



Weddings

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A Bridesmaid's Mini-Guide

Responsibility Cards,
Bridal Shower Themes and Games,
Bachelorette Party Ideas and more...

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Welcome to the *Bliss!* Weddings Bridesmaids' Mini-Guide

We are happy to present you with this collection of information from our website, ***Bliss! Weddings*** [www.blissweddings.com], in a printable and easy-to-carry format. We hope that the following information will help you better assist the bride-to-be in her quest to achieve wedding day bliss!

For more wedding-planning information, please be sure to visit our website where you can find:

- bridal fashion galleries
- wedding floral charts
- interactive tools
- instructional bridal craft videos
- discussion forums
- Ask the Experts
- articles and guides
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A Bridesmaid's Survival Guide

This article was written by Diana Estigarribia

"Will you be my bridesmaid?" With that proposal a journey like no other begins. You're touched that your sister, cousin, or friend thought of you. And you're thrilled about the whirlwind of parties and planning that will ensue over the next several months. But as the initial excitement dies down, you've come to the realization that you don't know the first thing about being a competent bridesmaid. What exactly are you supposed to do?

You should know that accepting the duties of a bridesmaid means giving your time, money, and patience. Being a bridesmaid is a truly wonderful experience. It's also been known to drive women crazy. Truth is, it's probably a little of both. So how do you do your best and keep your sanity? Here are a few helpful hints and tips.

Before the Wedding Day

"You want me to wear that?"

Ahh, the dreaded bridesmaid dress. It's the single most important, and costly, aspect of being a bridesmaid. First of all, a bridesmaid is required to pay for her dress and shoes. This can sometimes amount to quite a financial contribution. So if you find yourself in a money bind, the best thing to do is to discuss your concerns with the bride. She may be able to help pay for the alterations, or in some cases, the whole dress itself.

What if you hate it? Most maids can attest to a closet full of bridesmaid dresses that never saw the light of day again since the wedding. Luckily, most designers today are moving away from those hideous creations of yesteryear. But if you truly believe the dress simply isn't you, and there is a consensus among all the bridesmaids, you can choose to approach the bride with your suggestions and opinions. If it's still a no-go, bite your tongue, and remember the mantra, "It's her wedding, and whatever makes her happy." Related dress duties include making yourself available for fittings, picking up the dress, and shoe shopping. Big-day beauty applies to bridesmaids too, so expect to get your hair and makeup done professionally, depending on the bride's wishes. This could mean further expense and devoting more time to appointments.

Planning Guru

During the wedding planning process, a bridesmaid's duties can be intensive or light. More likely, expect to pitch in with any detail -- small or large. This means making phone calls, confirming reservations, or doing an Internet search or two.

Showers and other parties form the biggest part of bridesmaid planning. Bridesmaids must attend all parties, showers and the rehearsal dinner (You only have to bring one gift if there are multiple celebrations, though). Help with gathering the guest list, invitations, and favors. You might even become the point person and have a major hand in choosing the site and taking care of food and decorations on the occasion.

Wedding Day

Arrange to be at the bridal site on time (of course). Be prepared to help the bride, maid of honor, parents, and others. Helping the bride dress is a very important part of the big day. Is there a run in someone's stocking? Be ready to dash out to the corner drug store to pick up a spare. The important thing is to keep cool. Most likely the bride will be a jumble of nerves and she'll need all of you to be her rock.

Traditional etiquette calls for the bridesmaid to stand to the left of the maid of honor during the receiving line. After the ceremony, you may have to attend to small details, such as cleanup. You might want to make a quick survey of guests, see if they know directions to the reception (if its off-site), if anyone needs a ride, or any special situations.

At the reception, remember to enjoy yourself -- you've earned it! But the work's not quite over yet -- mingle with guests, transport gifts for the couple, even save a slice of the cake the bride didn't have time to sample. Again, be open and willing to help out. And then it's time to catch the bouquet!

As a member of the bridal party, you're in "the club." You've been given a special privilege and a place in the biggest day of the bride and groom's new life. When the wedding day arrives, you've been there for the highs, the lows, and everything in between. Cherish the honor, enjoy the day, and have fun.

Bridesmaids

- Assist in the selection of the bridesmaid dress
- Provide your measurements to the bride for the bridesmaid dress
- Host/co-host the Bridal Shower and/or Bachelorette Party
- Help address and stuff the wedding invitations
- Help the bride get dressed and ready on the wedding day
- Attend pre-wedding parties, if feasible
- Pay for your dress, shoes, and accessories
- Pay for transportation and/or lodging to and from the wedding city
- Help the bride in any tasks or errands
- Participate in the bouquet toss, if single

Maid/Matron of Honor

- Holds the groom's wedding ring
- Arranges the bride's veil during the processional, ceremony and recessional
- Makes sure the bride looks perfect for all the pictures
- Holds the bride's bouquet during the exchanging of wedding rings
- Host/co-host the Bridal Shower and/or Bachelorette Party
- Witness the signing of the marriage certificate
- Provide your measurements to the bride for your dress
- Help address and stuff the wedding invitations
- Help the bride get dressed and ready on the wedding day
- Attend pre-wedding parties, if feasible
- Pay for your dress, shoes, and accessories
- Pay for transportation and/or lodging to and from the wedding city
- Help the bride in any tasks or errands
- Participate in the bouquet toss, if single

Guide to the Bridal Shower

-Ages ago in the Netherlands, it was said that a father was not all pleased with the impending union of his daughter to her young fiancé, a poor fellow. So, the couple's friends who felt very bad for the couple "showered" them with gifts to stock their new home.

-Another possible origin of the bridal shower has it as an alternative to the dowry. In the 1890's, friends and family put small gifts in parasols that were opened over the bride's head.

-Usually hosted by the maid/matron -of-honor or a close family friend. The shower is usually not hosted by any member of the family for it will be deemed self-serving.

-Immediate family, close relatives, members of the bridal party, and close friends should be in attendance. Those invited to a bridal shower must be invited to the wedding, unless the bridal shower is hosted by co-workers.

-The shower is usually held a few months to a few weeks prior to the day of the wedding

-The party can be as formal or informal as you wish

-The party can be hosted at someone's residence or at a restaurant

-Although a gift is usually offered by the guest, it should not be as prominent as the wedding gift.

-Bridal showers are no longer limited to just the females. Wedding showers, or "Jack and Jill" showers, bring together both the bride and groom and their co-ed family and friends.

-Bridal showers can have an overall theme or motif, such as a "Time of the Day" theme or "Lingerie" Theme. **Bliss! Weddings** has a long list of fun and creative shower themes.

-Bridal shower games allow the guests to mix and mingle and to have fun. Bliss! has a long and assorted list of bridal shower games as well as "Jack and Jill" games.

Bridal Shower Themes

Are you hosting a bridal or wedding shower? Have absolutely no clue on where to begin? Don't fret! Most showers have a theme or overall motif such as a "lingerie" or "time of the day" theme. There are many possibilities and the only limit you have is your imagination! Here are some themes that were submitted by our readers...

Entertainment Shower

Submitted by: Phyllis of Huntsville

My daughter was married last year and she and my son in-law worked at the same place so their co-workers decided to give them an "Entertainment Shower." He was joining the coast guard and they knew he would be traveling and they would have to have something to entertain people with different interests. You can imagine how costly it is buying games for the new generation. They received lawn chairs, barbecue utensils and games, puzzles, beach towels, flip flops, sunglasses (nice ones too), chess, checkers playing cards, you name it! And it was simple because there is sooo much to chose from... they are still putting one puzzle together after a year now. They even received a special edition of some games! This was really a great idea.

Basket Theme

Submitted by: Karen of Staten Island, New York

Romance Basket: lingerie (his & hers), champagne flutes, champagne, scented candles, bath oil, bubble bath, heart-shaped soaps, books of love poems.

Italian Basket: Italian ceramic pasta bowls, wooden spoons, ceramic grated cheese shaker & olive oil cans, oval glass container filled with pasta, cans of tomatoes, red and white checkered place mats & napkins, Italian cookbook.

Decorations Basket: small decorations for every holiday -- scarecrow & little monsters for Halloween, turkeys and pilgrims for Thanksgiving, Christmas decorations, Easter bunnies, Hearts for Valentine's day.

These baskets were my favorites. I also got kitchen and bathroom baskets. It showed how much time people put into their gifts.

Gift Certificate Theme

Submitted by: K. R. of Richardson, Texas

Every guest purchases a gift certificate from the local shops in the bride and Grooms hometown so that they can utilize them throughout their first year of marriage (i.e. grocery store, department stores, specialty shops, restaurants).

Lingerie Theme

Submitted by: Bliss!

This was the editor's bridal shower theme. It is very easy to find gifts that qualify for this theme and it can be very fun opening up the gifts! No holds-barred with the type of lingerie...

Party of Firsts

Submitted by: C. S. of Fayetteville, Arizona

A fun couples shower where each guest is assigned to bring a gift for a specific "first" the couple will have, for example: their first Christmas together, their first time they burn dinner, their first night apart, etc. the possibilities are endless.

Time of Day

Guests are assigned a time of day and purchase a gift that applies to that time of day. For example, if I picked 10pm, then I would probably choose lingerie since that is bedtime. Or, if I was assigned 8am, I would probably buy a his/her coffee mug set for that early morning wake-up call.

Home Improvement

Submitted by: A Houston, Texas web surfer on AOL

Especially for couples showers. Guys love it!

Holiday Theme

Submitted by: An Arizonian web surfer

Assign a holiday to each guest and have them bring a gift appropriate to the season. Example: Fourth of July - A picnic basket decorated in red, white and blue (inside red, white and blue plates, cups and napkins).

Alphabet

Submitted by: S. D. of Houston, Texas

Each guest is assigned a letter of the alphabet. EX: if I get "p," I bring a pillow.

Room of the House

Submitted by: A Houston, Texas web surfer

Every guest is "assigned" a room of the house. Their gift must be purchased to be used in that room!

"Month of the Year" Theme

Submitted by: An Anonymous Surfer

Similar to the time of day shower, each guest is assigned a month of the year. This allows the bride to receive seasonal items such as a picnic basket in July or gardening supplies in March.

Personal Library

Submitted by: C. W.-J. of St. Louis, Missouri

Ask each guest to bring a book, journal, magazine, or gift certificate from a book store to help build the bride and/or Groom's personal library. You will be surprised on how well it will go over.

Wine and Music

Submitted by: S. W. of Ontario, Canada

I went to a wedding shower once at which the theme was CDs and Wine. Everyone brought the couple their favorite wine and a favorite CD (or two!). It was a great way to stock the couple's wine rack and music collection and enabled the guests to contribute something personal.

Some Like it Hot

Submitted by: C. W. of New York, New York

A close friend and her mom threw me a "Some Like it Hot" shower, featuring a variety of spicy foods, dried red peppers tied onto the napkins, and a Mylar palm tree on the gift table. The invitation requested gifts that would "spice up" our marriage. Guests interpreted this in many ways by bringing massage oil and lingerie to a Mexican cookbook, taco seasoning packets, and fajita pan, to darling oven mitts. An artistic friend made a sketch of a hot red pepper to hang in the kitchen, too. Of course, other friends (particularly my mom's friends) gave more "traditional" gifts, but the theme was well represented and provided a terrific conversation starter from the first moment of the shower.

Honeymoon Shower Theme

Submitted by: dkmorris of Kansas

We will be having a "honeymoon shower". We've been together so long that we don't need much of the traditional gifts, i.e. dishes, toasters, linens, so we're finding it hard to come up with something new. TA-DA! A honeymoon shower! Gift certificates for the travel agency, new beach towels, picture frames for the photos once we return, maybe a camcorder (hee-hee). FUN!

Famous Couple

Submitted by: Yvonne L. of Toronto, Ontario, Canada

My maid-of-honor threw a "Famous Couple" shower for my fiancée and me. It was a lot of fun! All the games and gifts were related to the famous couple whom each guest was assigned. One of the games we played was the Newlywed Game with a few real couples and non-couples.

Shower for the Seasons

Submitted by: Julie of Spartanburg

A great theme for a bridal shower is "Shower for the Seasons." Each guest is assigned a season when they RSVP. The gift they bring is one that can be used during their assigned season. You can be very creative with this theme and it gives the happy couple a great variety of gifts, no matter what season they get married in. For example, for the spring season a picnic basket with supplies; summer - beach supplies; fall- place setting of china/dishes for Thanksgiving meal; winter- mugs, hot chocolate, soup bowls, etc.

Hamper Theme

Submitted by: Robin of Ottawa, Canada

Before the shower, have all the guests either pool their money together or have each guest buy one piece of lingerie (nightgown, teddy, bra, robe, sleep pants, thong, whatever). Before the guest-of-honour arrives, use clothespins to attach each piece of lingerie to a length of rope with a few inches of space between each item. Coil the clothesline into a beautiful white wicker laundry hamper and tie with a ribbon. Have the guests sit in a circle and allow the bride to slowly pull each item out of the hamper. By sitting in the circle, the gifts go around the circle and right back into the hamper without getting tangled.

Honeymoon Destination Theme

Submitted by: Brandie of Gulfport, Louisiana, USA

I'm hosting a bridal shower for my best friend who is getting married in a few months. The theme I'm using for the shower is "Honeymoon." For instance, she and her fiancé are going to Jamaica. I'm going to decorate her house Jamaican style and have foods and drinks related to Jamaica. I'm sure it will be fun and she will receive quite a few things she can use on her honeymoon.

Good Luck Shower Theme

Submitted by: Laura of Boston, Massachusetts, USA

This works well for a small shower. Center the activity of the shower around different forms of good luck. We had tarot cards and painted the bride with henna, which is supposed to be good luck. Plus, she had to be waited on hand and foot while the henna dried. We also had a crystal ball. Because the shower was small, I got everyone's birth date and ran their astrological charts on a website. We also did an astrological relationship match-up with the bride's chart and the groom's. Favors and treats included soap in the shape of fortune cookies, fortune cookies themselves, four-leaf clovers, pennies, and rabbit's feet key chains.

Bath and Body

Submitted by: Candy of Huntsville, Alabama

Guests should buy scents and accessories to pamper the bride and arouse the Groom.

For more bridal shower themes, log on to
<http://www.blissweddings.com/library/themes.asp>

Bridal Shower Games

In addition to food being served, games are usually played to entertain the guests. Nowadays, bridal showers are not limited to "females only." Today, many "wedding showers" are being thrown that includes both the bride and groom and their "couple friends" in what is termed as a "Jack and Jill" shower. The following is a list of fun bridal and wedding shower games submitted and tested by shower hosts and hostesses and enjoyed by shower guests from around the world.

The Word Game

Submitted by: Bliss!

This game coincided with me opening up my gifts. Little did I know that one of my bridesmaids was desperately writing my verbal reactions to my lingerie gifts. After I opened up all my gifts, my bridesmaid read all my verbal reactions and said that this is what I will be saying on my wedding night! It was hilarious! I said stuff like, "How do you use this?" "Oh my gosh!" "Oh, this is wonderful!" "How do you put this on?" etc. You get the picture...

Purse Scavenger Hunt

Submitted by: Bliss!

Divide the guests into teams of two or three. Provide each team a list of items to be found in their purses. Each item is assigned a certain number of points. The most likely found item such as lipstick is assigned 20 points. Whereas an item such as a rock is assigned 75 points. Can you believe at my bridal shower that one of my co-workers actually had a rock in her purse? It was her lucky rock and needless to say, her team won!

Toilet Paper Wedding Dress

Submitted by: Bliss!

This is one of the more popular games played at bridal showers. We divided the guests (including me and my bridesmaids) into teams of three. Each team was handed four rolls of white toilet paper (recycled, of course) and were given 20 minutes to design a wedding dress. Each team chooses a "bride" and then proceeds to design a dress and wrap the "bride" within the allotted time. Each team bride was then paraded in front of the guests (it was hilarious on how some of my friends' creative juices flowed!) and votes were taken to determine the prettiest bridal gown. A gift was then awarded to the chosen bride and her design team!

Toilet Paper and Stick

Submitted by: Bliss!

This game is risqué and insinuating but great fun! The guests were divided up into teams with all but one member holding a toilet paper roll in between her legs. The last member places a broomstick or pole between her legs. The "pole" people stand side-by-side on one end of the room while each of their team members stand in a single file on the other side of the room in front of their respective "pole" person. The goal of the game is for each member to walk (more like waddling like a duck) to their team's "pole" with the toilet paper roll between her legs and place the toilet roll onto the pole (without using her hands!). The first team to place all four rolls onto its respective team's pole wins and is awarded a prize. This was one of the best games I have ever played at a bridal shower! I have never laughed so hard! We got some great pics!

Don't Cross Your Legs

Submitted by: Bliss!

Each woman is given a clothespin to clip to the end of her skirt/dress. The purpose of the game is to NOT get caught crossing your legs at any time throughout the bridal shower. If one of the other guests catches you crossing your legs then she can grab your clothespin. The guest who collects the most clothespins wins the game. You will be surprised at how natural it is for women to cross their legs so this will be a fun game to play as the bridal shower progresses.

Household Cleaner Letter

Submitted by: Beth of Boston, Massachusetts

At my cousin's shower we read a "letter" that we had composed especially for the occasion. It started out...

"Dear Bonnie,
Soon you will marry Rich, a SUAVE and CHARMIN' guy..."

Our letter offered valuable advice as well... "Give lots of HUGGIES and KISSES... to keep your HUNGRYJACK EVERYREADY!" Needless to say that the bridesmaid played Vanna White and held up the products that we mentioned in the letter. It was fun both to compose the letter as well as present it to her! Everyone got a big kick out of it...

Dear "bride's name",
You are entering a new ERA. There will come a THYME in your marriage when you find "Groom's name" is not always MR.CLEAN, but don't send out the S.O.S. because he might VANISH. "Groom's name" will always bring you CHEER and you will find him to be your white DOVE. When you are together you will find JOY, so remember your PLEDGE and give him your ALL. To "bride's name" and "Groom's name" the Best of Luck & Good Fortune in the years to come. And may "Groom's name" always be your HONEY.

Bridal Bingo

Submitted by: A. P. of Stockton

I made up grids with the letters B-R-I-D-E across the top. The "B" column contained references to places related to the bride and Groom such as their birthplace. The "R" column listed dates and numbers such as the number of years the Groom's parents have been married. The "I" column listed various colors, such as favorite colors and wedding colors. The "D" column listed the names of people in the wedding or of the parents. The "E" column was mentioned all their favorites such as food, movies, hobbies etc. Now, for each category I had ten items and randomly selected 5 for each grid so each would be a little different. I had the bride-to-be pull the master bingo pieces out of a bag. She read the clue such as "B-wedding location." Guests then quickly scanned their Bingo sheets in hopes they had the answer. This allows guests to learn more about the bride and Groom. The first two that got bingo, 5 in a row, selected a prize and then we continued for blackout. Everyone enjoyed this game and it moved very quickly.

How Well Does the Bride Know the Groom?

Submitted by: Karen of Staten Island, New York

My shower was last weekend. Aside from the Bingo Game (which everyone loved), my future sister-in-law had me sit in front of the room (after I opened my gifts, while the guests were eating cake). She asked me questions about how well I knew my fiancé. She had asked him the same questions the night before. If my answer matched his, I got a prize and if the answer did not match, she picked a guest's name out of a hat and they got the prize. It turned out to be pretty funny. The questions can vary, but here's what she used, just to give you an idea: What is his favorite color? Favorite restaurant? Favorite meal? Favorite band? Favorite song? Where did you go on your first date? What is his middle name? His confirmation name? Favorite movie?

Fruits & Veggies Letter

Submitted by: Susan of Green Bay, Wisconsin

Here's another "fill in the blank" cutesy story. I'm not sure on what the correct words are for the blanks. I'll do my guesses and see if anyone wants to verify or correct any. This one is called Heavenly High. You may use all of these words twice: Olive, Sprouts, Celery, Cantaloupe, Tomato, Raspberries, Dates, Melon, Bean, Corn, Pear, Mushroom, Lettuce, Raisin, Turnip, Cucumber, Carrot, Radish, Strawberry, Grapes, Beet, Prunes, Peach, Plum.

To all newlyweds,
Everyone gives advice, so why should
we be any exception. First of all, as
you know, you (cantaloupe) because everyone
wants to see the wedding, and if you (carrot)
all, you will both (turnip) at the church.
You may get the (Raspberries) at first, but
you're not such sour (grapes) that you can't
take it. To you sir, please take this advice
NEVER (beet) your wife. Remain cool as a
(cucumber). Remember she's a human (bean) too,
and a darn cute (tomato). She may not be a
(Strawberry) blonde, but she does have a (Radish)
tint to her hair, and you'll both make a (Peach)
of a (Pear). To Madam, a good wife always has a
sunny disposition. Never be (Melon)choly. We are
glad he has a nice job, and hope soon gets a big
(Celery). In closing, (Lettuce) say, this may be
a lot of (Raisin) and we're (Plum) crazy, or even
full of (Prunes), but we sincerely hope this (Pear)
will be blessed with five little (Sprouts). May
you spend all your (Dates) together and be in
love (Olive) the rest of your lives.

P.S. Kindly remember to do all of your necking
in the (Mushroom)

Wedding Rhyme Game

Submitted by: Donna D. of Martin, Tennessee, USA

5 points for something old,
5 points for something new,
10 points for something borrowed,
10 points for something blue.

With that ring you did wed,
give yourself 5 points for sharing your bed.
Count all your jewelry, necklaces, rings, and such,
They are worth 1 point each, how many do you have? Let's see how much.
Now count those buttons, for each you get 3,
and another 3 for showing your knee (wearing a skirt or dress).

Congrats to the ladies who have wedded bliss, give yourself 5 points for this.
He loves you so, he loves you not, take off 2 points if you haven't tied the knot.
Roses are red and violets are blue, if you're wearing flowers, then you get 2.

June is for brides, September is too,
if you were married or engaged on either month give yourself 2.

White is for brides, Red is for love,
give yourself 5 points if you remember your first love.

You came to this party to have a share some fun,
Have a good time and if a gift you brought none.
Oh no what shall we do,
Subtract all your points and
shame on you.

This game is over, wasn't that fun?
Count up your points and let's see who won!

A Wedding Word Scramble

Submitted by: A. J. of London, Ontario

Choose 10 - 15 words such as: Church, wedding dress, garter, rings, flowers etc.,
and scramble them up. Example: 1) rucrch = church 2) dingdwe sreds - Wedding
dress. Give your guests about 10 minutes to figure out the words. The guest with
the most words spelled correctly wins.

Toss the Bouquet

Submitted by: Kari of Garden Grove

I explained to the guests that usually the bride has someone in mind when she tosses her bouquet... so we are going to practice. I made the bouquet out of a bunch of silk flowers and tied a ribbon around the bottom. I led everyone outside where I had a line marked for the people to stand behind. Then, about 10 yards away, I drew a circle for the bouquet to land in (that represents that special someone). Everybody took turns standing backwards and tossing the bouquet. I used two markers to indicate where the bouquet landed and if the next bouquet toss was closer, I would replace the marker with the farthest one. Everyone had a blast and thought it was real unique.

For more bridal shower games, log on to
<http://www.blissweddings.com/library/games.asp>

Jack and Jill Bridal Shower Games

Blindfold the Bride

Submitted by: B. G. of New Port Richey, Florida

Here's a game that can be played at the wedding or the shower. It's called "How well do you know your _____?" Set up four chairs in the front/middle of the room. Tell the bride/bride-to-be that you are going to see how well she knows her fiancé/husband. Then, ask for the fiancé/husband and three other men to come to the front and stand in front of the chairs. Now, blindfold the bride/bride-to-be and tell her she has to pick out her husband by feeling the men's chests. She will feel each chest for a few seconds. After she is done, ask her if she thinks she knows which one is her fiancé/husband. Whether she says yes or no, tell her that you are going to have her check again to make sure by feeling. Have the bride spin around several times. As she is doing this, have the fiancé/husband stand on the chair. Now, when the bride goes to feel their chests again, she will be feeling the fiancé's/husband's area "below the belt" (the Grooms butt may be used for this also). Ask her if she knows now, and if she says yes, have her stand in front of her husband while he is still on the chair and take her blindfold off.

How Well Does the Bride know the Groom?

Submitted by: Jennifer of Seattle, Washington

An interesting shower game that helps break the ice before involving the guests was quizzing the bride. I called the Groom's mother, brother, and a few of his close friends before the shower to ask him all kinds of questions. Some as simple as "what's your favorite food" and some more intimate like "how old were you the first time you..." At the shower, I quizzed the bride-to-be to see how well she actually knew her Groom. She failed miserably, but we all had some great laughs!

The Couple Trivia

Submitted by: A. Jedrzejowski of London, Ontario

Have a list of questions dealing with famous couples such as Sonny & Cher, Lucy & Ricky Ricardo, Edith & Archie Bunker, George & Louise Jefferson, Fred & Wilma Flintstone, Betty & Barney Rubble etc. The guest with the most right answers wins a prize.

A Variation of The Newlywed Game

Submitted by: Bliss!

In this game, it is the guests against the Groom. Compose a hat-full of questions concerning the bride such as "what is so-and-so's favorite color?" Pass the hat full of questions to a guest in which he/she will pull out a random question. The "moderator" poses the question to the guest who pulled the question and the guest answers the question to the best of his/her ability. Then, the same question is addressed to the Groom. If the guest answers correctly, one point is awarded to the "guests" side. However, if the Groom answers then he is awarded the point. The whole idea of the game is to determine who knows the bride more - the guests or the Groom.

Which is the Groom?

Submitted by: Bliss!

Blindfold the bride. Choose five to six men to sit in front of the bride and guests. The bride has to determine which is her husband-to-be by feeling each man's knees or arm muscles.

Polaroid Scavenger Hunt

Submitted by: K. Freeman of San Jose, California

A great wedding shower game for the more adventurous is a Polaroid Scavenger Hunt. In between the regular bridal shower and the bachelorette shower we split the guests up into two teams and gave them a Polaroid camera (can be borrowed pretty easily), a 10 pack of film, walkie-talkies, and a list of 9 sites. The only rules were that everyone on the team must be included in the photo and they had to do what the directions specified. One of the list sites was the ballroom at the local McDonald's. Another was on the plaster lions in front of the library. One was at a certain bus stop. Whatever it is that is unique to your town or area. If you want to be a little more daring you can make one of the sites the Adult bookstore, or strip joint, whatever. As long as you split the teams so that people that know the area are in both cars, they will have fun. We went to the other site to set up and wait for our guests. They were laughing so hard over the walkie-talkies and had a ball!! =)

Toilet Paper Race

Submitted by: Kristie of Chicago, USA

This one works only if the groom is present at the shower. Take one pink toilet paper roll and one blue roll. Give the pink roll to the bride and the blue roll to the groom. The first to unroll their roll will be the one "wearing the pants" in the house! This is fun because it takes a few minutes to unroll, and you find that women guests at the shower will help the bride unroll her toilet paper so that she wins!

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Bridal Shower Poems

Lingerie Shower Poem #2

Submitted by: Karen H.

Here is a poem that I recently made up and put on my girlfriend's lingerie shower invitation. The title is "Lia's Getting Married."

Lia's getting married and I'd like to say;
Come to her shower and bring lingerie.

Fun we will have and laughter we'll make;
For Lia's getting married, for goodness sake.

Please enjoy an evening with our friend;
Come around Six and stay 'till the end.

She's excited and nervous and you ask why?
Lia's in Love and you can't deny!

I then listed the factual information below...date, time, location, etc.

Bridal Shower Verse

Submitted by: Kymbra S. Lier of Hyde Park, New York

Here is the verse I am using on my sister's shower invitation:

Erick and Jodi are tying the knot -
And this bridal shower is gonna be hot!
Gifts sure to make it one hell of a night,
and certain to make Erick squeal with delight!

The rest of the invite has the pertinent when and where info on it!

ABC Wishing Well

Submitted by: Deborah C. of East Brunswick, New Jersey

This is a little attachment to the bridal shower invitation. On a piece of paper with an "alphabet" border, print the following:

Sharon's getting married
so it only seems fitting
to have an "ABC Wishing Well" for her shower,
we aren't kidding.

A letter has been circled
so you can tell
how we will fill
her wishing well.
Please buy a gift
that starts with your letter.
Something silly, something sweet
or something much better.

"T" could be tongs, toothpicks or tacks;
"S" could be spoons, spices or sacks.
Your imagination is your only limit,
Be clever, be crazy just get into it.

Then come to the shower, to join in the fun -
To honor sweet Sharon. Cheers everyone.

Invitation Rhyme

Submitted by: Deborah C. of East Brunswick, New Jersey

Susan met Jim
and somewhere along the way,
they fell in love
and have set their wedding date.

So come and join us
for some fun
as we shower her
for when she and Jim become one.

On Saturday, September 11, 1999 from Noon until Four at the
"Poet's Inn", Matawan, New Jersey.

Given by the Bridal Party.

Wishing Well Poem: Version #1

Submitted by: Tania T. of Brooklyn, New York
I found the following poem while surfing the web:

Spices, detergents, and gadgets galore,
There are never enough, you can always use more.
If you bring a little item our bride you would please.
Wrap it in tissue paper, and your name do not tell
It's just a little something to wish her well.
or
it's just a little something for her Wishing Well.

Recipe Card Poem

Submitted by: Yvonne R. of Houston, Texas
Enclosed for you is a recipe card.
To fill it in shouldn't be hard.
(Bride's name) might like to try your favorite cake,
or whatever it is you like to make.
So don't forget this card on this special date.
Fill it in now, don't hesitate.
At the shower will be a recipe box to fill.
So bring this recipe card, if you will.

Poem for "Around the Clock" Shower Invitation

Submitted by: Eileen L. of Atlanta, Georgia
Here's a cute poem that my maid of honor used in the shower invitations:

Don't be late!
For this important date!

Join us for a shower
That will be on the hour.
Listen to your watch tick tock
For the theme is Around the Clock.
To honor the bride and the groom
with gifts to fill up every room.

You are invited to a
couple's bridal shower
honoring Eileen and David.
Bring a gift that they can
use at this time: 8:00 AM

Lingerie Shower

Submitted by: Tesa of San Antonio, Texas

Here is what I used on my sister-in-law's invitation to her lingerie shower:

Flannel pajamas are _____'s night-time attire;
She needs a few things to help light the fire!
A lingerie shower will start her off right,
So let's outfit her for the honeymoon night!

Unique Shower Poem

Submitted by: Liz of Battle Creek

This is a poem for my best friend's bridal shower, who is a bit less traditional than most, invitations. I took pieces from others to make it more suiting to her personality.

Spices, detergents, and gadgets galore,
There always around and can be such a bore.
So let's make a wish for the future for Jada
One that's exciting, and not quite verbatim.
Just fill in your wish on the card enclosed and
Bring a little something to help get it on a roll

She's sure to appreciate your wishes
As well as you're helping to make them come true

Alphabet Shower Poem

Submitted by: Emily of Dothan, Alabama, USA

A poem for an ALPHABET shower my husband and I gave for his brother and soon to be wife...

Their wedding day is on the way
Let's get them prepared for the BIG day
An Alphabet Shower is what we'll do
Jeff and Kirsten
Would love to see you
May the 13th at 7:00 p.m.
We'll have a party in honor of them
131 Woodleigh is where it will be
If it's not too much trouble please RSVP*
The Ribbon and letter attached you much lift
And tie it neatly to your gift
The gift must begin with the letter enclosed
They don't like surprises so leave it exposed

For more bridal shower poems, log on to
http://www.blissweddings.com/library/poems_shower.asp

Bridal Shower Tips and Advice

Cake Created out of Towels

Submitted by: Cheryl Gabiola Galvez, Woodbury, New York

Some people have inquired about a cake made out of towels that will initially be used as decoration but then be given to the bride after the bridal shower.

You will need brand new four bath towels, four hand towels, and four washcloths. Fold the bath towels lengthwise, in fourths. With a large safety pin, connect the folded towels end to end. Start at one end and roll the towels up. When you reach the end of the towel, secure with pins. Follow the same procedure for the hand towels and then again for the washcloths. Stack the rolls of towels with the bath towels on the bottom, the hand towels in the middle, and the washcloths on top. Secure all three layers together with pins. Now you can begin decorating the "cake" with ribbons, beads or floral.

Creative Way to Introduce Shower Guests

Submitted by: by Catherine of Montclair, New Jersey

I recently went to a shower where they made name tags for everyone that stated the person's name AND their relationship to the bride and/or groom. For example "Peggy Smith, Cousin of the Bride." This helped everyone know more than just a name.

Collage Picture Frame

Submitted by: by Jackie of Bradenton, Florida

At my girlfriend's bridal shower that I hosted, I bought a collage picture frame. As each guest arrived at the shower, I had each of them sign the matting with their best wishes for the bride. After I had the pictures from the shower developed, I gave her the picture frame as a memento of her bridal shower. She loved it

Memory Book

Submitted by: by Mackenzie F. of Los Angeles, California, USA

At my shower, rather than just having the guest sign a guest book, I had her sign pages I had pre-made for our memory book. I asked the guests to either sign their name and/or write some advice. I got many wishes of happiness in addition to some heartfelt advice and encouragement.

Guest List

[print/copy this page as many times as needed]

Guest #	Name	Address	Phone	Email	R.S.V.P.	Gift Received from Guest	Thank You Card Sent: Shower

Ideas for the Bachelorette Party

Have no ideas on what to do the night of the bachelorette party? Take a look at the list below for some fun and creative ideas to make the "girl's night out" fun and memorable.

Scavenger Hunt

Submitted by: Wendy

The infamous "Scavenger Hunt" makes the bachelorette party an adventurous one! At the beginning of the night, hand the bride-to-be a list of items and/or tasks that she must obtain or do throughout the night. For a great list of items, we grabbed some suggestions from one of our Bliss! readers:

- Get a man to sing to her
- Obtain a family photo (wallet size)
- Collect a business card from an attorney or doctor or out-of-state business man
- Collect a colored condom from a stranger (not a machine)
- Get a foot massage by a stranger
- Have a man buy her a drink
- Have a man buy each of the bridesmaids a drink
- Collect labels off of a man's underwear
- Collect a pair of boxer shorts
- Give a cop a kiss
- Convince a cop to handcuff her for a photo opportunity
- Make her give the bartender her bra
- Get a picture of her sitting on the lap of a guy with the same name as her fiancé;
- Obtain traffic cone
- Take a picture of all the bridesmaids in a stranger's sports car
- Get picture with a guy with the hairiest chest
- Collect a stranger's chewed up gum
- Grab Saturday's horoscope

Wearing a Lei

Submitted by: Wendy

Each bridesmaid wears a lei for easy identification throughout the night.

Candy Necklace

Submitted by: Wendy

Have the bride wear a candy necklace throughout the night. For each man she meets, he can chew off a piece of the necklace.

Shirt Full of Names

Submitted by: Wendy

Write different male names on the bride's shirt. For each man the bride encounters, she must ask him to find his name on her shirt. If he finds his name on her shirt, he must sign the shirt for proof. At the end of the night and for each "unclaimed" name, the bride has to do a shot.

Suck for a Buck

Submitted by: Bliss!

Throughout the entire night, the bride must wear a T-shirt laced with strategically placed candy. Each guy that wants a piece of candy must pay a buck. The money collected can be used to pay for drinks throughout the night.

Snap the Trap

Submitted by: Leesa of Chico, California

The materials needed to play this game are a ball of yarn, a hotdog for each guest and a mousetrap. One at a time, each guest will tie a piece of yarn around her waist and leave enough yarn (after knotting) to reach her upper thigh. Then, a hot dog is tied to the end of the yarn and the mousetrap is placed on the floor at her feet. The guest must straddle while trying to snap the mousetrap using the hot dog as bait. The guest who snaps the mousetrap the fastest wins the game! But wait... you cannot put your knees on the floor or use your hands!

The Big Easy

Submitted by: Leigh of Houston, Texas

My personal attendant arranged a group discount for a weekend cruise leaving out of New Orleans, Louisiana. We flew in Thursday evening, spent a night on the town, sailed out Friday afternoon and returned to port Sunday morning. We played games the entire weekend and had an absolute wonderful time! It's not as expensive as you might think... check into it through your local travel agent!

Question and Answer

Submitted by: Leigh of Houston, Texas

Make sure you have lots of those mini bottles of alcohol around for this game! At my sister's stagette party, we played a game where the groom-to-be had answered a questionnaire containing questions such as "Where did you first have sex?", "What's your fave thing to do on a day off?", etc. The same questions were asked to the bride-to-be. Each question she answered wrong or had a different answer than the groom-to-be, she had to drink one of the bottles.

Balloon

Submitted by: Eloise of Melbourne, Australia

The following is a great game when traveling to the venue on a bus. Each guest is given a blown up balloon filled with confetti and a task to be completed that night (i.e. find, eat, drink, talk to, kiss or basically do something). This is great for getting everyone involved as those who don't complete their task must pay a penalty (i.e. complete the task at the wedding reception, sing on the bus on the way home, etc). This is also great as you can make it as tame or as risqué as you like.

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