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Toast Ideas for the Best Man

By rob boirun

It is a tradition for the best man to offer the first toast at a wedding. The toast is simply a short speech, but the best man is free to use any other ways to toast like a video presentation for example. The best man's toast can also have new and funny twists.

The best man's toast is given early during the reception. If the best man is married, he may like to seize the opportunity and share with the couple some advice for a happy marriage. He can also just wish the bride and groom his best wishes. Another popular though not always a recommended approach at a wedding is telling the guests some stories about the groom's wilder days. But this last one might cause some embarrassment to the couple if the wedding is attended by conservative guests.

Slideshow presentations are becoming more popular nowadays. It is a nice opportunity to show different photos of the bride and groom as a couple as well as separately. You can simply ask both parents and ask them for some photos of the couple since they were kids till now. Then take those pictures and arrange them in a slideshow while narrating some witty information, which you know from the parents. This best man's type of toast is also popular with the older generation attending the wedding, because they knew the couple as children and will enjoy some good old stories about them.

If the best man is a talented speaker, he may like to write a song or poem about the bride and groom. The song or poem could be sentimental or funny. Using this type of toast by the best man is original and enjoyable by the guests.

Another unique idea for the best man to make his toast is by using a video presentation. This is an excellent idea if you are scared of forgetting what you are supposed to say on the wedding day. Meet close friends and family members and ask them a number of questions about love and relationships while you are videotaping them. Include yourself in the video and give a short toast then introduce other members on the tape. You can take your time in recording this presentation and your toast as many times as needed till it is perfect.

One more original toast idea for the best man is using memory boxes. Talk to the parents of the bride

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and groom and get a few objects from their past, such as pictures and special gifts from loved ones. Then put each of these items into one box and leave another one empty. When it is time for the toast, give the couple the filled box and explain the story behind each of the memory items. After you finish, give the bride and groom the other empty box so they can fill it up with souvenirs of the memories they will share together.

Heather Brock is a featured writer for our

Wedding Tips

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Wedding Toast Tips And Advice

By Melissa Burton

Wedding toasts perform an essential role during the wedding celebration. The wedding toast serves as a link between the formal wedding ceremonies and the less formal atmosphere of the wedding reception.

The wedding toast also allows some members of the family, relatives and closest friends to express their feelings and to wish the couple well.

Having toasts started from the belief that creating some noise, such as ringing a bell, in this case, the clinking of a glass, can cast away evil spirits.

The wedding toast may follow a traditional or a non-traditional order.

In the traditional order, the first toast is the toast to the bride or the toast to the bride and groom. This is done by the best man, a relative or a friend. The groom then responds with a message to his bride, the person who made the toast, the couple's parents and a toast to the bridesmaids.

The best will then respond to thank the groom on behalf of the bridesmaids. At times, if the bride has spoken after the groom, the best man will thank the bridesmaids.

A close friend or relative may then follow with another toast. After this, the father of the bride thanks the guests on behalf of his wife and himself, and announces that they can begin with the celebration.

The non-traditional toast is done to do something different from the tradition. The order may be changed to suit the guests and the occasion.

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The emcee proposes the first toast for the couple. The groom then thanks the emcee and the guests and toasts to his bride. The bride thanks her groom and the guests and proposes a toast to her parents and her in-laws. At times, a special toast may be done for her in-laws.

The father of the bride thanks the bride for the toast, thanks the guests for attending and announces that the celebration may begin. At times, the emcee may propose a toast to the bridesmaids, after which the maid of honor may respond with thanks or propose another toast. The emcee may introduce guests who will propose their toasts, and announce the beginning of the celebration.

Here are some tips when proposing a toast.

- * The bride should be served the beverage first, followed by the groom, the maid of honor, the parents and then the best man.

- * The toast can be done with a sip of wine, champagne or a non-alcoholic drink except coffee, tea and water.

- * If you will propose the first toast, make sure that not only your glass, but also all the other glasses are filled before you start speaking.

- * When proposing a toast, raise your glass with your right hand. The glass should be held in a straight line from the shoulder.

- * It is better to compose your own wedding toast. However, if you cannot write a good one, you can try traditional wedding toast but make sure to personalize it to include your feelings and thoughts about the bride and groom.

- * Always remember to end a toast with an invitation to the guests to join you and something that tells them what to say in response.

These are some things that one should remember when proposing a wedding toast. On the other hand, if you received a toast, you do not raise your glass, stand, nor sip your drink. You just thank the toasters and although you are not required, you may propose another toast.

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