

Tired Of The Traditional? Get Creative With These Unique Wedding Guestbook Ideas!

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By Blake Kritzberg

While the traditional wedding guestbook serves an important function, more and more couples ---

and wedding planners --- are steering away from the time-tested in favor of something more personal. That's especially true for brides and grooms having a relaxed second wedding, or those who simply enjoy a dynamic relationship and powerful personalities. Traditional guestbooks are great, but one-of-a-kind alternatives can be even better!

So, you're sold --- you've decided to put together a more totally-you memento of your guests than that little quilted journal and feather pen. And yet, it's a struggle to come up with the perfect idea. Never fear ... with a little brainstorming, you'll find yourself armed with several original choices.

While you ponder, ask yourself questions about what makes you stand out as a couple. What are your hobbies? Do you play any instruments? How do you like to spend your free time? What tantalizing spot did you pick for your honeymoon? Take mental note of your talents and passions ... or prized possessions. Answering basic questions like these should help you develop a fresh and personal spin on the traditional guestbook.

Here are a few quick ideas to help you get started:

- Blessed with musical talent? If you play the guitar, keep an eye out for miniature or older, not-necessarily-playable guitars at music shops, thrift stores, and so on. Buy some Sharpies and clear acrylic spray, so the surface can be signed and sealed for years to come. You can make similar modifications to instruments like banjos, mandolins, violins. Actually, with a little creativity you could probably convert almost any instrument!

- Crazy for sports? If so, consider signing memorabilia or sporting goods equipment related to your favorite sports or teams. Hockey players are sure to appreciate a signed hockey stick they can mount in a shadow box or simply hang from a wall. If you'd like to play this down a bit, just frame a picture of yourselves dressed in your favorite team's jerseys (or going to a sporting event) and leave plenty of ink-friendly matting around the frame.

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· Love to travel? Look for artifacts or souvenirs that can be signed and framed or displayed after the ceremony. Fans of the Far East might enjoy a signed kimono. A safari jacket might be perfect for Africa aficionados. Most countries lend themselves to some type of apparel or indigenous piece of art that's simple to convert into a customized guestbook alternative.

· It's also worth mentioning that the number of couples going with a Signature Platter is on the rise. Why? Because not only is a signed platter a great way to remember your special day, it's one of the few "guestbooks" that can actually become part of your daily routine.

These are hardly your only possibilities for novel alternatives to the traditional guestbook. With a little creativity, brainstorming and research, you shouldn't have any trouble finding a "guestbook" that's as perfect for your wedding as you are for each other.

Blake Kritzberg is editor of

<http://www.favorideas.com>

· View our most popular wedding favors (updated

daily) at:

<http://www.favorideas.com/shopping/cat104/p0/index.htm>

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!

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

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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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