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Spotlight on the Asian-Themed Wedding

By Blake Kritzberg

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by: **Blake Kritzberg**

Asian-themed weddings are on the rise, and at first this might come as a surprise. After all, nothing could seem further from the Laura Ashley vision we get when thinking of a wedding.

And in fact, that's one of the forces behind the rising popularity of the Asian-themed wedding: how it turns things upside-down. In fact, in a Chinese-style wedding, white is bad (it's the color of death) and red and black are good (they're the colors of luck and prosperity).

You might wonder whether brides that plan Asian-themed weddings are Asian (or marrying someone who is). The answer is, sometimes. Surprisingly often, they aren't, and the choice is purely aesthetic.

Today's trends break down into two main types of Asian-themed weddings: the Japanese or "Zen" style, which values simplicity and nature, and the more riotous Chinese style, which bristles with bright colors and shiny fabrics.

Although either choice may surprise some older guests, the bride may find her personal values deeply expressed in the Asian-themed wedding. After all, the usual wedding is a certain kind of pageant: the couple pretends to be royalty for a day, and lavishly entertain a large party – seemingly without a care, though they rack up huge debt to do so.

Brides drawn to the Zen-style ceremony often want to avoid the "royalty pageant" and simplify the ceremony (ironically, this can result in greater elegance for the price tag). This type of bride might read "voluntary simplicity" books, care about the environment, enjoy an uncluttered house or apartment with a handful of Japanese accents (Shoji lanterns and screens, for example) and find herself attracted to natural materials. She may feel freed by a simpler wedding gown, and carry an unfussy bouquet of calla lilies. Her centerpieces might be lanterns surrounded by black and white stones. For favors, she might give out fortune cookies placed in take-out boxes and topped off with chopsticks.

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Other brides find aspects of tradition stifling, so they mix up their ceremony with Chinese–style zest. This bride might dress her bridesmaids in glowing red (or slinky black!) Cheongsams, dresses with high collars and slit sides. She'll hand them parasols instead of nosegays, and pass out chopsticks for their hair. Her own gown might be of gorgeous brocade in red, orange or gold. Perhaps she'll wrap up the ceremony with a butterfly release and hand out lucky bamboo stalks as wedding favors. This bride doesn't mind charting her own course in social affairs, and she loves the Chinese devotion to parents and children.

In either case, the Asian–themed wedding is a great way to tie your ceremony to your personal values. Perhaps the thought of such a wedding crossed your mind, but you thought you had to be Asian? The fact is, Asian traditions and trends have been shaping Americans deeply since the 1960s. Maybe it's time to ask yourself this: which type of Asian–themed bride are you?

Blake Kritzberg is the proprietor of

. Visit the site for easy, elegant, unusual,

and affordable wedding favor ideas, wedding favor FAQ, and free wedding screensaver. This article may be freely reprinted so long as this resource box and URL are preserved.

Wedding Favor Ideas for Themed Weddings

By Abigail Newsom

Wedding Favor Ideas for Themed Weddings

There are numerous wedding favor ideas for those with themed weddings. Whether you choose a beach theme, an all white theme, or an Asian theme the options you have for wedding favors are almost limitless.

There are many resources that offer wedding favor ideas and wedding supplies, such as bridal sites like americanbridal.com, which offers everything from wedding favors to wedding gifts and everything in between. Here are some popular wedding favor ideas for common themed weddings that may come in handy when deciding which wedding favors to purchase, how they might match your theme, and where you might find them.

Candle wedding favors

Candle Wedding favors are popular

because they go with any themed wedding. They come in so many colors, styles and sizes that they are in high demand as easy, appreciated wedding favors. They are usually less expensive than many other wedding favor options, and this also increases their demand.

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Wine wedding favors

Wine wedding favors are always an excellent idea, and work well with most themed weddings. They work for other seasons and themes as well, and may range from personalized corkscrews to charms, small goblets, coasters, bottle stoppers, and more.

Edible wedding favors

Edible wedding favors can be some of the most fun because they go with any wedding theme and come in such varieties as chocolate bars, small coffee bags, truffles, candies, mints, honey, and numerous other edible wedding favors. They can all be personalized with custom wrappers or boxes with the bride and groom's names, wedding, date, thanks, etc.

Practical wedding favors

Ideal for any wedding, practical wedding favors usually entail something that the guests can take home and use after the wedding and the reception. They are excellent for wedding themes in all categories. This includes everything from bottle stoppers and corkscrews to elegant little coffee scoopers and miniature bath salts and soaps. Personalized wedding favors

Beach wedding favors

Beach wedding favors include many

options, from candle sets in blue, sand, and white, and beach themed coasters to shell trinkets and polished, engraved rocks or mints. You can personalize most wedding favor ideas for beach themed

weddings, and there are many wedding sites that cater especially to those with beach themed weddings.

Asian wedding favors

Asian wedding favors come in all the options above and more. Incense, Asian brocade wallets and coin purses, special gourmet fortune cookies, his & hers chopsticks, place card holders, and mints are only a few wedding favor ideas for Asian themed weddings. They can all be personalized by the bride and groom.

Pink wedding favors

If you have a pink or white themed wedding, pink wedding favors are available in many options, from potpourri and candles to personalized luggage tags and small French soaps. They are appropriate for any wedding theme that allows for pink colors.

Flower and garden favors

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Flower and garden favors are great for any themed wedding, but are ideal for both spring and summer. They can include anything from vases and floral candles to flower seeds, bookmarks, and custom place holders.

Abigail Newsom writes for the American Bridal. Please visit for more helpful information on [and on](#)

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