

## WEDDING GIFTS: SOME GREAT IDEAS

It's always a dilemma to come up with a great wedding gift idea. Here's what Wedding Day.com suggests:

1. **MONEY, MONEY, MONEY.** Don't worry about cash being impersonal, because it's what young couples really want. Usually, the bride has received lots of personal and creative gifts at her shower, and by now the couple is worried about paying for wedding expenses and the honeymoon, buying a new house, or paying bills and student loans. Give what you can afford. There is no set rule, like paying for the price of your dinner at the reception. But, as a rule of thumb, if you are attending the wedding, at least \$50 is nice, and \$100 is better. If you can give more than that, the couple will really love you!
2. **USE THE REGISTRY.** Don't fret about being creative if you want to give a non-monetary gift. Think ahead and choose something more expensive off of their registry. (Not the measuring spoons!) Think about a place setting or two of their good china, or all of their gourmet pots and pans. Every time they cook or entertain, they will think of you! Truly luxurious bedding is another winner. Choose an absurdly high thread count and a smooth finish, and add a cute (or spicy) little note wishing them many happy hours together in bed!
3. **OKAY, BE CREATIVE.** Think about gifting the couple with a somewhat expensive work of art, vase, or other household object. But, be sure you know their taste. Giving modern art to a couple who favors 18<sup>th</sup> century furniture probably won't work out well. If you know their taste in drinks, select a vintage bottle of fine wine to be opened on their wedding anniversary—and throw in a pretty crystal ice bucket and a collection of art deco wine gadgets such as an opener, toppers, and charms.
4. **HELP WITH THE HONEYMOON.** Find out where they are going and give them a gift certificate to a fabulous restaurant. Buy them theater seats if they are going to London or concert tickets if they are headed to Vegas. (Make sure you know their taste in plays or music, of course!) Reserve a limo in their name to get them to the airport or the ship terminal. If they are headed to a tropical resort, pay for their scuba diving or snorkeling, or other activities on-site which are not included in their lodging.
5. **HELP KEEP THE LOVE ALIVE.** Yeah, after the excitement of the wedding and the romance of the honeymoon wear off, the couple still has the rest of their lives. Help them keep the spark alive by buying them a series of tickets to events they enjoy together—the local Yankee games at PNC Field or Penguin games at Mohegan Sun Arena; seats for

Broadway Theatre, Community Concerts or Northeast Philharmonic or edgy shows at Electric City Theatre; concerts scheduled at Sno Mountain or farther afield in NYC or Philly; a gift certificate to their favorite high-end restaurant, or for a romantic hotel where they can get away during the year for a short second honeymoon. The only limit is your own imagination....