Invitation Etiquette

For Showers & Parties

Honoree - When listing the names of the bride and groom, always list the **bride first.**

Hosts - Hosts of the event must be listed in **alphabetical order.**

Registry - Registry information is only listed at the bottom of the invite in **small print** or included on an **additional card.**

Addresses - Always spell out the city and state. **Do not abbreviate.** Same rule applies to return address printing.

Mail - Mail shower and party invitations **2-3 weeks** before the event. This allows enough time for guests to prepare.

Zip Code - **Don't put the zip code** in the address on the invitation. It isn't necessary and clutters the invite.

Return Address - Only include the street address, city, state and zip code. **A name or title shouldn't be added here.**

For Weddings

Zip Code - **Don't put the zip code in the address** on the invitation. It isn't necessary and clutters the invite.

Host Line - Include the **hosts' full name.** This includes the parents of the bride or groom.

Request - The *old rule* for this is "The honour of your presence" is used if the wedding is in a house of worship, and "The pleasure of your company" is used in any other venue. This rule doesnt apply anymore. **Pick what you want** because no one follows this rule nor knows what the difference is.

Mail - Send invitations **6-8 weeks** before the wedding day. Eight weeks if the save the date has not been sent out OR it is a destination wedding.

RSVP - **Include a reply card in your wedding invitation.** Using a website to rsvp if you *HAVE TO* due to budget is fine but not something to strive for just to save a couple of bucks.

Registry - **Do not include** the registry information on the wedding invite. **This is very rude.** You are not asking your guest for a present, you are asking them to come to your wedding. They know to bring a present. *Don't get greedy.*

Stamp - Make sure to put a stamp on your rsvp envelope or postcard. You have to **make it easier for them** to send this back to you or they won't. People who stamp them already have problems with lazy or forgetful relatives.

Addressing - Hand addressing is the old fashion way of sending invites. Calligraphy and pretty hand-writing are **BEAUTIFUL** - more than printing. It is also more costly. If you have bad hand-writing, **get your addresses printed.** It is not improper etiquette for these modern times. The newest trend is using wrap-around labels. It allows you to get your design on your envelope and allows you to use dark envelopes.