

How to style your party!

Real brides and top UK wedding planners reveal the best ways to decorate your venue...



“Buy bird feeder hooks from your local garden centre and use them to hang decorations in the garden of your venue. Try hanging flower baskets, wicker hearts or even some jam jars on string with tea lights inside.”

Erica, tuscan-dreams.com

Think Pink!

“Heavily influenced by the catwalk, pinks are hot in block and out to shock! Fuchsia, cerise, lavender, rose, ruby, dusky and coral are all ‘les couleurs du jour!’ Romantic Fairytale is a classic trend that’s here to stay and complements the ivory, lace and pearl look that is so pretty in country garden weddings.” **Helen,** bespokedreams.blogspot.com



BLOOMIN NICE

“There’s a growing trend in couples choosing good quality silk flowers for their reception.”

Maria, pazazzweddingsandevents.co.uk

SPACE

SAVING IDEA

“Consider the space above your tables and where possible, suspend decorations from the ceiling. Birdcages decorated with flowers, feathers and trailing foliage look truly fabulous when illuminated with pretty LED fairy lights.”

Nadia, champagnetango.co.uk



“Outdoor games are going to be really popular for summer weddings. Try allocating a childrens play area where the kids can let off steam before going inside for the reception.”

Elizabeth, simplyelegant.co.uk



A ROYAL AFFAIR!

“In light of the exciting royal wedding we’re expecting in the coming year, couples are choosing British themed big days. Weddings will feature royal blue, red and white colour schemes, with finishing touches of bunting, paper flags, vintage crockery and shabby chic cake stands. Table decorations or favours could include a ‘Best of British Quiz’ from **andallthingsnice.net**”

Andrea, andallthingsnice.net

GREEN FINGERS!

"As we become more conscious of our planet, couples are 'going green'. Why not give out packets of seeds as gifts for guests? They're budget friendly and give a lasting memory of your wedding." **Maria,** pazzweddingsandevents.co.uk



"Let the roaring 20s inspire your big day theme. Think Greta Garbo and Coco Chanel, for a vintage day with a modern twist. Famous movie quotes can be printed on to stationery and black and white images of icons pinned to the wall. Red velvet chairs can provide a chill out area for guests." **Helen,** bespokedreams.blogspot.com

By the light of a candle...

"2011 will see couples across the UK turning to candles to add atmosphere to their weddings. Candles, real or battery operated, placed at differing heights can add dimension to a room." **Lisa,** just-bespoke.com

**GETTING ARTS 'N' CRAFTY!**

"Brides are turning to DIY elements to make their wedding truly bespoke. Handmade reception decor could include bunting with the couple's initial embroidered on, knitted pom-poms or a wish tree with family photographs hung from its branches."

Lisa, just-bespoke.com

EXPERT ADVICE

Real Wedding expert Alice reveals her favourite party details that won't break the bank...

**Cute centrepieces**

Giant martini glasses can be filled with jelly crystals to match your colour scheme.

Beat the chill!

Tie brightly coloured pashminas around female guests' chairs; they'll double up as sashes by day and wraps for when the chilly night draws in.

Sweet treats

Sweet buffet tables filled with retro candies can be chosen in colours to suit your theme or personalised with the couple's initials and wedding date.

The big bang!

Indoor fireworks can be a great finale to a couple's first dance – just make sure you get the OK from your venue first!



DIY DETAILS LOOK GREAT AT A SUMMER MARQUEE WEDDING

