

Making Your Own Wedding Shower Invitations

Some girlfriends and I had the privilege of throwing a good friend a wedding shower last month. To be original, we decided to make our own wedding shower invitations. We considered ourselves pretty creative people. We got lots of practice sewing and bedazzling things on the cheap, since we were in a sorority. So, off we went to make our own smashingly dazzling wedding shower invitations. Given our experience, I thought it would be helpful to put together a list of tips for those of you embarking on the same journey.

Make sure the bride is okay with giving you full creative license with the wedding shower invitations and the shower. That does not entail spoiling the secret or giving away all the details. But some brides have very definite ideas of what their showers and weddings will be like. I personally feel that brides like that should have to throw their own showers. You probably know your bride well enough, so this may not be an issue and you can check this box and carry on.

There are a million different designs for wedding shower invitations, so I am not going to babble on about what you can make. They should probably relate to your theme in some way, but do not have to. If a more traditional shower is planned, then just make wedding shower invitations that are fun, groovy, gorgeous or memorable (or all four).

Now, listen closely, because this next paragraph is what is most important. Make sure you go over the message on your wedding shower invitations with a fine tooth comb. It often helps to have a fresh pair of eyes look at it, since a mistake you have been looking at for so long might look normal at this point. I have seen lots of tips that say your invitations should be written in proper British English. Unless Sir Elton John is on the guest list, I think this is superfluous. Quality check everything, so that there are no grammatical errors or misspellings. Assure that you have the correct date, time and year on your invitations. Verify the location name and the address. Attach some directions if you know the address is confusing or does not make sense when you mapquest it. Be clear on the invitation that guests should RSVP with a yes or no. There are always guests who will attend without replying, and those will not attend but never tell you. This makes planning difficult. Now, there will always be a couple people who show up unexpectedly or cannot make it at the last minute. But, by making it explicit on the wedding shower invitations, you increase your odds of a good headcount tremendously. Having a clear RSVP statement, however, will give you a better chance with planning. Most people assume "shower" means only women, so if men are invited, be sure to be clear about that on the invitation somewhere too. The last thing is to provide some guidelines for the attendees on dress and gifts, if the shower has a theme. "Wear your best and brightest Hawaiian garb."

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