

GIFT GIVING IDEAS

Gift-Giving Guidelines To Stay Wedded To

(NAPSA)—Before saying “I do” to a wedding, engagement party or bridal shower invitation, you may want to read up on some gift-giving dos and don’ts.

Here are some tips from the experts at WeddingChannel.com.

- Do send a gift if you have been invited to attend a wedding ceremony and reception—whether you attend or not. A wedding announcement carries no gift obligation although it is thoughtful to send a note or card expressing your best wishes.

- Do bring a gift if you are invited to a shower. If an invited guest can’t attend, the gift is not obligatory, but close friends and family can do so.

- Do ask the host or hostess of an engagement party whether you should bring a gift. Engagement gifts have never been obligatory but are becoming customary in some parts of the country, usually given to the couple by family members and close friends.

- Don’t feel a wedding gift should equal the amount the bride and groom spend on each guest. The amount spent on a gift should be based on your relationship with the couple—or their families—as well as your budget.

- Do find out where the bride and groom are registered. Registry information is sometimes inserted in shower invitations but it’s never appropriate to include in wedding invitations.

To find out where a couple is registered, some people call the bride, mother of the bride or maid of honor. Often, the fastest and



Online sites have made it easier to find out where a bride and groom are registered.

easiest way is to search for the couple on www.weddingchannel.com. With about 1.5 million registries available in its database, searching for a couple has never been easier.

The site is partnered with 18 of the nation’s top retailers to make wedding registries available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Whether the bride and groom register in a store or online, the registry is available on the site.

According to Rosanna McColough, the site’s editor-in-chief, people use the site to find gifts, but many “take the opportunity to check up on ex-boyfriends and celebrities too.”

- Don’t believe the old myth about having a year to send a wedding gift. Gifts should be sent before the wedding and may be sent as soon as a guest receives an invitation. Thank-you notes should be written within three months of the wedding.