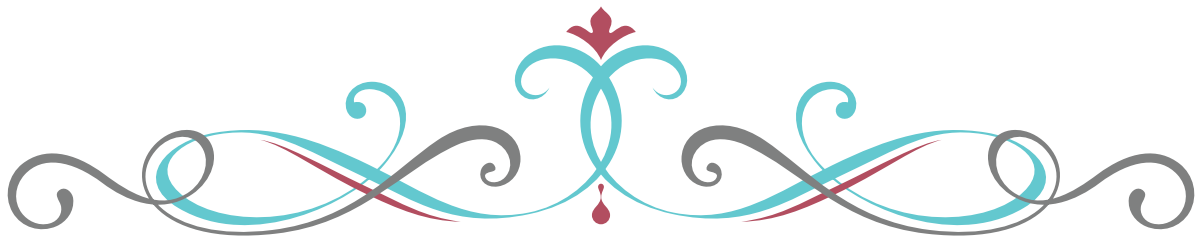




K-STATE
Research and Extension

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service



THE *Wedding* SPENDING GAME

Purpose

Planning a wedding, and life as a married couple, involves many choices and trade-offs. While you want your wedding day to be special, it is just one day in your life as a married couple. Planning ahead can help you stay within your financial means and put you on the path to happily ever after.

How to Play

Items needed:


- Copies of the game sheet for each person (may need 2 copies per person to accommodate both rounds of the game if they use pencils)
- Pencils or colored pencils
- Heart candies (optional — may use instead of pencils)


Round #1


Today, each of you has a “20 heart” spending limit. Working individually, go through the categories in the Wedding Spending Game. Make at least one selection in each category and fill in the accompanying heart(s) by either using a pencil to mark up to 20 hearts or using up to 20 heart candies. You must make a choice in each category.


Example

Wedding Venue and Officiant

Courthouse or City Hall 

Friend’s or family’s yard, property, barn 

Place of worship 

Destination location 


Round #2


Now, working together, go through the categories again. Agree on a selection in each category. Reality hits and your spending limit is “13 hearts.” Decide what you are willing to compromise on and what you might need to give up.


Discussion questions are on page 4.


Wedding Venue and Officiant



Courthouse or City Hall 


Friend’s or family’s yard, property, barn 


Place of worship 


Destination location 


Reception



Low- or no-cost venue fee, pot luck or guest-provided food, cash bar, minimal entertainment costs, cupcakes or other desserts 

Venue fees, catered food, cash bar, DJ, sheet cake 

Venue fees, full catered meal, cash bar, DJ, bridal couple cake, guest cake 


Venue fees, full catered meal, open bar, live music, several tiered decorated cakes, dessert bar 


Attire




Bride’s attire

Wear existing wardrobe

Rent 

Purchase non-formal wear 

Purchase formal wear 

Attire

Groom's attire



Wear existing wardrobe

Purchase non-formal wear

Rent formal wear

Buy formal wear



Ceremony Decorations



Bride and attendant flowers, minimal other decoration

Bridal party and family flowers, DIY decor

Hire professional florist for flowers & decorations



Entertainment



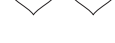
No music during ceremony or reception

Friends and family

DJ(s)

Pre-recorded music and sound system

Professional vocal and/or instrumental talent



Photos and Video



Engagement pictures

Friend/relative as photographer and/or videographer

Professional photo

Professional video

Additional prints and albums

Miscellaneous fees



Favors and Gifts



Make bridal party gifts

Gift certificates for bridal party

Purchase accessories to coordinate with bridal party wedding attire



Invitations and Postage



Electronic

Design and create your own

Custom designed and printed

Custom designed and engraved



Rings and Insurance



Family heirloom

No engagement ring, plain wedding bands

Modest stone in engagement ring, plain wedding bands

Investment stone in engagement ring



Transportation



Personal vehicles

Limousines or other rented vehicles for bridal party

Transportation for guests on day of wedding



Additional Expenses



Test and license fees

Beauty and spa

Pre-wedding parties and entertainment

5-10% overage in any budget category





Discussion Questions

Compare your spending choices with your partner's. What did you choose to spend your money on?

How did your values, goals, and past experiences affect your choices?

What did you learn about yourself from this activity?

What did you learn about your partner from this activity?

What was the first item you gave up? Why?

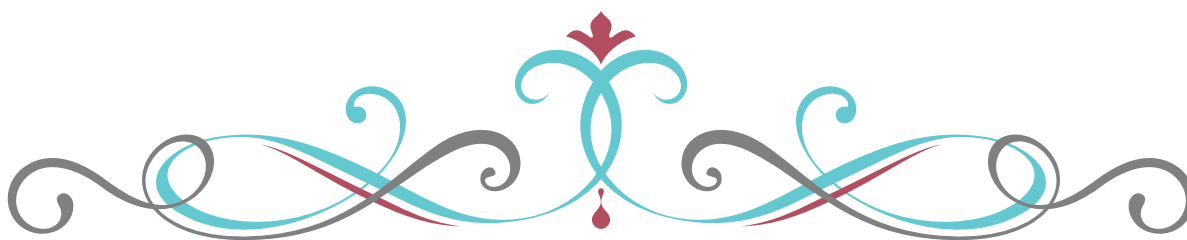
What was easy to decide? What was more difficult?

Final Thoughts

What did you learn about yourself? What did you learn about your partner?

How will you use what you learned to make plans for your wedding?

How will you use what you learned as you begin your married life?



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www.bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu

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