

# Wedding



# Anniversaries

The practice of giving particular gifts on wedding anniversaries originated in Germany during the Middle Ages. It was customary for friends of the couple to present the wife with a wreath of silver when she had lived with her husband for 25 years and a wreath of gold after 50 years. The wreaths symbolised harmony and fidelity. From this arose the silver and gold wedding anniversaries. Since the 1800s additions have been made to the wedding anniversaries and the list has become quite elaborate. We present a list of traditional anniversary gifts and their modern equivalents. Major wedding anniversaries are indicated in bold.

ANNIVERSARY	TRADITIONAL GIFTS	MODERN GIFTS
<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>PAPER: artwork on paper, love letters &amp; poetry, books, concert tickets, personalised stationery, paper parasol, airline tickets, photo album</b>	<i>clocks &amp; watches</i>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	COTTON: clothing, bed linen, napkins & tablecloths, cushions, sarong, bath towels, parasol, kimono	<i>fine china</i>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	LEATHER: designer shoes, jacket, desk set, handbag, wallet, luggage, briefcase, gloves, drums	<i>crystal &amp; glass</i>
4 <sup>th</sup>	FRUIT & FLOWERS or SILK & LINEN: fresh flowers, garden plants, fruit basket, exotic teas & coffee, perfume, incense, wine, linen, lingerie, silk pyjamas, silk scarves & ties, books are also traditional	<i>appliances</i>
<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>WOOD: (traditionally symbolising the stability of the marriage) furniture, wood carvings, bonsai plants, piano, wood boxes, jewellery boxes, cattle are also a traditional 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary gift!</b>	<i>silverware</i>
6 <sup>th</sup>	SUGAR & CANDY or IRON: handmade chocolates, recipe books, dessert wines, liqueurs, cast iron cookware, fire tools, fire screen, decorative ironwork	<i>wood</i>
7 <sup>th</sup>	COPPER & WOOL: wool suit, carpets, tapestry, bells	<i>desk items</i>
8 <sup>th</sup>	BRONZE & STONE: bronze bowls, bronze casts, bells, cymbals, candlesticks, stone table, marble sculpture	<i>linen &amp; lace</i>
9 <sup>th</sup>	POTTERY & WILLOW: decorative pottery, kitchen earthenware, porcelain, Japanese tea set, serving plates, woven mats, also real estate	<i>leather</i>
<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>TIN: tin lanterns, wok, aluminium boat, pewter flasks and bowls</b> <b>Traditionally red roses are given on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary symbolising the marriage in full bloom</b>	<i>diamond jewellery</i>
11 <sup>th</sup>	STEEL: stainless steel cookware, cutlery, cocktail shaker	<i>modern jewellery</i>
12 <sup>th</sup>	SILK & LINEN: bed sheets, silk robe, lingerie, artworks on linen, anything Japanese, trip to Japan	<i>pearls &amp; gems</i>
<b>12<sup>1/2</sup></b>	<b>Some European countries celebrate 12<sup>1/2</sup> years of marriage as the copper anniversary</b>	
13 <sup>th</sup>	LACE: lingerie, lace parasol, lace fan, clothing, anything French, French cookbook, trip to France, traditional flowers are violets and lily-of-the-valley	<i>textiles, furs</i>
14 <sup>th</sup>	IVORY: As the ivory trade is banned in many countries, we suggest anything to do with elephants; elephant carvings, paintings, tapestries from India, trip to India or Africa or just to the zoo!	<i>gold jewellery</i>
<b>15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>CRYSTAL: vases, bowls, wine glasses, champagne flutes, perfume bottles, mirrors, ski trip, semi-precious stones</b>	<i>watches</i>

# Wedding Anniversaries

ANNIVERSARY	TRADITIONAL GIFTS	MODERN GIFTS
16 <sup>th</sup>	PERIDOT	<i>silverware</i>
17 <sup>th</sup>	WATCH or ORCHIDS	<i>furniture</i>
18 <sup>th</sup>	CAT'S EYE & TURQUOISE	<i>porcelain</i>
19 <sup>th</sup>	AQUAMARINE & MOTHER-OF-PEARL	<i>bronze</i>
20 <sup>th</sup>	<b>FINE CHINA: dinnerware, chrysanthemums are also traditional</b>	<b><i>platinum</i></b>
25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>SILVER JUBILEE: silverware, shaving accessories, jewellery, cufflinks, picture frames, camera, art photographs, a family portrait by a professional photographer</b>	<b><i>silver</i></b>
30 <sup>th</sup>	PEARL: pearl necklace, pearl earrings, letter opener with mother-of-pearl handle, inlaid mother-of-pearl boxes	<i>pearls &amp; diamonds</i>
35 <sup>th</sup>	CORAL & JADE: jewellery, coral or jade pendant, ring, fish tank, trip to a tropical island or the Great Barrier Reef, trip to the Orient	<i>jade</i>
40 <sup>th</sup>	RUBY: ruby jewellery, ruby red glassware	<i>ruby &amp; garnet</i>
45 <sup>th</sup>	SAPPHIRE: sapphire jewellery, sea cruise	<i>sapphire</i>
50 <sup>th</sup>	<b>GOLDEN JUBILEE: gold jewellery, gold ring</b>	<b><i>gold</i></b>
55 <sup>th</sup>	EMERALD: emerald jewellery, anything Irish, trip to Ireland	<i>emerald &amp; turquoise</i>
60 <sup>th</sup>	<p><b>DIAMOND JUBILEE: diamond jewellery, anything English, trip to the UK</b></p> <p>To arrange for the couple to receive a Diamond Wedding Anniversary telegram from Her Majesty, the Queen, the family should send a copy of the marriage certificate to:</p> <p><b><i>Assistant Private Secretary to HM the Queen</i></b>  <b><i>Buckingham Palace, London SW1, United Kingdom</i></b></p> <p>with the word <i>Anniversary</i> written in the bottom left corner of the envelope.</p>	<b><i>diamond &amp; gold</i></b>
65 <sup>th</sup>	BLUE SAPPHIRE	
70 <sup>th</sup>	PLATINUM JUBILEE	
75 <sup>th</sup>	DIAMOND & ALABASTER	
80 <sup>th</sup>	OAK	

*presented by*



[www.abitshady.com.au](http://www.abitshady.com.au)