most favors are inscribed or printed with details about the wedding, the date, who was married, where they were married and what your part in the wedding was. They are unique gifts that you only get once, so why not try and spice them up a little bit and use some imagination.

Wedding favors are unique to any wedding, so make yours unique beautiful and creative by designing and printing your own wedding favors. It will be cheaper and a lot more fun!

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<http://www.discountweddingguide.com/>



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