

# BY/JO

HANDMADE STATIONERY



## Wedding Invitation Guide

A complete guide to wording your invitations  
and all the extra details to include.

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# Wedding Invitations

The wording of your wedding invitations will set the tone for the wedding itself, it is vital to include all the important details and achieve a suitable level of formality in the text.

You need to make sure you include:

- Host names
- Date, time & venue for the wedding ceremony
- Details of what will follow the ceremony e.g. 'and afterwards at "a different venue" or the ceremony will be followed by the wedding breakfast and an evening reception
- RSVP details (usually a postal address, telephone number and/or email address)



## Traditional Wording

Traditionally, the bride's parents would host the wedding and the invitation would come from them. An example:

Dr & Mrs T R Thomas  
request the pleasure of  
the company of

.....  
at the marriage of their daughter  
Joanne  
to  
Mr Richard Shaddick  
at Castell Coch, Tongwynlais  
on Friday, 24th August 2022  
at 3.00pm  
and afterwards at  
The Manor Parc, Thornhill,  
Cardiff

RSVP details  
& reply by date

## Couple Hosting

Many couples now choose to host the wedding themselves and also to use a more informal style of wording. An example:

Joanne & Richard  
would be delighted if

.....  
would join them to  
celebrate their marriage  
at  
Castell Coch, Tongwynlais  
on  
Friday, 24th August 2022  
at 3.00pm  
and afterwards at  
The Manor Parc, Thornhill,  
Cardiff

RSVP details  
& reply by date

## *Inclusive Wording*

Alternatively, the couple might like to acknowledge both sets of parents without necessarily naming each of them.

This wording can also be adapted to 'Together with their families' for an even more inclusive feel.

An example:

Together with their parents,  
Joanne Thomas  
& Richard Shaddick  
request the pleasure of  
the company of

.....

to celebrate their marriage at  
The Manor Parc Country Hotel,  
Thornhill  
on Friday, 24th August 2001  
at 3.00pm

The ceremony will be followed by  
the wedding breakfast and an  
evening of music & dancing

RSVP details  
& reply by date

## *Make it yours*

So while traditional wedding etiquette may dictate a certain style of wording, the choice is ultimately yours.

None of these suggestions are the definitive 'right way' to word your invites. Choose something that reflects your celebration, the formality of the occasion, who is hosting and of course your personalities as a couple.

If you would like any advice on wording your invitations, don't hesitate to get in touch, I'll be happy to help!

[hello@byjo.co.uk](mailto:hello@byjo.co.uk)



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# Evening Invitations

Often the wording for your evening invitations will be based on whatever you have chosen for your wedding invitations.

Think about whether you want to keep a formal tone going throughout, or something a little more casual.

You need to make sure you include:

- Host names
- Date, time & venue for the evening reception
- RSVP details (typically a telephone number and/or email address)



## Some examples

Dr & Mrs T R Thomas  
request the pleasure of the  
company of

.....  
at an evening reception to  
celebrate  
the marriage of their daughter  
Joanne to Mr Richard Shaddick  
at The Manor Parc Hotel, Thornhill  
on Friday, 24th August 2022  
at 8.00pm

RSVP Phone & Email

OR

Joanne & Richard  
would like you to join them  
at an evening reception  
to celebrate their marriage  
at The Manor Parc Hotel, Thornhill  
on Friday, 24th August 2022  
at 8.00pm

RSVP Phone & Email

## Wedding abroad?

If the evening reception is to  
celebrate a wedding that is taking  
place abroad you can use this  
wording:

Joanne & Richard  
are delighted to invite  
you to join them for an  
evening reception at  
Callaghan's Bar, Holiday Inn,  
Castle Street, Cardiff CF10 1XD  
on Saturday 18th June 2022  
from 7 o'clock

To celebrate their marriage which  
will take place in Rhodes  
on 27th May 2022

RSVP Phone & Email

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# Guest Information

A well informed guest is a happy guest! Give them all the information they need in advance to plan for your big day, for example:

- Full address (and postcode for sat nav!), and contact details for your venue(s)
- Directions of how to get there - and from church to reception venue if applicable
- Details of any transport you are providing for your guests e.g. from church to reception
- If you are marrying abroad you can include details of any group travel arrangements you have made
- Any special accommodation rates at your venue, and details on how to book
- Alternative accommodation (include options for all budgets)
- Menu choices if your guests need to pre-order
- Gift list details
- Dress code
- Arrangements for children



# Gift list poems and verses

1

In a wedding invitation,  
You usually find some lists,  
For venues, menus and hotels,  
And also for the gifts

But this one is unusual,  
It comes in a different way,  
As we're not asking for presents,  
But for something else today

Now please don't think we're selfish,  
Or that this comes from greed,  
But we've lived together for a while,  
So there's not that much we need

We would appreciate help though,  
To send us on our way,  
And allow us to have our honeymoon,  
In a land quite far away

So now the point of all this rhyme,  
The thing that we would like,  
Isn't towels, toasters or microwaves,  
But pounds and pence alike

And now you know the reason,  
Behind this cheeky accord,  
Please help to give us memories,  
Of a dream honeymoon abroad.

2

We know it's not traditional  
It's not the way it's done  
But instead of a wedding list  
We'd like a bit of sun.

Please do not think of us as rude  
Please do not take offence  
We do not want to upset you  
That's not the way it's meant.

We've lived together quite a while  
And all the bills are paid  
We've got our plates, our pots and pans  
Our plans have all been made.

So if you'd like to give a gift  
To help us celebrate  
Some money for a honeymoon  
We would appreciate

3

We haven't got a wedding list,  
The reasons we'll explain  
It's to save you all the hassle  
As shopping is a pain.  
We thought we'd ask you all  
For something else instead  
A small contribution towards  
A holiday in the med.  
So if you'd like to contribute  
Towards our honeymoon  
We offer you our heartfelt thanks  
With love, the Bride & Groom.  
(With love, the Handsome Grooms)

4

We haven't got a gift list, for all of you to see,  
Because as you all know we never can agree!  
But if you'd like to help us, start our married  
life, cash or high street vouchers, would save a  
lot of strife.

5

We have most of the things we need  
Like a kettle and two toasters,  
We have two different crockery sets  
With dinner plates and coasters,  
Pots and pans, knives and forks  
A chopping board for cheese,  
If you would like to give us a gift  
We would like the money please!

6

As we have already set up house together all  
we really need to make our wedding day truly  
special is the pleasure of your company.  
However, if you would like to give a gift, a list  
has been registered at John Lewis (337668)  
and will be available from 21st of February in  
store and online. Alternatively if you would  
prefer, a small contribution towards ongoing  
renovation and decoration of our home would  
be very gratefully received.

7

For Joanne and Richard your presence is  
present enough on their special day. As Joanne  
has already bought everything they will ever  
need for their home, they have opted not to  
have a gift list. However, if you feel that you  
wish to give a gift, a donation towards their  
honeymoon would be gratefully received.

# Gift list poems and verses

8

We really hope that you can join us  
On our special day,  
You'll make our memories complete  
In every single way,  
We do not have a gift list,  
And hope you'll understand  
Our house and contents are complete  
With pots and plates and pans!  
But should you really want to give  
And celebrate this way  
A gift of money would be lovely  
For a rainy day.

9

Now we are to be Mr & Mrs, (Mrs & Mrs)  
We don't need a wedding list for dishes.  
We have glasses, crockery and two toasters,  
A kettle, placemats and matching coasters.

So if your thoughts were on a gift,  
A cheque or vouchers would give us a lift.  
Don't go overboard or robbing banks,  
Anything would make us smile with thanks.

But most importantly we request,  
You share our special day as our guest.  
Now that we've saved you any fuss,  
We can't wait for you to celebrate with us.

10

For Jo and Richard your presence is present  
enough on their special day. However, if you  
feel that you wish to give a gift, a donation to  
their honeymoon would be gratefully received.

11

Your presence at our wedding is present  
enough.  
But if we're honoured with a gift from you,  
May we respectfully request a gift of money  
to help the dream of our new home come true!

12

Gift us only with the honour of your presence.

13

Your presence is the best gift we can hope to  
receive.

14

Please, no gifts.  
Your presence is a present to us.

15

No presents please, just your presence.

16

Please bring only your company and your  
appetite.

17

Your presence at the celebration is  
enough of a present.

18

Your presence is the only present desired.

19

Your loving presence in our lives is a gift...we  
request no other.

20

Your presence is the best gift you could give us.

These are examples of some 'gift list poems',  
feel free to adapt them to suit your  
wedding invitation or come up with  
an original poem of your own.

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@byjostationery

# Wording for 'not inviting children'

1  
Regrettably we are unable to accommodate children unless they are named on the invitation.

2  
We regret that due to the large number of children within our family and friends, children are not permitted. Sorry for any inconvenience caused.

3  
We are sorry that we are unable to invite children to the wedding, we hope that this does not cause you an inconvenience and that you enjoy your 'day off' in our company.

4  
Due to constraints at the venue, we regret that we are unable to accommodate children.

5  
We would love to share our day with as many people as possible. However, due to the number of guests with young families, and because of space limitations, we regret we cannot invite children with the exception of those in the wedding party. We hope you understand and are able to make childcare arrangements where necessary.

6  
Respectfully an adult occasion.

7  
Due to venue limitations, it is not possible to accommodate the children of all our guests. We hope you understand and respect our wishes.

8  
We're so sorry we've not been able to extend the invitation to children. There are so many parents amongst our friends and extended family, we've had to restrict it to immediate family children only. We really appreciate the arrangements you'll have to make if you are able to join us.

9  
We regret that we are unable to accommodate children, outside of the wedding party. No children are invited to the evening reception....it's time to have fun!! If this causes you any major issues please talk to us.

10  
The only children present at our wedding during the day will be our nieces. We are sorry for any disappointment this may cause.

These are examples of some text I have added to invitations previously regarding the issue of children not being invited. Feel free to use, adapt or create your own.

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# Reply Cards

Your reply card (if you choose to include one) should be clear and functional. It should include:

- Accept or decline
- Space for your guests to write their names
- Any dietary requirements
- The address to return it to
- The date by which your guests should reply

Additional details that can be included are:

- Tick boxes for menu choices
- A song request for your wedding playlist
- Tick boxes or similar for any transport you are putting on

