

WEDDING GUIDE

Ensuring a Bridal Shower Success

(NAPSA)—As couples vow to have a wedding to remember, special thought should be given to the bridal shower. A great shower helps prepare the bride and groom for a wonderful life together, and choosing the right registry and shower theme are important first steps.

Selecting a Registry

Experts advise couples to choose a registry service that best matches their tastes in terms of product selection and offerings. For instance, Target's Club Wedd registry offers an array of traditional products that couples need—kitchen knives, cooking sets and bedding—but it also features more unique products from designers and companies such as Isaac Mizrahi, Simply Shabby Chic™, California Closets and Fieldcrest® Luxury. In addition, couples have the opportunity to register for less traditional but desired items, such as a flat-screen TV, an iPod or even furniture, such as a dining room set.

Bridal Shower Themes

After the couple has registered, shower planners can bring the party to life by weaving a theme through each element of the shower, including the invitation, venue, cuisine, décor, table settings, party favors and even the shower presents. Planners can encourage guests to bring “theme-inspired” gifts to contribute to the festivity. Here are some popular contemporary shower themes:

• Have A Tea Party

Gather at teatime for a girly affair complete with dainty petit fours, delicate flowers arranged in teacups and, of course, freshly brewed tea. Potential gift ideas include china place settings, cake



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plates, table linens and bakeware.

• Wine & Cheese Gathering

For an elegant affair, circulate cheese, fruit and cracker platters while serving a selection of the couple's favorite wines. Include a vintage from the year the couple met and their wedding year as a keepsake. Consider gift ideas such as wine glasses, a wine rack or a marble cheeseboard.

• Jack & Jill Party

Invite the boys for this gender-neutral shower. Throw a bridal BBQ with outdoor entertaining-specific gifts or a pre-wedding tailgater with unisex presents such as electronics.

Shower planners can log on to Target.com/clubwedd to find additional information for hosting a fabulous bridal shower. From creative shower themes and party games, to a shower checklist and food recommendations from the Swell girls, Cynthia Rowley and Ilene Rosenzweig, online guests can access a wealth of shower planning resources. Guests will also find expert advice on registry selection and helpful suggestions for gift givers.