



La Donna Wedding

Officiants & Ceremony Coordinating Services

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Selecting Your Invitations

Before any selection of invitations should be made, it is necessary for the guest list to be established. This will enable an accurate determination of how many invitations are needed. Every couple, single guest, parents, wedding party attendant, clergy and also their guests should be counted. Children over 16 may be included with their parents or receive a separate invitation. It is wise to order an additional 25 invitations to allow for spelling errors, last minute surprises and in the event you may have forgotten to put someone on the list. Ordering 25 more at a later date is considered a new order and is more expensive. It is best to order your invitations four to six months before the wedding. This will insure plenty of time to address and mail them out in a timely fashion.

When selecting a font, consider the initials of the bride and groom, as well as other capitals that are in the copy of the invitation. Choosing a font that is easy to read, as well as the color of the ink selected, may also be important considerations. A bolder or broader style of font will make the color appear darker and a fine font will appear lighter in color. Coordinating the colors being utilized in decorating or in the wedding attendants attire, may also be a consideration. It is best to see an invitation composed with the font and color of ink, if available. This will help to insure your satisfaction with your selection. Choosing an ink color that matches the design on the paper is advisable for best appearance.

Most invitations will easily accommodate up to 13 or 14 lines of printing. By deciding on the verbiage you wish to use before making a final decision on the paper, you help to make selection of stationery that your verse will properly fit and give you a beautiful overall well-balanced appearance.

Components of your wedding ensemble may include:

- 1) Invitation ... informs who, what, when and where
- 2) Inner-lined envelopes ... an option that enhances the appearance and presentation of the invitation by adding elegance.
- 3) Reception card ... informs where and at what time your reception is being held.
- 4) Response card and self-addressed envelope ... a card that is returned by the guest notifying the number of guests attending, and may also include an entrée selection.
- 5) Outer envelope ... may or may not have the return address printed on it. If the invitation is more contemporary and does not include an inner envelope, then it may also be offered with an inner lining. A return address on the outer envelope will help to assure the return of any invitations that may have addressing errors. The return address should be printed or handwritten, as address stickers or rubber address stamps are not proper for use on a formal invitation ensemble.

6) Map and/or direction card ... shows the location and directions to the church and reception sites. For best appearance, print on the same or similar paper stock as the other components included with the invitation.

7) Informal or thank you cards ... are used to send your words of gratitude for the gift your guest has given you. An informal is a blank card, generally matching the wedding stationery, in which you write your own personal words of thanks. A thank you card, may or may not match your wedding ensemble, and is generally pre-printed with a verse or words of thanks. It is recommended that you handwrite some personal words of gratitude and sign your names.

Note...it is improper to put cards in the wedding invitation that show where a couple has a gift registry. If the guest was invited to a bridal shower, then they already are aware of this information. They will most likely contact the bride or groom's parents or the bride or groom directly, if they were not invited to the shower or if one was not given and they want to acquire this information.

