



Cedar Court Hotels

LEEDS/BRADFORD

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Something for the Boys

Some men embrace wedding planning whereas others let it go straight over their heads. Here are a few tips on the important things; stag dos, speeches and the dreaded first dance.

Choosing your best man and groomsmen is the first task you have. For most people this isn't a problem and they can easily choose the team that will accompany them on the day. For others it can be a bit harder – but don't fear, if you have 2 best friends then why not have 2 best men?

Organising the stag do is possibly the only time when a partner's opinion is not needed. If you plan on having your best man organise the stag do then make sure you give them some idea of what you'd like to do. Whether you want a weekend away or just a night out, it is important your best man knows. Try to plan your stag do well before your wedding – prank pulling may be on the cards and you don't want to turn up on your big day with any 'permanent' reminders of the stag do. Have fun! This is the time when you can get away from wedding brochures and nagging partners so enjoy yourself.

Getting suited and booted is some grooms dream but for others it's a nightmare. Make sure you get all the groomsmen involved – women shop together for a reason. Choosing suits together means you have more opinions and you can have a laugh while you're there. Make sure you check with your partner on the colour scheme. Depending on the type of suit you're after, the groom, best men and ushers tend to wear something that matches the colour scheme. If you are buying new shoes, make sure you wear them in. Put them on and wear them round the house as often as possible or you may be left with extremely soar feet on the big day.

Writing and delivering the grooms speech can be even more nerve racking than the ceremony for some men. If public speaking isn't a strength of yours, it can be quite an ordeal having to deliver a speech to your nearest and dearest. Make sure you start planning your speech in good time – you don't want to be rushing it. Some details that should be included in your speech are thanking your partner's parents, the bridesmaids, your best man, the ushers and of course all your guests for sharing your special day with you. Maybe include some anecdotes about your partner and make sure you refer to her as your wife. A little Dutch courage may help the delivery of your speech but be aware – too much and you may not be able to deliver at all!

Dancing isn't everyone's strong point – but that doesn't mean you can't try. Or maybe you can convince your partner that the first dance is old fashioned and not necessary. If you lose this battle then make sure you spend some time with your partner planning your first dance. Instead of it being an old fashioned sway to a slow love song, why don't you choose a fast, upbeat song that means something to both of you and dance to that. This will be far more relaxed and meaningful than swaying with each other in the middle of a crowd of your family and friends.

