

Helpful Suggestions

For preparing the correct wording for your wedding stationery

Following is a brief summary of the correct and generally accepted wording styles for the items you will need for printing wedding invitations. If you fail to find the answer to any of your problems herein, please communicate with us and we will be happy to lend our assistance.

Wedding INVITATIONS should not be confused with wedding ANNOUNCEMENTS. The invitation is used to invite people to the wedding ceremony, and should be sent out from two to three weeks BEFORE the wedding. The announcement is worded somewhat differently and is NEVER sent out until immediately AFTER the wedding, its purpose merely being to announce a wedding that has already taken place. Announcements are sent only to those people not invited to the wedding.

Christian names should be written in full, although it is permissible to use the middle initial. The first name should always be used in full however. The bride's first and middle names should be used to be correct, although in cases where the bride does not care to use her middle name it is better to use the first name alone without the middle initial. When the bride's last name differs from that of the person announcing her marriage, her full name is always used.

Wedding Invitations

The usual term "request the honour of your presence" is always used for church weddings. For home or hotel weddings the term "request the pleasure of your company" is correct.

According to all the best authorities, the "year" line on invitations is not essential, and may be omitted where necessary to avoid overcrowding. Also the street address of the church is not used except in very large cities.

Following are examples of correctly worded wedding invitations. The usual form is:

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Melvin Jones
request the honour of your presence
at the marriage of their daughter
Anita Helen
to

Mr. James Henry Smith
on Sunday, the twenty-third of June
Nineteen hundred and sixty-nine
at two o'clock in the afternoon
First Methodist Church
Omaha, Nebraska

When one parent is deceased and the living parent has not remarried:

Mrs. Arthur Melvin Jones
requests the honour of your presence
at the marriage of her daughter
Anita Helen
etc.

When the bride's mother has re-married:

Mr. and Mrs. John William Brown
request the honour of your presence
at the marriage of Mrs. Brown's daughter
Anita Helen Jones
etc.

or, in case both the bride's mother and stepfather are to sponsor the bride, the usual term "at the marriage of their daughter" may be used, followed by the bride's full name.

In the case of divorced parents, it is usually the bride's mother who issues the invitations. However, when both the bride's mother and father wish to sponsor the bride:

Mrs. Sarah Louise Jones
and
Mr. Arthur Melvin Jones
request the honour of your presence
at the marriage of their daughter
Anita Helen
etc.

When the bride-elect is an orphan, the invitations or announcements may be issued by the nearest living older relatives:

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Carl Anderson
request the honour of your presence
at the marriage of their niece
Anita Helen Jones
etc.

Failing all relatives, the invitations may be issued by the bride and groom themselves:

The honour of your presence is requested
at the marriage of
Miss Anita Helen Jones
to
Mr. James Henry Smith
etc.

Special Catholic Form

For those of the Catholic faith who prefer to use the longer form for the Nuptial Mass on their invitations, the following is customary:

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Melvin Jones
request the honour of your presence
at the Nuptial Mass
uniting their daughter
Anita Helen
and
Mr. James Henry Smith

in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony
on Saturday, the twenty-ninth day of June
at nine o'clock in the morning
Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Omaha, Nebraska

NOTE: Because of the extra length of this form, it is advisable to omit the "year" line. Also, this long form will NOT go on the small size invitations.

Military Wording Forms

OFFICERS — An officer's title should precede his name if his rank is Captain or higher in Army or Air Force, and senior Lieutenant or higher in the Navy. The title of lower rank officers appears in the following line preceding the branch of service:

Captain Robert Eugene Stark
United States Army
Mr. Francis Lewis Anderson
Lieutenant, United States Air Force

With Non-Commissioned Officers, Privates, or Seamen, the title or rank is not used. "Mr." may precede the name or not, as desired:

Mr. James Michael Sterling
United States Navy
William Alfred Livingston
United States Marine Corps

Wedding Reception Invitation

If the wedding ceremony is to be a small one with only the immediate families or a few friends present, and is to be followed by a large reception, the following form may be used for the Reception invitation:

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Melvin Jones
request the pleasure of your company
at the wedding reception of their daughter
Anita Helen

and
Mr. James Henry Smith
on Sunday, the twenty-third of June
Nineteen hundred and sixty-nine
at four o'clock in the afternoon
Four thirty-two Alpine Drive
Omaha, Nebraska

It is permissible to include a "Ceremony Card" with the reception invitation, inviting that person to be

present at the ceremony:

Ceremony
at two o'clock in the afternoon
Calvary Methodist Church

Wedding Announcement

Wedding announcements are sent out after the wedding to friends and acquaintances not invited to the ceremony. The usual form is:

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Melvin Jones
have the honour of announcing
the marriage of their daughter
Anita Helen
to
Mr. James Henry Smith
on Sunday, the twenty-third of June
Nineteen hundred and sixty-nine
Omaha, Nebraska

NOTE: The name of the church may be used or omitted, as desired. The announcement may be made by the bride and groom themselves the same as described for invitations.

Enclosure Cards

Enclosure Cards may be used for Reception, Breakfast, Dinner, or At Home information. This is preferable to over-crowding the invitation and is considered in better form.

Following are some of the most common forms. They may be altered to fit any particular situation. If so desired, "R.s.v.p." or "Please reply" may be added in lower corner.

Reception
immediately following the ceremony
in the church parlors

Dinner
at one-thirty o'clock in the afternoon
at the home of the bride

At Home
after the fifteenth of July

Three forty-two Glenwood Street

These cards may also be used as
"Response Cards", customary
wording for which is:

Please reply
on or before August twentieth
M _____

No. attending _____

Nos. 253, 253I and 254 cards are used
for enclosure cards.

Nos. 30, 45, 50, 46, and 255 cards for
at home, business announcements,
anniversary, appointments, shower
cards, "thank you" cards, etc.

Nos. 134, 135I and 140 informals, for
sympathy, "thank you" card, short
notes, etc.

Type Styles

While it may seem strange, the
use or popularity of type styles for
wedding announcements varies
from one section of the country to
another. With this in mind, we sug-
gest that you ask your friends to
save any wedding announcements
that they receive — so that in a
short while you will be able to
determine what type sizes and
styles to offer to your customers.

We would suggest that you narrow
it down to perhaps no more than

two styles — and for two very good
reasons. First, your customer will
find it much easier to make his
selection and just as important,
you'll be able to keep your an-
nouncement type investment within
reasonable means.

There's no hard and fast rule re-
garding the size of type to be used,
but the sizes and styles most popu-
larly used are:

Park Avenue 14 pt.

Typo Roman 14 pt.

Typo Roman Shaded 14 pt.

Minuet 14 pt.

Announcement Script 18 pt.

Kelsey Spacesaver Script 18 pt.

Generally speaking a large font of
type — plus 2½ pounds of spaces
and quads would be required for
printing a wedding announcement.

PANELED INFORMALS — AN EXCELLENT GIFT ITEM

One of the best-selling items that
the small printer can offer — every
woman can use them.

The name "informal" tells us what
they are — a small (usually folded)
card for sending a quick note, or
an informal invitation. They're
usually imprinted with the woman's
name on front — although mono-
grams are equally popular.

The Kelsey Co. Meriden, Conn. 06450