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Bridal Bargains: Secrets To Throwing A Fantastic Wedding On A Realistic Budget



Synopsis

Wow! Finally, a wedding book for the rest of us. With average wedding costs soaring over \$25,000, you need real life solutions and creative ideas to plan a wedding without going bankrupt. Bridal Bargains is the answer! Now in its 10th edition with over 700,000 copies in print, Bridal Bargains shows you:

- How to save up to 40% on brand new, nationally advertised wedding dresses.
- The best web sites to save on everything from flowers to gowns, invitations to, well, you name it.
- Fourteen creative ways to cut the catering bill at your reception.
- How to order flowers at wholesale online.
- Eleven questions you should ask any photographer – and seven money-saving tips to lower that photo expense.
- Affordable ways to print your own invitations at a 70% savings.
- A clever trick to save big bucks on your wedding cake.
- The best bargains on honeymoons, gift registries, rings, wedding videos and more!
- New! Green your wedding with eco-friendly invites, catering tips and more!

The brand new, 20th year anniversary edition is completely re-written, with revised and updated tips on tying the knot without going bankrupt.

Book Information

Series: Bridal Bargains: Secrets to Throwing a Fantastic Wedding on a Realistic Budget

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Customer Reviews

"The How To Cheaper I Do's!" People Magazine

Wow! Finally, a wedding book for the rest of us. With average wedding costs soaring over \$25,000, you need real life solutions and creative ideas to plan a wedding without going bankrupt. Bridal Bargains is the answer! Now in its 9th edition with over 700,000 copies in print, Bridal Bargains shows you:

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MONEY BACK GUARANTEE Our \$500 promise. If Bridal Bargains doesn't save you at least \$500 on your wedding, then we will give you a complete refund. No kidding. (See inside for details.) Denise & Alan Fields are the nationally renowned "wedding watchdogs who've appeared on Oprah, The Today Show and Dateline NBC. Their best-selling books include Baby Bargains, Baby 411 and Toddler 411. They live in Boulder, CO.

As a natural bargain-hunter and former event planner (not weddings, but other types of social events), I was skeptical about how much this book could save me. I thought I already knew all the tricks and pitfalls of the event industry, and already knew all the ways to save (use a sheet cake behind the scenes, print your own invitations, etc.). But I was amazed and pleasantly surprised at how much I DIDN'T know! You can RENT a wedding cake?! Wedding flowers are a DIY option?! This book not only gave me great money-saving tips, but also gave me a lot of other information about wedding basics. It also provides a list of great questions to ask your vendors to avoid potential pitfalls and hidden costs. When I bought this book, I was also worried that this book would provide a list of ways to save money by cutting corners, therefore resulting in a "cheap" wedding (like buying your decorations at the Dollar Store). Not at all. This book provides information on how to save money, even if you're ordering engraved invitations and fancy floral centerpieces. This book is well worth its cost and I would highly recommend it to any bride, extravagant or conservative budget, that doesn't want to be taken to the cleaners by the bridal industry.

More than any other wedding planning book I bought, this book really gave my daughter and I all the information we needed to understand how to get the best value for every wedding decision. With the

advice given here, we were able to sidestep several potential messes and be confident we were asking all the right questions and getting the highest value for our dollars spent. Well worth the purchase!

The amount of useful information this book contains is just phenomenal. However, I did find it widely repetitive. There were several points during my time reading it that I felt like I had read that section before. I guess this may be to reiterate the point, but if I found it useful the first time I would have remembered it (or flagged it to remember later). The one other thing that bothered me was the style of this book. Being long and having a short-width made it hard to read, and was also impossible to lay flat so I could take notes on things I wanted to remember. I feel like this is a weird thing to comment on, but the book shape absolutely drove me nuts. Overall, definitely a good book to purchase for a newly engaged couple. There are lots of really important "Remember to ask this" sections, and I love how it breaks down by category. If anything, there is too much helpful information (and how can I possibly remember it all with the stream of "helpful" information being thrown at me from in-laws and family members) ;)

Even though there are many, many resources on wedding frugality, I'm glad I chose this book. My first attempt at wedding dress shopping left me frustrated (I love weddings, but hate being fed BS by salespeople), and this book has prepared me for dealing with all sorts of vendors and given me awesome insight into the wedding industry. I haven't started spending yet, so I can't say for sure how much I will save, but the peace of mind I will have in navigating the process is already worth it. The book gives great advice on where to look out for inflated prices (and alternatives), creative ideas to save, tips on dealing with vendors (and when to walk), and recommends tons of resources I never would have thought of. It's not the typical "save money by making everything and having 18 family members stay awake for a week gluing crap together for you" book. The grammar/syntax/spelling leaves a little to be desired, but it doesn't have any bearing on the content, so I can't really complain.

I've purchased about 5 bridal books and none of them have kept my attention like this book. First off, it's easy to read...hard to say for some other bridal books out there. Secondly, it really does have great advice! Yes, some of the tips seem like common sense but the reason this book is so successful is because it makes you THINK and many brides don't. As a first time (or second time bride) you want your wedding to be the best! During the planning process, it is VERY easy to go

over budget because you don't care...but later on you might think - why did we spend that much money? I am a jaded New Yorker - life is expensive here...so nothing aggravates me more knowing that I overpaid for something. This book will not only give you great tricks on how to get the best deal but it will help you avoid people who are trying to take advantage of you - and there are plenty - trust me, I've found many! It also gives you the truth...that a lot of vendors with "agendas" will not tell you. Buy the book - I've already saved over \$1k reading it without making my wedding tacky or cheap...which is a sin in New York!

This book was sooo helpful and full of so many great tips! It's a really great practical guide. I wouldn't recommend it as the VERY FIRST how-to wedding book to read, but that's only because I felt it left a bit of a sour taste in my mouth about the whole industry. If you can, spend the first couple months being REALLY EXCITED, then, RIGHT when you REALLY get down to planning buy this book (definitely before you go dress shopping) for a reality check. Some really great advice about bridesmaid dresses, LOVED the wedding dress advice. Cake, vendor and site advice was also great. Healthy dose of humor sprinkled in (honestly, I laughed out loud at some parts!). Just a little... unsettling... but that's not really the book's fault now is it?

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