By Florence

Wedding Invitation Wording Guide

Wording is the part most couples get stuck on, and it's usually your first time doing this. Let us make it easier. Below are examples you can copy and adapt — anything in [brackets] is a placeholder for your own details.

1 · Writing the invitation itself

Choose who is doing the inviting, then the tone that sounds like you.

The couple · Formal

Mr James Whitfield and Miss Clara Bennett
request the pleasure of your company

at [Ceremony venue]
on [Day, date and time]
and afterwards at [Reception venue]

The couple · Semi-formal

Clara and James
would love you to join them
as they get married
at [Ceremony venue]
on [Day, date and time]
and celebrate afterwards at [Reception venue]

The couple · Casual

We're getting married!
Clara and James
[Day, date and time]
[Ceremony venue]
Reception at [Reception venue] from [time]

The couple with their families · Formal

Together with their families
Clara Elizabeth Bennett
and
James Edward Whitfield
request the pleasure of your company
at their marriage
at [Ceremony venue]
on [Day, date and time]
and afterwards at [Reception venue]

The couple with their families · Semi-formal

Together with their families,
Clara and James
invite you to celebrate their marriage
[Ceremony venue] · [Day, date and time]
Reception to follow at [Reception venue]

The couple with their families · Casual

Together with our families,
we're getting married!
Clara and James
[Day, date and time]
[Ceremony venue], then [Reception venue]

The bride's parents · Formal

Mr and Mrs Richard Bennett
Request the pleasure of your company
at the marriage of their daughter
Clara Elizabeth
to
Mr James Edward Whitfield
at [Ceremony venue]
on [Day, date and time]
and afterwards at [Reception venue]

The bride's parents · Semi-formal

Mr and Mrs Richard Bennett
would love you to join them
at the marriage of their daughter
Clara
to
James
at [Ceremony venue]
on [Day, date and time]
and afterwards at [Reception venue]

The bride's parents · Casual

Our daughter Clara is marrying James,
and we would love you to be there.
[Ceremony venue] · [Day, date and time]
Reception at [Reception venue]
With love, Mr and Mrs Richard Bennett

The groom's parents · Formal

Mr and Mrs David Whitfield
request the pleasure of your company
at the marriage of their son
James Edward
to
Clara Elizabeth Bennett
at [Ceremony venue]
on [Day, date and time]
and afterwards at [Reception venue]

The groom's parents · Semi-formal

Mr and Mrs David Whitfield
would love you to join them
at the marriage of their son
James
to
Clara
at [Ceremony venue]
on [Day, date and time]
and afterwards at [Reception venue]

The groom's parents · Casual

Our son James is marrying Clara,
and we would love you to be there.
[Ceremony venue] · [Day, date and time]
Reception at [Reception venue]
With love, Mr and Mrs David Whitfield

2 · What information do you need to include?

Each of these usually lives on its own small card with the invitation.

Details and timings — When and where to arrive for the ceremony, it's advisable to ask guests to take there seats 15 minutes before the ceremony begins.

Accommodation — Where to stay nearby, with any booking codes.

Transport & Directions — How to get there by car, train or plane! Think about giving a What3Words location if your venue is remote.
Advise guests on parking and what time cars should be collected.
Consider providing some taxi numbers and advise booking these in advance.

Children — A polite note if little ones aren't invited, and any babies who are.

Gifts — A honeymoon fund, a registry, or a polite no-gifts note.

RSVP — How and when to reply — on the enclosed card or online.

Wedding website — A short link or code to the full details online.

Dress code — What to wear — black tie, morning dress, cocktail or a strict palette. Anything the venue or the ground makes awkward.

Carriages — When the party ends, and so guests know what time to book their taxis.

3 · Information wording

An example for every card, ready to adapt.

Details and timings

Arrival & Timings
Guests are asked to arrive by [time]
as the ceremony will begin promptly at [time].
A reception will follow at [Reception venue]
with drinks, dinner and dancing.

Accommodation

Where to Stay
We have reserved rooms at [Hotel], a short distance from the reception.
Please quote [booking code] when reserving.
Also nearby: [Hotel] · [Hotel]
We recommend booking early.

Transport & Directions

Getting There
By car — [Venue] is [X] minutes from [city]. Parking is available on site.
By train — the nearest station is [Station], [X] minutes away.
A minibus will leave [Hotel] at [time] and return after the dancing.
Please advise if you would like a seat.

Children · Adults only

Children
We love your little ones, but we have decided to keep our wedding day
an adults-only occasion. We hope you can still join us and enjoy a night off!
Babes in arms are very welcome.

Gifts · Honeymoon fund

Gifts

Your presence is the greatest gift, and we are lucky enough to have everything we need for our home.

If you would like to mark the occasion, we are saving towards our honeymoon in [place], and a contribution can be made at [link].

Gifts · Registry

Gifts

Your presence is the greatest gift.

Should you wish to give something, we have registered at [store].

Full details at [link].

Gifts · No gifts

Gifts

Your presence at our wedding is all we could ask for.

Please bring nothing but your dancing shoes.

RSVP · Reply on the enclosed card

RSVP

Kindly reply by [date] using the enclosed card.

Please advise us of any dietary requirements.

RSVP · Reply by email or website

RSVP

Kindly reply by [date] at [short url], or by email to [email address].

Please advise us of any dietary requirements when you reply.

Wedding website

More Details

For further information and to RSVP by [date], please visit [short url] — or scan the code below.

Dress code

Dress Code

[dress code] — Morning suits and hats are both encouraged.

The drinks reception will be on grass, so you may want to leave the stilettos at home.

Carriages

Carriages

Carriages at [time]

4 · Wording checklist

What to check before anything goes to print.

- Every name is spelled correctly, including middle names
- Titles (Mr, Mrs, Miss, Dr) appear exactly as you want them
- The day, date and year all agree with each other
- Both the ceremony and reception venues are named in full
- Postcodes are included for both venues
- The RSVP deadline and reply address or link are correct
- Every link and QR code has been tested on a phone

Hand-painted watercolour wedding invitations, designed and hand-finished in the UK.