

LOVE & MARRIAGE

How to write thank you cards Thank your guests for both their presence and their presents.



PREP YOURSELF

Find a designated area

Whether you like working in your bedroom with wedding gifts sprawled across the room or a home office with a spreadsheet of gift giver, address and corresponding gift, make sure you are comfortable.

Be prepared

Handwriting so many cards may seem like a chore, but if you write a few every day, it won't be as overwhelming. Before you start writing, make sure you have the proper pens, envelopes and address labels ready. A notepad also comes in handy if you need to write a draft before writing the real thing.

START WRITING

We've written some sample thank you notes to help you get started.

Thank you for a cash gift

What newlywed couple doesn't love to receive cash? Show your appreciation by stating how you intend to use the money you've received. Unlike tangible presents (waffle maker, toaster etc.) you don't need to mention the amount given when saying thanks.

Dear Aunt___ and Uncle___, Thank you so much for your generous gift. Steve and I have been saving for a down payment and, thanks to you, are steps closer to our dream house. Thanks again for sharing our special day with us. Love, Steven and Madeline



Thank you to someone who didn't attend the wedding

There will be friends and family who, for whatever reason, couldn't make it to your wedding but sent a gift. Just because they didn't make the wedding doesn't mean you can't thank them for their best wishes.

Dear (name), Thank you so much for the beautiful wine glasses. We love them! We just received a shipment of wine from our wine club so we'll be putting those glasses to good use soon. We missed you on our special day, but promise to send you lots of pictures. Thank you again. Love, Steven and Madeline

Thank you for the gift you're not too crazy about

Focus on the giver not the gift. You will inevitably get wedding presents that will make you think, "What were they thinking?" You don't have to lie and say you LOVED the gift when you really didn't. There's a way to be gracious and polite without being insincere.

Dear (name), Thank you so much for the dog butler drink holder. You are so thoughtful. We really appreciate you coming to celebrate our special day with us. We had so much fun tearing up the dance floor with you 'til the wee hours in the morning. Thanks for making our wedding so memorable. Love, Steven and Madeline

Thank you to ... who, again?

You think he might be your father-in-law's old college roommate. Or maybe your mother's friend from her garden club. Or ...? For the person you don't really know, keep it generic, but thoughtful.

Dear (name), We are really looking forward to using the panini maker you sent Steven and me for our wedding. We've been trying new recipes and are excited to make some yummy paninis. Steven and I feel lucky to have so many family and friends supporting us in this next phase of our lives. We hope you had fun at our wedding. Love, Steven and Madeline