



emily rose ink

Artful Calligraphy & Wedding Paper Goods

WORDING GUIDE

THE WEDDING INVITATION

The Invitation Should Include:

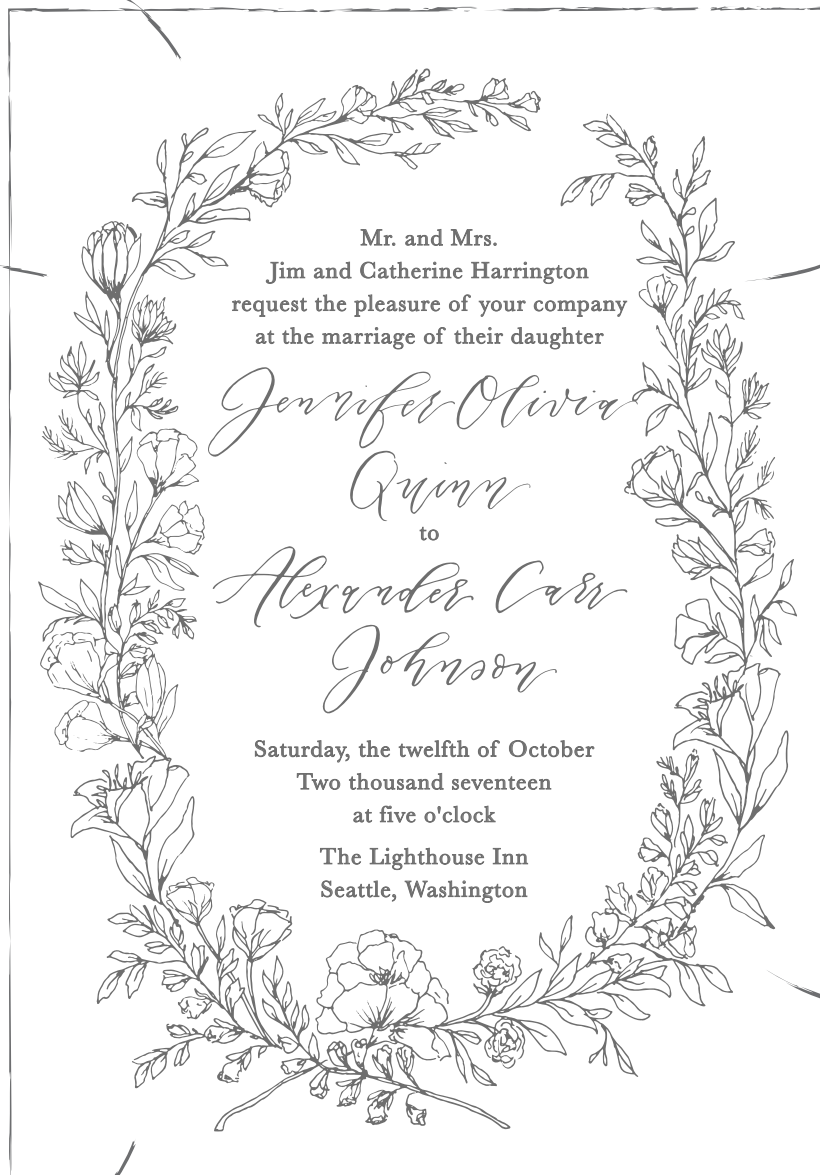
- Names of the bride and groom
- Names of the hosts (traditionally, the parents of the bride)
 - Ceremony date, day of week, time and location
- Women who are widowed should be addressed according to their late husband's name, with "Mrs." as the title (i.e. Mrs. George Brown).

The word "and" between two names traditionally implies that those people are married. Names of unmarried hosts or guests should be stacked.

The phrase "request the honor of your presence" is typically reserved for a church or place of worship. You are welcome to spell it as either "honor" or "honour". Just make sure you match it on your reply card with "favor" or "favour."

For the wedding collection, try not to use abbreviations. Traditionally, middle names, street info & state names are spelled out. If you do choose to list the date or any other info in a more casual manner, be consistent across all pieces of the invitation suite.

The names of the hosts should be listed at the top of the invitation.



If the wedding ceremony and reception are being hosted in the same location, there is no need for a reception card. At the bottom of the invitation, you can simply state "Reception to follow" or "Dinner and dancing to follow."

Etiquette & Wording Examples

FORMAL AND/OR TRADITIONAL

weddings being held in a church and hosted by the parents of the bride:

Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Hunter
Request the honor of your presence
at the marriage of their daughter

Odette Claire
to
Oliver Richards Temple

Saturday, the twenty-third of June
two thousand and twelve
at half-past four o'clock

First Church
New Vernon, New Jersey

FORMAL AND/OR TRADITIONAL

weddings being held outside of a church and hosted by the parents of the bride:

Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Hunter
request the pleasure of your company
at the marriage of their daughter

Odette Claire
to
Oliver Richards Temple

Saturday, the twenty-third of June
two thousand and twelve
at half-past four o'clock

The Standard Hotel
Miami, Florida

Etiquette & Wording Examples

FORMAL AND/OR TRADITIONAL

weddings being held outside of a church and hosted by both sets of parents:

Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Hunter
And Mr. and Mrs. William Temple
request the pleasure of your company
at the marriage of their children

Odette Claire
to
Oliver Richards

Saturday, the twenty-third of June
two thousand and twelve
at half-past four o'clock

The Standard Hotel
Miami, Florida

LESS FORMAL OR NON-TRADITIONAL

*weddings being hosted by both sets of parents and the bride and groom,
there are a myriad of ways to arrange the wording, so feel free to be creative:*

Together with their families

Odette Claire Hunter
&
Oliver Richards Temple

invite you to share in their joy
at the celebration of their marriage

Saturday, the twenty-third of June
two thousand and twelve
at half-past four o'clock

The Standard Hotel
Miami, Florida

Etiquette & Wording Examples

LESS FORMAL OR NON-TRADITIONAL

weddings being hosted by the bride and the groom:



EMILY SAYS

These days, the sky's the limit when it comes to invitation wording; there are all kinds of different ways to invite your guests to your wedding. The important thing to remember is that your wording sets the tone for the event - it's the first glimpse your guests have into what to expect for the wedding day, so you'll want to be thoughtful about how you articulate your invitation.

We are always willing to offer our expertise and advice on what kind of wording best fits your invitation - just ask!

Special Cases

*In today's world, many couples find that traditional wording conventions don't follow suit.
Below are our recommendations for handling some common special cases.*

DIVORCED PARENTS

Formal and/or traditional weddings being held in a church and hosted by the divorced parents of the bride (include parents' names on separate lines):

Ms. Elaine Robbins
Mr. Bradley Hunter
request the honor of your presence
at the marriage of their daughter

Odette Claire
to
Oliver Richards Temple

Saturday, the twenty-third of June
two thousand and twelve
at half-past four o'clock

First Church
New Vernon, New Jersey

You can use a similar format when one parent has remarried:

Ms. Elaine Robbins
Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Hunter
request the honor of your presence
at the marriage of their daughter

Odette Claire
to
Oliver Richards Temple

Saturday, the twenty-third of June
two thousand and twelve
at half-past four o'clock

First Church
New Vernon, New Jersey

Wording For Additional Pieces

Wording for additional pieces in the wedding invitation suite varies widely. Couples should take their style, ceremony and budget into consideration.

Here are a few examples of standard wording for popular additional pieces. Feel free to use these examples as a starting point and change, edit or rearrange the different lines to reflect your wedding's unique character.

SAVE THE DATE CARDS

Save the date cards should include the couples' names and wedding date. Beyond that, have fun with the wording:

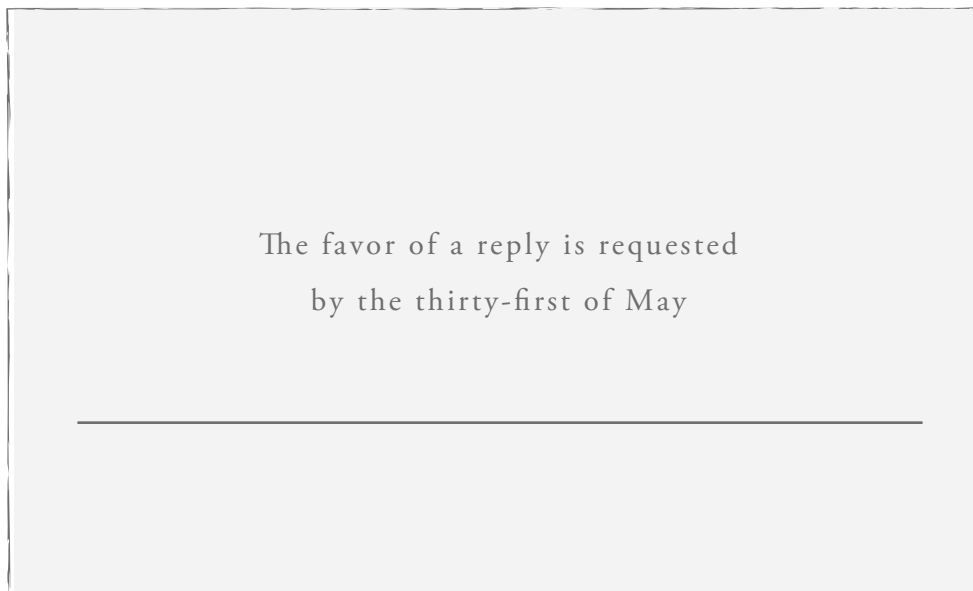


For formal events, you may want to include the couples' full names as well as the names of the hosts. You may also want to include the wedding location, particularly if the wedding will not be held in your hometown or if guests will need to travel. If you have created a wedding website, you may want to include the URL as well.

Wording For Additional Pieces

R.S.V.P CARDS

*For formal R.S.V.P. cards, guests write in their responses in the blank spaces.
This is a fun way to get personal and memorable responses.*



The favor of a reply is requested
by the thirty-first of May

You can personalize how you ask for replies, but remember to keep the wording consistent with the invitation. For example "the favor or a reply" typically matches the invitation wording "the honor of your presence." For less formal invitation wording, such as "request the pleasure of your," the RSVP wording would typically "Kindly reply by" or "Kindly respond by."

To determine the RSVP by date, a good rule of thumb is to allow guests half the time between receiving the invitations and the date of the wedding. If you send your invitations eight weeks in advance of your wedding, set the reply by date 4 weeks from the wedding.

Wording For Additional Pieces

Another popular approach is to offer a series of checkboxes and lines to direct the information you want:

The favor of a reply is requested by the thirty-first of May

Name(s) _____

_____ will attend

_____ will not attend

OR

The favor of a reply is requested by the thirty-first of May

M _____

_____ Accepts with pleasure

_____ Declines with regret

Entrees:

____ Poultry ____ Fish ____ Vegetarian

Wording For Additional Pieces

RECEPTION CARDS

If the ceremony and reception are held at the same venue, it is fine to state "Reception to follow" at the bottom of the invitation.

If the reception is held at a different location, it should be treated as a separate event. Include a reception card with the event details as part of the invitation suite.

ACTIVITIES CARDS

Activities cards can be very helpful when it comes to weddings with many out-of-town guests. The activities card outlines organized activities, meals and other events taking place over the course of the days surrounding the wedding.

Weekend Activities

Friday

Meadowood Winery Tour

1:00 pm

Please meet in the hotel lobby

Rehearsal Dinner

7:00 pm

Meritage Resort

875 Bordeaux Way

Saturday

Ladies Tea

11:00 am

Churchill Tea Room

Please meet in the hotel lobby.

Sunday

Farewell Brunch

11:00 am

Bouchon Bistro

6534 Washington Street

Wording For Additional Pieces

INFORMATION CARDS

An information card is enclosed with your wedding invitation, and allows couples to provide guests with any additional information you want them to have (transportation information, lodging suggestions, etc.).

Transportation will be provided to and from the rehearsal dinner, wedding ceremony and reception. Shuttles will depart from the hotel lobby 45 minutes prior to each event and return every half-hour each evening beginning at 9 pm.

REHEARSAL DINNER INVITATIONS

We recommend sending rehearsal dinner invitations three to six weeks before the event. This invitation is much less formal, and wording can vary depending on the formality of the event. Some suggestions are below:

Mr. and Mrs. Jeffery Temple
request the honor of your company
at the Rehearsal Dinner
honoring

Odette and Oliver

on the eve of their marriage
Friday, the twentieth of June
at seven o'clock in the evening

The Slanted Door
RSVP 415-222-5555

OR

You are cordially invited to attend the
Rehearsal Dinner
honoring

Odette and Oliver

on the eve of their marriage
Friday, the twentieth of June
at seven o'clock in the evening

The Slanted Door
RSVP 415-222-5555

Escort Cards, Place Cards and Favor Tags

ESCORT CARDS

Escort cards tell your guests where they will be seated during the reception.

Guests names are written on the envelopes and the table numbers are written on the enclosed escort cards. Escort cards are usually displayed on a decorative table designated for this purpose.

Ms. Kimberly Hammond

Table 12

Mr. and Mrs. Taylor Lewis

Table 5

PLACE CARDS

Place Cards typically just have the guest's full name (e.g. Mr. Taylor Lewis), while favor tags have the guest's name as well as the date of the wedding.

THANK YOU CARDS

Brides and grooms may choose to purchase personalized stationery to match their wedding suites or they may choose to purchase thank you cards separately. Thank you notes are typically personalized with the couple's married names or monogram (for example, Odette and Oliver Temple).

- Mention the gift by name, and give an example of how you will use it.
 - For monetary gifts, do not mention the exact amount. Instead, thank the guest for the "generous gift".
- If applicable, thank the person for attending your wedding.

Monograms

- *Monograms are often used as signature emblems on wedding suites. Traditionally, monograms on wedding invitations and accompany pieces include the bride's initials only.*
- *That said, many couples today choose to incorporate both their initials as part of the wedding suite. In this instance, we recommend using first initials only. For example, if Jennifer and Mark are getting married, their monogram would be the letters JS (bride's initial should come first).*
- *Most couples choose to use a monogram as a signature emblem on their invitation suite.*
- *Save the formal, married monogram for the post-ceremony reception pieces - place cards, table cards, menu cards - as well as thank you cards. Typically, the couples' first initials appear on either side of the groom's last initial. For example, once Jennifer Hammond and Mark Temple are married, their new monogram will be JTM.*

Finally...

Whatever wording and format you choose, we suggest keeping these tips in mind:

- *Use the correct names for invited guests wherever possible. If you don't know the names of your cousin's new boyfriend, ask! Using the correct names will make people feel truly welcome and honored.*
- *Do not include registry information anywhere in your invitation suite. Rather, list the information on your wedding website or ask your family and wedding party to communicate it via word of mouth.*
- *Do not print "no gifts" anywhere on your invitation suite. Even if that is truly your preference, this message presumes your guests were planning to give you gifts to begin with. Again, ask your family and wedding party to help communicate this message - however, be aware that some guests may insist on giving gifts.*