

Something old, something new, something borrowed, **Something Green!**

**Environmentally friendly
weddings...**



Our relationship with the environment seems to be one of love and hate... Love to enjoy the beauty that it offers, but hate to have to take care of our surroundings or pick up after ourselves!!!!

Die hard environmentalists complain that saving a rapidly aging planet Earth, is becoming a mission impossible, thanks to generations of abuse, and a lack of basic education on what and how we can contribute.

Most of the general public is at a lost on what exactly to do, because the experts shout that it is the mayor corporations that pollute the air and water, diminish the ozone, and poison the environment, but at a basic level we believe with some conviction, that there are things we can do, recycle cans and paper, reduce the amount of detergents we use when washing, and revert to a more natural way of eating.

All of these are valid and helpful, but how about taking it a step further and make a statement involving your friends and family.

For most of us, the day of or wedding is one of the most important events of our lives, we dream and prepare for it with much thought and invest a substantial amount of money , so why not do it in a friendly environmental way.

Modern technology and studies on old fashion know

how, has made it very easy to plan a day where minimal damage is done to our surroundings, and we get to enjoy all that mother nature has to offer.

The fashion now is to have a wedding ceremony outside, and there are many old farms, vineyards, old castles that have been refurbished to accommodate even the most posh of weddings.

Transportation is even easier, horse drawn carriages, bicycles, walking or Hybrid cars (Gwyneth Paltrow drives one) is also a great way to do your part as far as gas emission is concerned.

Invitations on recycled or hand made paper, or you might want to go the millennium way, e-mail them, even if it will not feel the same, it will save some trees.

As far as gifts go, there are many charities that are set up for environmental causes or saving a particular animal or species of flora, and you can even take your honeymoon to a place where they are doing something extraordinary to help mother nature in her healing quest, such as Costa Rica's rain forest, Mexico's Xcaret water park where you swim with free dolphins and wear water friendly sunscreen.

At the end of the day, nobody would be able to say that you are some 'Granola head 'nut, but an environmentally conscious person with clear vision of the clean planet you want to leave as legacy to your children.

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Unique Wedding Gifts from Tree from Me



If you want a lasting memory from your wedding day, why not choose an engraved garden plaque from Tree from Me? Together with a tree or plant, this unique gift will celebrate your union for many years.

The perfect item to add to your gift list, the plaque comes with up to five lines of text with 50 characters on each line. Family and friends may like to mark the wedding with a personalised message, quotation and date to form a lasting marker of the event. Alternatively, planting a tree and adding the plaque can be an intrinsic part of a wedding ceremony.

TreefromMe was set up by Julie Begbie after she spotted the lack of unusual celebration gifts. She says, "This is a completely unique gift, and I am really proud of these great personal presents. Friends have been delighted with the plaques and it is really exciting to be able to offer them to a wider market. It gives people the chance to give an unusual extra special gift. The personalised nature of the gift shows that a lot of thought has been put into the choice. Once planted with a tree, it is a truly lasting gift that will be enjoyed for years after more traditional celebration gifts have been stored away or worn out."

Wedding guests can place the plaque in a young potted tree, or plaques can be presented in a gift box with seeds or garden vouchers. The weatherproof, long lasting plaques are 11cm wide and 30 cm high and cost from £19.99.

**Find out more about Tree from Me online at www.treefromme.co.uk
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Your wedding doesn't have to cost the earth

- Send your invitations out on recycled paper, even better make your own
- Wedding List - ask for:
His and her Bicycles; Gym Memberships, Water purification equipment, Recipe books, Gardening kits - tools, seeds, House plants, Bread makers
- When giving gifts wrap them in natural or reusable items, i.e, wicker baskets, sheets, canvas bags, biscuit tins
- Choose a wedding dress made from Hemp, instead of cotton
- Choose heathy organic, vegetarian or Vegan alternative menus for your reception.
- Choose cloth napkins
- Recycle flowers from table displays send them on to local nursing homes or hospitals