



St. Walburg & Area

February 11, 2009

Vol. 7, Issue 9

.95¢ GST Incl.



Gazette

Est. 2002

Your Community Newspaper... serving St. Walburg, Paradise Hill, Turtleford & Area

First online wedding resource exclusive to Saskatchewan

A 100% Free online resource that helps Saskatchewan people plan one of the most important days of their lives

Regina, Saskatchewan – January 29, 2009 - Up until 3 years ago, people in Saskatchewan were angry and frustrated that there was no online resource for people to use to assist them with their own wedding planning. Every province seemed to have their own dedicated resource except for Saskatchewan.

Saskweddings.com was created to fill this need.

“We saw a real human need in Saskatchewan for a website to help people with their special day,” says a spokesperson for Saskweddings.com, which took two years of preparation before it was officially launched onto the internet in 2006, to carefully address and cater to what the public would want.

“Everything is free for the public on this website, created in such a way that it would be

utilized thoroughly on every page.” There is a free downloadable Wedding Planner Kit as well as downloadable publications that discuss: Tips, Etiquette, Ceremony Information, and much more!

There are detailed links to necessary government forms & procedures for your nuptials in Saskatchewan. There is free access to the events calendar, as well as a place to post your free

wedding announcement.

Every vendor listed on Saskweddings.com has a downloadable coupon, ultimately saving the public money with their wedding planning.

These are important issues that are commonly overlooked with other websites, but not at Saskweddings.com. For instance, Saskweddings.com is user-friendly for the blind or disabled; optimized with search engines,

and is print & toner friendly.

“Saskweddings.com is a 100% visual experience. We feel that the more visuals there are, the less you need to read. People can literally get what they need in minutes. Our special way to help alleviate some of the undo pressure and stress from planning your wedding, not add to it.”

“We want to make Saskweddings.com accessible

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See our
“Wedding
& Bridal
Guide”
on Pages
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Wedding & Bridal

Wedding Etiquette

A wedding, whether traditional or contemporary, is full of customs and practices for which guests and the bride and groom establish their plans and expectations for the special day. While today's weddings are a combination of new and old traditions, certain rules of etiquette have withstood the test of time and are customary elements in a wedding. The following tips are general etiquette guidelines for guests, family, the bridal party, and the bride and groom.

The Guests

- It is an honour to receive an invitation to a wedding. The bride and groom have carefully chosen the people they wish to include in their special day. Be courteous and respond to the invitation by the designated date.

- Gifts should be sent to the bride's house before the wedding day. If it is not possible to send the gift to the

bride's house, it is acceptable to bring the gift to the reception or send it to the bride and groom's address after the wedding.

- It is important to dress appropriately for the wedding. Weddings may vary from very formal to informal. Consider the time and setting for the wedding when choosing attire. It is better to be overdressed rather than underdressed.

- Upon arriving at the location of the ceremony, guests are ushered to appropriate seats according to their relationship to the bride and groom. The first several rows are reserved for parents of the bride and groom and immediate family. The left side of the room is for the bride's guests, and the right is for the groom's.

- Arrive early for the ceremony. There should not be any disturbances during the ceremony due to tardy guests.

The Bridal Party

- Generally it is not the responsibility of the bridesmaids to host the wedding shower; however, they may do so. Family members do not usually host the wedding shower, as it may seem like a conflict of interest.

- The Bridesmaids and groomsmen are responsible for last-minute details at the ceremony and reception. The bride and groom will be occupied with their own roles during the day and they will not enjoy their wedding if they must worry about minor details.

- Each bridesmaid gives a personal wedding gift to the bride and groom and the group of bridesmaids also gives a joint gift to the bride.

- Each groomsmen also each gives a gift to the bride and groom and a joint gift from all the groomsmen.

- Members of the bridal party greet guests in the receiving line.

The Bride & Groom

- The bride and groom, with possible input from their families, plan the entire wedding, from pre-wedding events to the honeymoon.

- The bride and groom must write thank-you notes for each gift received. Although telephone calls and electronic messages are appreciated, they are insufficient responses to wedding gifts. Write thank-you notes as gifts arrive prior to the wedding. Try to have all notes written a few weeks after the wedding, and all should be complete within three months. Each note must make specific reference to the gift for which the guest is being thanked. Notes should be hand-written and personally signed, not computer generated.

- It is appropriate to give gifts to bridesmaids, attendants, and parents for their involvement in the wedding.

- It is also customary for the bride and groom to exchange wedding gifts.

Rentals For Ceremony & Reception

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• Free Estimates

"New Wedding Display & Bouquet Photos this spring"

Inspirational Table Top Arrangements • Pew Ends

Floral Cake Toppers & Decor

Hair Ornaments • Garters

First online wedding resource

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and necessary to the consuming public. It's important that all people and cultures feel welcomed at Saskweddings.com. We have information that discusses all of the common marriage practices with different cultures, such as Christian, First Nations, Muslim, Jewish, and much more!"

Since the operation of Saskweddings, there have been over a million impressions and close to 20,000 brides to the website. It has been featured on Television commercials with an upbeat vibrant message throughout the province of Saskatchewan.

It's visual experience has a bride and groom who interact with you on each page. This upscale web design was developed by some of the best designers in New York City and in Saskatchewan.

Saskweddings.com has the ability to use integrated video on the website, allowing vendors to talk to the public in a 15 second message.

"We are the first Wedding Website in Canada to use this technology. You look as though you are part of the web site, similar to the wizard in

Microsoft windows who comes out to help you. It's leading edge technology."

Saskweddings.com is 100% Saskatchewan owned and operated. Everything you need to make your big day the perfect day!

Vendors in the area that would like to be listed on Saskweddings.com can contact us at info@saskweddings.com.

Wedding statistical information

Average # of Marriages in Saskatchewan/Year: 5000
Source: Statistics Canada 2007

Average Cost of a Canadian Marriage: \$25,000
Source: CTV News - Wedding Bells Aug. 2, 2007

Average Age of Marriage: 29
Source: CTV News - Wedding Bells Aug. 2, 2007

Engaged Couples Who Live Together: 71%
Source: CTV News - Wedding Bells Aug. 2, 2007

Saskatchewan Wedding Industry: Potential Revenue: (5000 x \$25,000) \$125 Million/Year

Jenny's
Bridal Boutique

SASKATOON
152 2nd Ave North Saskatoon, Sask.
PH: 306-975-2047 Fax: 306-975-0038



BATTLEFORD
171 22nd Street West Battleford, Sask
PH: 306-937-3379 Fax: 306-937-3739

138 Main Street St. Walburg SK
306-248-3424



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Resource Guide

Common Wedding Planning Mistakes

1. Blowing off your budget

It costs a lot of money to throw a wedding. Excited brides start booking vendors and making purchases without having a real budget and then are shocked to discover they've already spent all of their money (or parents' money) and don't yet have half the things they need. If you bounce checks or don't have the money to pay your deposits or make your final payments on the wedding day, your wedding will not happen. Trust us — the band is not going to play all night if you don't pay. Planning a wedding is serious business. Make a budget and keep track of your expenditures so you won't be walking naked down the aisle.

2. Messing up the marriage license

There are so many rules surrounding marriage licenses that brides are always botching up this one. For instance, if you get your license 61 days before your wedding in Pennsylvania, you won't be able to legally marry on your wedding day because a license is valid there for only 60 days.

Go to obtain your license the day before your wedding, and you may not get it in time because some states have a three-day waiting period. A common mess-up for those marrying for a second time is not bringing official divorce papers when you go to get the certificate.

3. Ordering your wedding gown too late

If your heart is set on a

couture gown, be sure to order by the six-month mark since your dress will be custom-made and, many times, made overseas. In addition, most off-the-rack dresses will require alterations, so make certain that you have enough time to get the gown fitted properly. You'll want to leave plenty of time for shipping and for your fittings. The same goes for the bridesmaid dresses.

4. Booking hotel rooms too late

Brides often leave blocking out hotel rooms for out-of-town guests until the last minute. If you are getting married during a busy time and you don't investigate hotel availability in advance, you can end up with literally not a single room for your guests to stay. Reserve rooms as early as possible. This doesn't mean you will have to pay for the rooms, you are just setting them aside, your guests can put down their credit cards when they call to book their rooms.

5. Inviting too many guests.

Make sure your guest list and your reception site capacity match up numbers-wise. You can't invite 400 people assuming only 250 will accept, because if you end up with 300 acceptances, you may have to turn 50 guests away at the door. Most reception sites can't just add 10 more tables. Analyze your guest list from the start and assume 80% will respond yes, and limit your guest list accordingly.

6. Partaking in last-minute beauty treatments and crash diets

Many brides think that scheduling a facial the day before the wedding will leave their skin looking angelic on their big days. Thinking of tanning the day before your wedding? Think again as you may end up with blisters instead of sun-kissed skin. Last-minute beauty treatments can lead to breakouts, mistakes or, even worse, serious infections.

The same goes for crash dieting in the weeks leading up to the wedding, after all those gown fittings, your dress may not fit!

7. Underpaying invitation postage

You'd be surprised how many brides just stick a regular stamp on their invites and drop the whole batch into a mailbox. All but a few wedding invitations require additional postage — sometimes up to .55 cents.

The postal service will not take pity on you, and your invites will be returned, rubber-stamped with that ugly "insufficient postage" sign, and it will take at least three weeks to get those invitations back out the door.

So be sure to find out how much postage you will require before you send all your invitations out.

8. Ignoring religious restrictions

Inappropriate attire for the church or temple, or skipping the pre-canae, may

keep your officiant from marrying you when the big day comes around. Take your religious restrictions seriously. To avoid any day-of disasters, be sure to meet with your officiant within one month of getting engaged. Your house of worship may perform ceremonies only on specific days, so settle on a date with your clergyman before you start to book vendors and put down deposits. Be sure to ask him or her about religious rules, such as: Do you need to complete a pre-cana course? Can you write your own vows? Do you need to cover your shoulders? Is secular music permitted?

9. Trying to go it alone

If you are a bride lucky enough to have been offered help by friends or family members, by all means take it! Too many brides try to do it all. Delegate and use all the resources that are available to you. When people offer to assist, like your mom, your future mother-in-law, or your best friend — find something for them to do, like researching a vendor or addressing invitations.

10. Forgetting to focus on what's important

Keep in mind that you are getting married and starting a life together, not just planning a wedding. Brides, be good to your grooms. And grooms, be good to your brides! Some tension between the two of you, and possibly among members of your family, is inevitable due to the sticky topics that weddings stir up, but don't ever let things get out of control.

Wedding Tips

- break-in new shoes well before wedding date
- confirm and re-confirm all venues, caterers, flowers, cakes, transportation, appointments, rentals, honeymoon details, etc. the month and week prior to the wedding
- ask the bridal shop where the wedding dress was purchased to recommend a seamstress for alterations
- if the wedding dress needs alterations, book alterations months prior to the wedding to ensure adequate time for significant changes or ordering extra fabric
- book any significant hair length changes for a couple weeks prior to the event to ensure hair is the desired length
- book facial or similar treatment for one to two weeks prior to ceremony to allow skin to calm in time
- book a practice make-up and hair session to experiment with looks and find the perfect style
- book manicure/pedicure for day prior to ceremony to avoid smudges and wet nails the day of the ceremony
- do something relaxing the morning of the wedding, such as going for a walk, or having a massage
- try to get adequate sleep the night before, as the wedding day will be long and busy
- do not forget to eat the morning of the ceremony
- delegate duties to attendants prior to wedding day
- delegate an attendant to care for wedding gown after the bride has changed clothing
- delegate an attendant to transport gifts from reception to specified location
- make arrangements for all vendors to be paid
- discuss music selections with DJ or band prior to wedding day
- ensure the DJ has desired versions of musical selections
- choose a variety of music styles to suit everyone's preference
 - consider having the midnight lunch a little earlier than midnight, as some guests may not be able to stay until midnight
- plan an itinerary for honeymoon
- make necessary restaurant, museum, and activity reservations for honeymoon
- obtain traveller's checks, foreign currency, and special documentation well before honeymoon
- most importantly, relax and have a good time!

