



Wedding Gifts By The Stars by Elizabeth Ball

What's the perfect wedding gift for a Leo? What would a Capricorn adore – and a Gemini abhor? Check out our fun Wedding Gifts By The Stars guide – it may even give you some ideas for your own wedding gift registry!

Aries

If they're a typical little Ram, in conversations they'll joke, "Enough about me - what do you think of me!?" When they're excited and on a roll, it's hard to stop their excitement about their plans.

They're horribly impatient so they may have opted to elope rather than go through all the rigmarole but if they've bothered to make a wedding gift registry (and everyone knows how long THAT takes), these guys will be quite upset if you veer off it.

Aries of a "certain age" might appreciate a DIY autobiography while others would be happy with personalised items. Red is usually their favourite colour - what about red homewares to make cooking and entertaining fun?

Most of them fancy themselves as GI Joe action men/Bond girls on the loose etc so give them something that makes them think they're out conquering the world or at least polishing up their spy skills. His'n' hers matching trenchcoats? Or a GPS system?

They like to be seen as sexy and appreciate lots and lots of ego-stroking so a sexy novel in which they star could be music to their ears (come to think of it, it would be a great gift for read-everything-in-sight Geminis, too).

Do NOT under any circumstances, give them a wedding gift that you've re-gifted, gotten at a garage sale or dusted off from your mum's attic. They just *know* the smell and feel of brand-new – which they prefer every time.

Taurus

Taureans are the planners and builders of the zodiac. They've probably been together for at least five years before they took the next step and got engaged years before their actual wedding date. They can't bear being rushed and if they are, it'll, well, bring out the bull in the china shop.

What they lurrrrve is time to luxuriate. Anything that touches their five senses in a luxuriously sensual way is bound to be a great hit. They love to smell good, taste good things, listen to good music, touch lovely textures and see beautiful environments, as a Venus-ruled sign would.

Give them a topiary tree, a herb garden, indulgently expensive cooking equipment, something to do with music, cashmere throws, Egyptian cotton sheets or scented candles. They like stuff they can keep and that doesn't date. We're talking good taste here!

They are extraordinarily house-proud and crave a luxurious, warm, inviting home so a subscription to a home and garden-style magazine could be a real winner.

They are sweetly sentimental about their friends. If you don't have the money to buy them something luxe, make them something: a photo collage, a pinboard, a piece of jewellery or anything else you can craft with your own bare hands.

The moneymakers of the zodiac, if your budget springs to it, give them shares in an agricultural or livestock firm, a bank, beauty conglomerate or construction company – all of which are ruled by Taurus.

Gemini

Multi-faceted Geminis have such different tastes - but they love to read! Insatiable to know what's on, they'll blog, update their websites, become Crackberries and read everything they can get their hands on to keep up to date and to keep others informed. So while it might seem a lazy cop-out, one wedding gift that most Geminis would really love is an open cheque (sorry, voucher) to a bookstore. Ditto for magazine subscriptions and book-of-the-month clubs.

There is a huge range of books you can create via the internet. Some allow you to capture your wittiest Twitters, others enable to make a photo book while still others can make you the star of the book. Their thirst for knowledge is quite insatiable.

Most Geminis will add a huge range of moderately priced knick-knacks to their wedding gift registry. They figure: they're so cheap, most people will buy a few each at least.

Geminis are well-known for wanting to redo their home decor on a regular basis, but don't throw everything out when they do so, so they end up with a crazy mish-mash of 80s blue and yellow Italian crockery, Japanese screens, 90s cast iron bakery shelves, faux French Provincial cabinets, chunky Mexican furniture and blingy chandeliers. If it's currently trendy – they'll probably like it!

The boys tend to prefer the latest gadgets. No idea? Me either. But you'd be safe (and not sorry) getting help at one of those electronics mega-stores.

Cancer

Whatever you give a Cancerian, take the time to craft a heartfelt message with your wedding gift. These sentimental softies hoard all their old cards and will re-read all of them again shortly.

Many Cancerians are quite um, tight with their money and aren't above regifting. They don't like others asking for cash gifts for a wedding present but don't be surprised if they do.

A handy compromise is a generous gift card to a hardware chain where they can spend hours of fun discovering new home handyman tools and DIY kits. Or what about a power drill, a set of flat-pack kitchen shelves, or a set of those European taps they've been looking wistfully at.

They're big on their family and even the men are born Nannas. Those who are planning children could really appreciate furniture or equipment for the impending nursery, while those *avec l'enfants* could be delighted with family tickets to a show, museum, or theme park to create some family memories.

They also lurrve their home and to make it beautiful for others to enjoy when they entertain. Beautiful candles or cookware are popular, as are stunning coffee table books on French

Provincial/Italian/Paris interiors. Greenery works well too. They could love a heraldic name plaque, a guestbook, a leatherbound photo album or a cool collage of family photos. What about an antique?

Many Cancerians like to work from home (whether they have kids or not) so something that makes it easier to have their own home office could be great. A phone/fax/answering machine, laptop, scanner or home printer might be possible wedding gift ideas.

Leo

Just been invited to a Leo wedding? Seen the wedding registry? Once you've recovered from sticker shock, call the other guests to see what you can buy as a group gift.

These little Kings and Queens of the zodiac appreciate a little idol worship. They need to feel special. When others ask what they received, they want to say what amazing, wonderful, generous things they got to feel good about themselves. If you don't spoil them, as far as they're concerned, you just don't care. If your wedding gift has "boastability" value, they'll be very happy.

You can't go wrong with a gift certificate for the works at a fancy day spa or perhaps a weekend away at an impressive resort.

They really do like mirrors - the bigger, the better of course – and could well request (another) one. Not in your price range? Give them one of those small mirrored jewellery/cufflink boxes.

Leos LOVE personalised gifts. Give them a Warholesque photo of themselves, a customised blanket, an astrology report about them both – you get the idea.

Could you spring for concert tickets, a book of movie vouchers, an opening night at the theatre or art gallery or season tickets to such?

Think of them as rock chicks/gods who just haven't been discovered yet. Glamour wins hands-down every time.

Just remember: these are not the people for whom you can give regifted items. They don't appreciate being given a card telling them that their present is a donated pet goat for a Third World country.

Virgo

There are two types of Virgo brides – the first hates the commercialism of weddings while the second has organised her Big Day with the military precision of the Pentagon.

All Virgos however appreciate a break from the housework that they tend to feel overwhelmed by. When too much is going on in their lives, they clean, polish, sweep, vacuum, scrub, and wash etc to get some sense of order back. And when you're planning a wedding... See her eyes light up with a gift certificate for a major home overhaul.

They love a good de-cluttering. They hate to throw things away AND they tend to attract complete grotts (sorry, disorganised people). Call in the professional organisers - it will make them silly with happiness – or at least invest in some handy storage accessories.

These modest types could benefit from help by a professional stylist to freshen up their look with more flattering clothes, a haircut or better make-up choices. They just lurrve those makeover shows!

Books are also pretty well-received. Since they love to know how things work and what makes people tick, why not check out the latest round of self-help/inspirational books?

These workaholics usually bring their work home. Have they been making do with a horrible desk? Or maybe their invoices are still in shoeboxes. IKEA has lots of fun things to help them get their home office in order.

They're also known for their interest in health. Perhaps you could spring for a personal trainer, a new gym membership, a new wok, or a bunch of herb seedlings from the local nursery?

Libra

Libra is ruled by Venus which rules love, beauty, art, and general gorgeousness. Imagine a charming and well-mannered beauty queen and you're getting close! Think about the type of upkeep it takes to be a beauty queen. Facial? Mani/pedi? Perma-tan? And that's just the men.

Since Libra rules relationships and marriage, you can't go wrong with something couple-y.

Whatever they've put on their wedding registry is likely to be stylish. And in matching pairs – candlesticks, lamps, vases, garden accessories, for example. Is it in *The World of Interiors*? OK, then.

Other gift ideas could be an opening night at the theatre, a Michael Buble concert, a Broadway musical or dinner at a three-chef hat restaurant so they can dress up.

They lurrve clothes, jewellery, shoes and accessories. Anything from a clothing store gift certificate to an open cheque to spend breakfast at Tiffany's would be great. What about giving them a stylist to help them chujz up their wardrobe for summer?

Still no clue? Both sexes love flowers and are often a little overcome at the sight of s stunning bouquet heading their way. Can you get a courier to deliver something to them in person or at least to their desk so everyone else oohs and ahhs at what they've been given?

And don't forget the greeting card to go with your expertly wrapped present (get it done properly). I'm thinking a mushy Hallmark one with flowers on it - not one of those cheap jokey cartoon ones. No, my dear, that really will Not Do.

Scorpio

Few Scorpios have wedding registries. Why? Scorpio likes to be private – and to list it in public, well, it's just too revealing! And if they revealed their wishlist, most of which is unlikely to be from a department store, old Aunt Agatha would collapse in a dead faint.

Scorpios pride themselves on knowing how people tick, such as through astrology, numerology, psychology, even witchcraft in some cases, but they don't always want you to know what's going on with *them*! You are either in their Inner Circle or you are not.

But even if you *are* in the inner circle of intimates (they take soooooo long to trust people), they'll then analyse what the gift you gave them really means! Both sexes have something they're completely passionate about and will appreciate a wedding gift related to that hobby.

You also get points for getting them anything that's a little bit contraband or is hard to get.

If you're going off-list, Scorpio men like books/DVDs with plenty of raunchy sex in it (they used to love James Bond although he's now a bit soft, compared to Sean Connery's heydays) and

unauthorised biographies on powerful people, especially billionaires, powerful criminals, sleazy politicians and influential rock stars.

Scorpio women appreciate stuff which highlights their sex appeal. It could be a sultry new perfume, candelabras, expensive sheets, killer pair of heels or some underwear that's probably best not hung out on the clothesline.

If you're treating them to a romantic weekend away, make sure it's an adults-only resort. In fact, anything adults-only is just about right...

Sagittarius

These are the guys whose wedding registry is likely to be a honeymoon registry so you can chip in towards the flights, accommodation, hot air ballooning, scuba dives, whitewater rafting, jet ski hire, golf days and so on. They just lurrve experiences!

As you can guess, these are the ones who will be least thrilled with "homey" stuff. Save that for the Cancerians.

Fond of the outdoors, some of them may like a deluxe camping chair or bed, outdoor shower unit or gas-powered refrigerator to keep their drinks cool? If it's not on their registry, they might appreciate roof racks for their surfboard, skis or bike or even storage racks to hold them out of the way at home.

They love to know about other cultures so you could give them a beautiful coffee table book on Africa, or an amazing souvenir from Asia. They enjoy discussing politics and religion. How about *The God Delusion*, something about the Dalai Lama or biographies about adventurers Amelia Earheart, Jacques Costeau, Joy Adamson, or Ernest Hemingway.

They love a good laugh, too. These are probably the only ones you could give a wedding gag gift to. What about giving them a bunch of comedy DVDs? You'll know whether their tastes run to Woody Allen, the Marx Brothers or the Farrelly Brothers. Male Sagittarians of a certain age might prefer westerns with John Wayne but both sexes should enjoy *Indiana Jones*, *Pirates of the Caribbean*, or those Errol Flynn swashbuckling classics on DVD. Gadget-lovers could be thrilled with a Kindle.

And if you're still not sure, it's a rare Sagittarian who doesn't like entertaining. Why not go in on a group gift for a new outdoor entertaining setting?

Capricorn

The archetypcal Cappie is ambitious and keen to climb that career ladder. They want to appear classy, elegant and capable. Traditionalists, they're more likely to select most of their gift registry items from their favourite department store.

Secretly snobbish, they just want the very best. They prefer classics to anything trendy and natural fibres to sticky, scratchy polyesters. They secretly like fabulous items that make them feel like an old-fashioned millionaire, like smoking jackets, velvet slippers, cashmere coats, real ivory jewellery, vintage accessories, bankers' green glass reading lamps and Monopoly!

Antiques can have enormous charm; they just adore craftsmanship and beauty. Look for antique objet d'art, jewellery, homewares or industrial items could appeal.

Many Capricorns work very hard and are willing to put in the hard yards. Their honeymoon might be a rare break (but not if it has Wi-Fi as they'll be back emailing the office in no time)!

On the working theme, inspire them with tomes of those super-successful entrepreneurs who made it – or why not help them meet industry VIPs? Could you pay for a year's airline lounge membership if they're about to travel overseas?

They're well-known for taking a long-term view of wealth-building. Perhaps they'd enjoy an investment course or a subscription to *Money* magazine?

They're not usually early adopters of technology, but will do so if it makes them more efficient. They may well have included a new iPhone, laptop, printer or other business-type gizmo on their registry. On the communication theme, you could consider gifting them with a course on media presentation or public speaking. Anything that helps them raise their profile - professionally of course - is fine with them.

Aquarius

I can pretty much guarantee that an Aquarian wedding registry is going to have to have some "What on earth...?" type items – if they have one at all.

Most Aquarians are mavericks, who cannot be anything other than different. Unusual, they often look it, too. If they're not part of a subculture and *seem* normal, wait. Your conversation will soon reveal otherwise! Even if they behave in socially appropriate ways, they will have a strange, rare or alternative hobby. Is there anything related to their hobby you can give them?

Anything that's cutting-edge technology should thrill them just fine. They are typically a citified lot, umbilically linked to the iPhone, iPod, Skype etc.

They love nonconformity, unpredictability and a scorn for convention. Both sexes are surprisingly ageless; basically all of them are groupies when it comes to friends (more is better). Think about giving them a gift that can help them entertain great swathes of acquaintances.

This is a no-chintz zone. Kitsch things like egg chairs, lava lamps or those fibre optic lamps (or anything that decorated Dr Evil's 1960s pad in *Austen Powers*) are usually a hit. Many of them are humanitarians who want to make the world a better place. These are the sort you could happily regift something and they'd be happy you weren't wasting the planet's resources.

Many of them are into astronomy, astrology, science and metaphysics. A telescope, a star named after them or even an acre of the moon could appeal to them.

Pisces

Many Pisces put pedestrian gifts on their registry and then later, realise they forgot to put on what they really like.

These sweethearts are vague extraordinaire but they're typically selfless, kind, compassionate, sensitive and supportive.

Pisces rules the feet, so they are especially fond of shoes and dancing. Most Pisces men appreciate cool runners or customised shoes. Pisces women have an enormous shoe collection so those Perspex shoe boxes are ideal for your favourite Cinderella.

Give them magic! They love tinkly windchimes, terrariums, crystal ornaments that refract the light into a thousand little rainbows and velvet throws which are vaguely Steve-Nicks. Most New Age shops have a "Oh, wow!" item that's sure to intrigue them.

Melt a Pisces by giving them a puppy or kitten: bonus points if it's from the animal shelter. Apartment-dwellers might prefer some goldfish; decorate the bowl with a castle, treasure chest, diver and plants.

They adore glamour. Give them gifts which suggest an otherworldly, special place. It could be a silk palm tree to pretend they're in the tropics or a beautiful artwork which transports them. If they were in a movie (they love the movies), what character would they play? Ask them to get clues.

Music transports them. A guitar could delight a male Pisces while Pisces women brides could be thrilled with tickets to her favourite musician.

Getting their fortune done is a thrill. Pay for them to see a clairvoyant, psychic, numerologist, astrologer or tarot card reader. Treat them to a feng shui consultation.

Honeymoon gifts could include a couple's double massage, reflexology or a relaxing aquatherapy session.

Don't be offended if they forget to write their thank you card. They'll think they've done it.

Elizabeth Ball has been delighting hundreds of couples and parents with her beautifully designed, personalised hardcover astrology reports since 2005 at <http://www.itsinthestaronline.com>. Her LoveStars and BabyStars reports make the ideal anniversary, birthday, christening, engagement, new baby, Valentine's Day and wedding gift with a difference. She writes a regular news-filled blog about gifts at <http://gifts-by-the-stars-online.com>.