



Something different...

Looking for an alternative to traditional wedding list staples? Allow us to introduce you to Tree from Me and their unique engraved garden plaques. The perfect item for the green-minded couple, the plaque comes with up to five lines of text to allow family or friends to mark the wedding with a personalised message, quotation and date, to form a lasting marker of the event. Wedding guests can place the plaque in a young potted tree, or plaques can be presented in a gift box with seeds or garden voucher. With a little cultivation and TLC, you will have a long-lasting reminder of your union that grows in tandem with your love! Find out more about Tree from Me by calling 0845 833 0039, or visit www.treefromme.co.uk.

London listings

Debenhams
08445 616161
www.debenhams.com

Glass for the Present
01727 762373
www.glassforthe-present.co.uk

Glazebrook & Co
020 7731 7135
www.glazebrook.com

Habitat
020 7631 3880
www.habitat.net

Harrods
020 7730 1234
www.harrods.co.uk

Heals
020 7636 1666
www.heals.co.uk

John Lewis
0845 600 2202
www.johnlewis.co.uk

Liberty
020 7734 1234
www.liberty.co.uk

Purves & Purves
020 7580 8223
www.purves.co.uk

Royal Copenhagen
0800 963 763
www.royalcopenhagen.com

Selfridges
08708 377377
www.selfridges.co.uk

The Conran Shop
020 7723 2223
www.conran.com

The Voucher Shop
0845 88 00 105
www.thevoucher-shop.co.uk

The Wedding Garden Company
01342 823123
www.weddinggardencompany.co.uk

The White House
020 7610 9822
www.whitehouse-wlist.co.uk

Wedding List Direct
020 8874 7908
www.weddinglistdirect.co.uk

Wedding Presents Direct
01488 662100
www.weddingpresentsdirect.co.uk

Wrapit plc
0845 075 1300
www.wrapit.co.uk

The Wedding Shop
020 7838 0171
www.weddingshop.com

You may be reluctant to presume guests' propensity for gift giving, or indeed budgets, but bear in mind that they will probably appreciate guidance, especially if you are already living together and in possession of as many pots and pans as you can handle.

Register a store wedding list

Most large stores have an in-house co-ordinator who can guide you around and indicate possible items, although you'll probably want a good look on your own first. When the list is produced and sent to guests they can usually select items by visiting the store or via the relevant section of the company's web site. Suitable delivery dates are arranged and regular updates transmitted to you via phone or email. Many smaller, specialist interior and design shops now offer wedding list services too. How about setting up several small lists with a selection of individual shops rather than a single large one at a bigger store?

Use a wedding list company

A new breed of wedding list has also now developed, via companies set up to offer items sourced from a wide variety of firms, brought together and made accessible under one roof. These lists are tailored to individual needs and there is an obvious advantage in having so many choices – as adventurous as balloon rides and tame as teapots – available from one source. Technology means that again these lists can be co-ordinated via the Internet if visits to the showroom are made difficult by distance.

Let your guests know

Whichever method you choose (unless you're avoiding the issue altogether) indicate it to guests. This is an accepted practice now and it's most straightforward if you send a note with the invitation.

Practicalities

You can monitor the list by telephone, in store or online. When the list is closed, the company should arrange suitable delivery times. Guests who buy their own gifts but are unable to drop them off before the wedding often take them to the reception. Make sure there is an area in the venue for safe storage and that provision is made for removing gifts, especially if you're departing for the honeymoon soon afterwards.

And finally...

Don't forget to write a thank you note! Include a mention of where you will place the gift or how you will use it to really show your appreciation. When arranging the wedding stationery consider adding co-ordinating thank you cards to your order. ■