

WEDDING WEBSITE TIPS



Personalized wedding websites are such a convenient way to create an accessible information spot for guests to find all the details of your wedding. An effective wedding website will reflect who you are as a couple and convey the overall style and tone of your wedding. Your wedding website should contain the most important details of your wedding. Not all the details – just the essential ones. It can also be an interactive way for your guests to RSVP and know what to expect on the big day. The right tools and a few guidelines make it easy and in many cases, free. Grab your sweetie on a Sunday morning, pull up the engagement photos from that file in your email, make a coffee or mimosa, plop yourself on the couch and have some fun customizing! We hope our tips will help you if you get stuck.

SITES WE LOVE

The Knot is easy, personalized, mobile-friendly, and free.

WeddingWire is also mobile and tablet ready. Wedding Wire is free with custom designs and is enabled for photo sharing.

Minted is a great choice for a website if you're also ordering invitations from Minted because you can get a matching, beautifully designed website with a personalized URL.

Wix is a great option with beautiful, intuitive templates for fresh, inspiring design. These sites take a bit more work, but are very customizable, look amazing and offer personalized url's also.



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8 THINGS TO INCLUDE ON YOUR WEDDING WEBSITE

- * Date and time of your wedding ceremony and reception
- * Location names, full address information (including zip codes), and phone number of ceremony and wedding venue(s)
- * Direction to wedding venue (with web links and/or PDF documents)
- * Local airports and rental car companies
- * Address and contact information for nearby hotels with their distance from wedding venue and any discount arrangements
- * Area map showing these locations
- * Your favorite things to do, places to eat and drink in the area if you have out of town guests
- * Links to gift registries
- * RSVP

CONSIDER ADDING THESE HELPFUL DETAILS

Dress Code

While you can't dictate or micromanage what every guest will wear to your wedding, let them know ahead of time so they can plan and look fabulous. Whether you are going for fancy black tie or a relaxed backyard shindig – its nice to let people know what to expect. Visual examples are especially helpful. You could even use a little humor. If, say, you're aiming for a "black tie" at the reception you could "thumbs up" an example of guys in tuxedos and "thumbs down" an example of guys in jeans and khakis.

Unique Cultural or Family Customs

If a number of your guests aren't of your culture or religion, consider adding information they might need to know like: the length of the ceremony, the meaning of certain customs or rituals, or any particular cultural etiquette that should be observed.

Schedule of Events

List time, location, and address for events surrounding the wedding that are open to all your guests, such as planned activities for out-of- town guests or a next-day brunch. Add the schedule for any shuttle services between hotels and wedding venues, too.



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WEDDING WEBSITE GUIDELINES

Your Webpage Should be Representative of Who You Are as a Couple

Take the time to develop a design that you are both comfortable with – one that reflects your personal aesthetic and style. Be sure you both agree on the kind of content you include, and the tone.

If You Prefer Guests to RSVP on Your Website...

Simply add the web address after the RSVP on your invitation or reply card like so: “Reply on www.kris+cody.com by [date].”

DO List Your Website On Your Save-the-Date Card

Having your wedding date, the schedule of events as you know it, and travel and lodging information accessible on your website will help your core guests make their plans early.

DON'T Overwhelm the Website with Content

A few well-designed pages covering information that guests will want to know is helpful; a daily update of your wedding planning progress or lots of polls on what kind of cake you should serve is definitely not.

DON'T Overemphasize Your Gift Registry Links

It is perfectly fine to post links to your various online gift registries on your homepage – in fact, these one-stop shopping links are now expected because of their convenience. However, it's important to keep the balance between discretion and your desire to make things easy for your guests. For instance, registry links should not be at the top of the page, the first thing people see.

DON'T Overlook Offline Guests

If you know that a certain invited guest is not connected to the web, be sure to send them hard copies of any important information posted on your website.

DO Make Good Use of Your Website AFTER the Wedding

Post pictures from your wedding and honeymoon along with any anecdotes you care to share and most important, a heartfelt thank you to everyone involved.

