

Things to know before inviting people to a wedding shower

A wedding shower or a bridal shower is a get together organized to give gifts to the couple prior to their wedding. Popular in U.S. and Canada, the party is conducted by the bridesmaid and the gifts are household items for the couples new home. In earlier times it was also said to reduce pressure of dowry on the bride by receiving gifts from her friends and acquaintances. It is also conducted to prepare the bride to start a new household. The hosting and invitation is done by the maid of honor. A wedding shower is not hosted by the maid of honor if she is a part of the brides immediate family. Tradition followed is to organize the wedding shower around 4 to 6 weeks before the actual wedding takes place. Generally if a number of outstation guests are expected wedding shower invitations are sent for a time close to the wedding so they can attend as well. The brides maid or the couple if involved in the organizing decides the number of wedding shower invitations to be sent and which relatives need to be invited to a wedding shower.

Firstly to start invitations you require a guest list which can be arranged from the bride, but if it is a surprise the same should be arranged from the mother or fiance. Generally to avoid awkward situations it is preferred if the people called to the bridal shower are also called to the wedding. Around 4 weeks before the shower the wedding shower invitations should be sent so they are not too far in advance or too late.

If you are considering a themed bridal shower then it is preferred if special instructions for the same are sent with the wedding shower invitation. General directions to the wedding shower and contact numbers are present in the wedding shower invitation for the convenience of the guests. All personal friends and relatives of the bride are sent wedding shower invitations.

General tradition is to send one invite per person and not one invite for two people unless it is a couple shower where couples are invited. If there is more than one wedding shower organized, avoid inviting the same person again who will be burdened with arranging another gift. The wedding shower invitations are issued either by mail, telephone or in person.

Though these wedding shower invitations can be written by hand as well, it would be preferred if professional help is sought for arranging the wedding shower invitations. Professionals in this field are responsible for the whole process of inviting right from the designing the wedding shower invitation to the distribution.

It is imperative that a bride send "thank you" cards to all the guests who attended the bridal shower before the wedding. As the card is sent before the wedding stationary with the brides maiden name should be used as the stationary with the brides married name is used only after the wedding.

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