

WEDDING STATIONERY WORDING GUIDE



While you've been excitedly pinning pretty stationery, what it actually says might not have crossed your mind yet. Sometimes it's very straightforward, and other times it can be trickier than expected.

Don't worry - with **15** years of experience, we can help you navigate all the scenarios!



Save the Dates

Standard Wording

Save the Date
for the Wedding of
First & Last Name
and
First & Last Name
Date
City, State
Formal invitation to follow
website.com

Variations:

Save Our Date
Kindly Save the Date
Please Save the Date

for our wedding weekend
for our {Charleston} wedding weekend

~~~  
Name & Name are getting married!  
Name & Name are tying the knot!

~~~  
For more details, including
accommodations, transportation
& more, visit website.com

Wedding Invitations

What does an invitation suite typically include?

Formal Invitation
Method to RSVP
(*whether by mail or online*)
Other Events
like Welcome Parties, Brunches

Accommodation Information
Transportation or Directions
if applicable
Wedding Website
Do NOT mention the registry.

Traditionally, an invitation
would read like so:

Mr. and Mrs. Bride's Parents*
request the honour of your presence**
at the marriage of their daughter
Bride's First & Middle Name
to
Groom's Full Name
Date & Time (all spelled out)
Venue Name
City, State
Reception to follow***

*Nowadays many couples are hosting their own wedding or the families are coming together to make it happen. You may choose to use something like "Together with their families/parents" instead of listing parents by name. If it's truly just the couple putting on the big day, then even that line may be omitted.

** One of the other etiquette notes that still applies is the line "request the honour of your presence." That phrase is used when the wedding is being held at a place of worship. If not, you would use the line "request the pleasure of your company." In the event that you don't like either of those, sometimes we see variations like "invite you to celebrate at their wedding" or "invite you to share in their joy as they are married."

*** If the reception is in the same location, you simply say "to follow." If it is in a different location, you would say "Reception to follow at XXX" Variations: Dinner & dancing to follow, reception immediately follow

“I cannot recommend Dodeline highly enough for your wedding stationery needs! From the moment we reached out, Sarah's professionalism and artistic vision shone through. She took the time to understand our style and preferences, resulting in invitations and signage that perfectly captured the essence of our special day. Thanks to Sarah, our wedding stationery became cherished keepsakes that we'll treasure for years to come.”



7/21/2024 • Michael P

Wedding Invitations

Other Wording Scenarios

Including the groom's family (A)

Mr. and Mrs. Bride's Parents
and Mr. and Mrs. Groom's Parents
request the honour of your presence
at the marriage of
Bride's First Middle & Last**
to
Groom's Full Name
Date & Time (all spelled out)
Venue Name
City, State
Reception to follow

Including the groom's family (B)

Mr. and Mrs. Bride's Parents
request the honour of your presence
at the marriage of their daughter
Bride's First & Middle Name
to
Groom's Full Name
son of Mr. & Mrs. Groom's Parents
Date & Time (all spelled out)
Venue Name
City, State
Reception to follow

Deceased Parent(s)*

Mrs. Bride's Mother
and the late Mr. Bride's Father
request the honour of your presence
at the marriage of their daughter
Bride's First & Middle Name
to
Groom's Full Name
Date & Time (all spelled out)
Venue Name
City, State
Reception to follow

Divorced Parent(s)*

Ms. Bride's Mother
Mr. Bride's Father
request the honour of your presence
at the marriage of their daughter
Bride's First Middle & Last**
to
Groom's Full Name
son of Mr. & Mrs. Groom's Parents
Date & Time (all spelled out)
Venue Name
City, State
Reception to follow

*It is not necessary to list a deceased parent on the invitation, but it is often important to the couple to do so. For divorced parents, you list names as shown but without the joining "and." If one or both parent is remarried, the mother is always listed first.

** If there are different last names at the top,, the bride's last name is included so it's clear what it is.

Wedding Invitations

Frequently Asked Questions



What about LGBTQIA+ weddings?

All the same information applies, and the couple can choose in which order they would like their names to appear. Often, people just do it in alphabetical order.

Am I supposed to include the groom's family?

If they are financially contributing to the wedding, it would be appropriate to do so. If they are hosting the rehearsal dinner, that is their night to "shine" and their names should be featured prominently on that event invitation.

I want to make sure no one is late.

Should I write the time as earlier than it actually is?

This is a bit of a dangerous game to play, because you will have people who are very punctual and always arrive early. So they might find themselves there over an hour early and not be too happy about that - or, you might not be ready for them! Consult with your wedding planner for sure, but we recommend writing the correct time.

Where does the wedding website go?

We recommend that go on a separate card. It should not appear on the formal invitation.

What about my registry?

The word "registry" should never appear in an invitation package. It changes the feel from "please join us to celebrate" to "please send a gift." It's okay for the registry to be accessible on your website and that's the best way to handle it.

More questions?

Reach out anytime at sarah@dodelinedesign.com or [@dodelinedesign](https://www.instagram.com/dodelinedesign) on Instagram. We would love to help you with your wedding stationery!

Wedding Invitations

Frequently Asked Questions

What if I don't want gifts?

Traditional etiquette states that even the phrase "no gifts" is a no-no on wedding invitations. Address all gift related scenarios on your wedding website.

I don't want kids at my wedding. How do I convey that?

Lots of options:

1. Be sure to address the invitations only to the parents.
2. You can do this on the RSVP card by writing a line for "___ # of adults attending"
3. You can write "Adult reception to follow" on the invitation
4. It can be mentioned on the details card, where you might suggest childcare as a subtle way to convey the message.

Ultimately, we always encourage people to look at how many people with kids are even on the guest list before worrying too much about getting it in the invitation. It might not be as many as you think and you can just chat with those guests.



More questions?

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THANK YOU

for downloading our Wording Guide.

We hope you will consider Dodeline for your wedding stationery needs!



15 Years
of Experience

A Small Team of 4

All designs are
custom and made
to order

A huge library
of artwork
to work with

Custom pet
illustrations

Day of services
are available to all
save the date
& invitation clients
with no minimum

A wide range of
options to suit
most budgets

Over 200
excellent reviews
across platforms

