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Issue 64 • February 2012 • planyourperfectwedding.com



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HELP ME...

pick favours for my wedding



Lisa Sabin runs Just Bespoke, a boutique wedding planning consultancy, so she's the perfect person to advise on favours



Q I am just beginning to plan my wedding, but how do I choose my favours? I don't know where to start.

Lisa says: When you first start to plan your wedding there are lots of things to organise so I always advise couples to leave planning favours until all of the big tasks are out of the way. Once the venue is picked, the flowers have been chosen and the colour scheme and any theme are firmly in place, working out what to give as favours is often easier.

The first thing you have to ask yourselves is how important you consider the favours to be. Some couples decide that their guests would prefer a couple of free drinks at the bar as opposed to a small favour, whereas others use

the favours to bring out their personalities or their theme.

If you do decide to provide favours, consider your budget per person and what will be achievable. Do you want to give your guests food or drink such as cookies or miniature liqueurs, or something that they can go home and use, such as CD of your favourite songs or a printed book of all your favourite recipes?

Write a list of things which define you as a couple - elements of your relationship, your pastimes - things which people know you for - and then have a think about what favours could be associated with these.

There is also the option of donating money, on behalf of your guests, to a charity that is close to your hearts.

TOP TIPS

- 1 There's no rule stating that you need to give your guests favours, it's down to personal preference
- 2 Consider alternatives to the traditional wedding favour, such as putting the budget you would have spent behind the bar towards free drinks instead
- 3 Use the favours to reflect your personality - make them personal to you - your likes, dislikes, and hobbies
- 4 Don't spend a fortune - often the best favours are handmade by the couple, and show that a lot of thought and consideration has gone into them
- 5 Don't panic about sorting your favours straight away. Wait until the majority of your planning has been done and then see if there are any obvious elements of your day which lend themselves nicely to favours



IMAGES: CANDLE: THE WEDDING OF MY DREAMS; BADGES: COX & COX HEART; COOKIE CUTTER: TWENTY-SEVEN.CO.UK; CHOCOLATE FAVOURS: FORTUNE CHOCOLATE