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Mothers of the Bride and Groom: Relationship Expert April Masini's Tips On How To Tell a Friend They Are Not Invited To The Wedding

Posted on April 27th, by weddingmom in [Blog](#), [Budgeting & Planning](#), [Wedding Mom Basics](#).



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Guest Post By **April Masini** of [AskApril.com](#)

Most people have a **wedding budget** — and a vision for their wedding that falls outside that budget. So, rather than invite 200 guests to a wine and cheese reception in the yard, many **brides prefer 75 guests** at a hotel reception, or 10 guests at an island destination event. Not everybody is going to make the guest list cut. Feelings will be hurt, and relationships challenged, but there are ways to handle the cuts, that are kind, not cruel.

Don't hide from the **guests you're not inviting**. That's the worst thing you can do. It implies guilt and creates a rift that spins out of control in a short time. Your friend will feel badly about not being invited, but they will feel ultimately worse if they find out they're not invited when everyone else is





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talking about the darling invitations, and they didn't get one and have to use deductive reasoning to guess that they're not invited. Give an uninvited friend the courtesy of a head's up and an explanation. Doing so will take the sting out of the absence of an invitation, and will offer them the reason for your keeping the guest list small. When you let them in on their non-guest list status before too much steam builds around the wedding, or the invitations are mailed, you give them the inner scoop so if they want to, they can get over the hurt, privately, and if they need to, spin it themselves. Consider using the phrase, "I want you to know how disappointed I am that we're keeping our wedding intimate, and I can't invite everyone I want...." and ending with, "I really appreciate your understanding."

There are other ways to include friends who you're not inviting to the wedding, in the celebration. Some brides have lots of friends and family who host showers, engagement parties and other wedding parties. Typically, they'll ask you for a guest list, and it's a nice gesture to include the friend you didn't invite to the wedding, to these peripheral events. Tell the host the status of this guest to avoid embarrassing wedding day talk, and to let them know who and why you're inviting certain friends.

If the friend you're not inviting is someone you work with or, who is dating your cousin or someone close to you, so they're around you and hearing about your wedding preparations, be mindful of their presence and try to curtail your wedding chatter so as not to rub salt in the wound and hurt their feelings further. If the friend sends you a gift anyway, accept it graciously and write a lovely thank you note.

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