



Cedar Court Hotels

LEEDS/BRADFORD

*Be our guest*

# *Budget Saving Ideas*

*By now you will have decided the budget for your big day and also decided what you are not willing to compromise on. Here are a few ideas on how you can save money to keep well within your budget without your dream day being compromised.*

Makeup artists and hair stylists are not essential for your wedding day. Perhaps you have friends that are hair dressers or budding makeup artists; just ask, they might be more than happy to do you up for a small fee or even for free? Alternatively, you and your bridesmaids could have 'dress rehearsals'; practice makeup and hair ideas on each other to come up with the perfect look to complement your dress. This will save a huge amount on stylist fees and you'll have a great time with the girls.

Gift lists are another important thing to think about. A lot of people who get married already live together and have everything they need in their home. If this is the case, then why not have a honeymoon list or ask for travel vouchers? Your guests could purchase travel vouchers to put towards the cost of your honeymoon. Many travel agents have honeymoon gift lists; this is where your guests can purchase excursions, trips and meals that you have picked for your honeymoon. This is a great way to save money and there doesn't have to be much compromise on the destination.

Something old and something borrowed can easily be turned into money saving ideas. For example, wedding jewellery can be an expensive cost if you plan on buying it new. Maybe your mother or friends have something that would be perfect for your dress; a tiara, a necklace or a simple yet elegant bracelet that brings your whole look together.

You may be lucky enough to have a pair of heels that match your dress – something old and saves on the cost of buying a pair of shoes you'll most likely never wear again.

Bargain hunting should be your new hobby. When looking for table decorations and ideas for favours, make sure you shop around for the cheapest prices or alternatively beg, borrow and maybe not steal. Ask your family and friends if you can borrow as many glass vases as you can get your hands on – all shapes and sizes. Putting a small collection of different vases in the centre of the tables full of flowers and candles is a cheap but extremely effective table decoration. As for the favours there are no hard set rules to having them at all. If you have your heart set on being traditional, why not buy some organza that matches your colour theme and make individual bags full of mint imperials or after dinner chocolates. Gather your friends to help make the bags to stop it becoming a time consuming task.

DJs and bands are another cost that can be avoided. Maybe you have a family member or a friend that has some sound equipment or just some good speakers! Get everybody involved – ask everyone to email you a few songs they want to dance to on the night. This way you'll have a huge selection of songs to choose from – you can look through them and make the final cut. No dodgy DJs needed!