

How to Make your Bridesmaids Feel Special

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Even though the focus is mainly on you during your wedding planning process and big day, you should not forget about your wedding party – the bridesmaids who love and support you and help you out along the way. So how can you make sure they feel loved and appreciated? Here are some ways:

- **“Propose to them:”** Don’t just call or text them with the big news that you’re getting married. Why not get a little creative when you ask them to stand up for you at your wedding? There are some great ideas online, including gift boxes and cute cards you can send to surprise your bridesmaids.

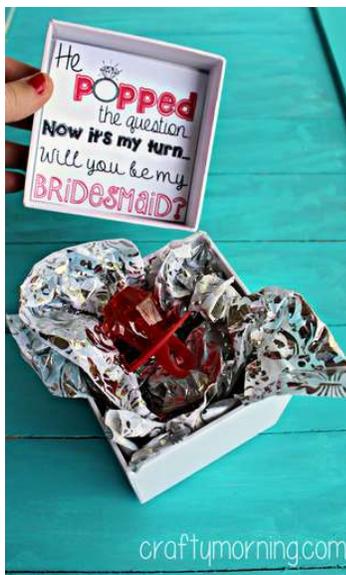


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- **Introduce each other:** Nothing’s worse than being a bridesmaid for a friend when you don’t know the other members of the bride’s crew. So take the time to help them get acquainted and let them know how you met and why they’re so special to you. It will make the planning process and wedding much more fun for all of you.
- **Ask for their help (but don’t force it):** Some bridesmaids are all about helping you shop for your dress, plan your bridal shower and will be by your side at every moment of the planning process. Others might be too busy with work or family obligations to pitch in a lot. Be understanding with each friend and let them decide the level of support they are able to give (and be sure to thank them graciously for their help either way!)

- **Help them keep costs at bay:** Being a bridesmaid is a big investment, from the dress to the accessories, as well as their time and travel costs. Keep this in mind when you are budgeting the bridesmaid's items and pitch in to help them wherever you can, such as paying for their dress or shoes, taking them out to lunch after dress shopping, or picking up the tab on their manicures and hair styling on the day of the wedding.
- **Choose flattering bridesmaid dresses:** While you may have a color scheme or theme you want to follow for your wedding day, offer some flexibility to allow your bridesmaids to choose variations on their bridesmaid dresses, such as the cut or style, so that everyone feels comfortable and the dress is flattering. Always consider a dress they might actually wear again.



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- **Keep them in the loop:** With dress fittings, showers, bachelorette parties and more, it's best to give your bridesmaids a schedule of pre-wedding dates, as well as details on the weekend of your wedding so that they can plan accordingly and avoid any unexpected conflicts.
- **Recognize them at the wedding:** Whether it's a special group bridesmaid photo or a special song played at the reception, make sure your bridesmaids know how much they're loved and thanked during your wedding. Give them special seats of honor at the wedding reception.
- **Personalize a gift:** There are many fun and inexpensive ways you can thank your bridesmaids for their support, both before the wedding and during the wedding. As a token of appreciation, get each girl matching jewelry to wear with their wedding dress, or some slippers to wear at the reception. For fun during bachelorette parties or during the wedding weekend, you can purchase bridesmaid t-shirts or hooded sweatshirts for them to wear. To help them de-stress, you could prepare a spa/beauty care package full of fun items like bath salts, lip balm or mini soaps. Monogrammed items are also popular, with gifts such as wine or cocktail glasses, makeup bags, candles or reusable totes.



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