

Be inspired...

# Delicate DETAILS

Transform your reception into an elegant celebration with intricate, laser-cut stationery, plus dainty floral and lace-effect finishing touches

**PHOTOGRAPHY:** HOLLY JOLLIFFE **STYLING:** ALISON LOVETT



## Sugar-crafted sensation

Add a delicately textured feel to a traditional tiered creation, and mini-cake favours, with a scattering of white sugar-crafted blooms.

Three-tiered cake, £550 (serves 90), and mini cakes, £9.50 each, all Final Touch. Ecology cake stand, £11.95, John Lewis. Champagne flutes, £42 for four, LSA International. Doilies, from £4.50 for 12, Lovely Lovely ▶

## WEDDING receptions



### 1 Plates of style

Keep your place settings simple, elegant and perfectly co-ordinated by teaming crisp white linen with details that offer just a hint of green. Arrangements of freesias, trachelium, lisianthus and nerines, Philippa Craddock. Lace doilies, stylist's own. For similar, try Kitty Fisher. 'Coro' wine glasses, £26 for four, and 'Una' tumblers, £3.25 each, all LSA International. Studio William Karri cutlery, £20 for a three-piece set, John Lewis. Ribbon, from £1.50 for 5m, Fred Aldous. Plate, stylist's own. For similar to hire, try Idyllic Days. 'Fleurie' menu, from £150 for 100 (as part of a set of stationery), Chartula Studio



### 2 Daisy delights

Inspired by the catwalk trend for beautiful Broderie Anglaise, these delicious biscuits would be perfect served with afternoon tea or as a favour at each place setting.

Cookies, £4.50 each, Zoe Clark Cakes. Rob Ryan wallpaper, £50 a roll, Mini Moderns. 'Mika' Rectangular dish, £8.25, LSA International

### 3 Picture perfect

Commissioning bespoke artwork to decorate your reception will also give you a wonderful keepsake once the big day is over. This graphic print is also available as a paper-cut design.

Framed graphic print, £45, Ditsy Chic. Hand-tied bouquet of lisianthus, trachelium and nerines, Philippa Craddock. Glass 'Verona' vase, £25, LSA International





#### 4 You're invited

Laser-cut stationery has wow factor, but isn't budget-friendly, so combine with cheaper details such as paper luggage tags and handmade confetti. 'Lace Ormé' invitation, from £1,300 for 100 with envelopes, save the date card, £800 for 100 (or from £150 if ordered with 'Lace Ormé' invitations), menu, £150 for 100 (as part of stationery set), and 'Thistle and Rose' invitation, £1,000 for 100 with envelopes, all Chartula Studio. Striped paper bag, £4 for 20, Peach Blossom. Heart decoration, £7.50 for six, The Hummingbird Card Company. Green tags, £2 for 10, Jane Means. Mini peg, £2.50 for 10, John Lewis. Confetti made with daisy punch, £2.52, and tracing paper envelope made with lace-edge punch, £17.40, both Fred Aldous



#### 5 Wrap it up

Even your bridal bouquet can tie in with your big-day theme. Simply ask your florist to include guelder rose, veronica spears and trachelium to recreate this girly, textured design and then tie with a length of delicate lace.

Hand-tied bouquet of 'Avalanche' roses, lisianthus, veronica, anthurium, lilac and trachelium, Philippa Craddock. Shabby-chic willow dining chair, £549 for two, House of Fraser. Lace, from a selection at VV Rouleaux

#### 6 Places please

Guide your wedding guests to their seats in style by making your own tableplan. Just divide the back of a simple white photo frame with vertical lengths of lace and add hand-written placecards with a laser-cut motif to give your tableplan a truly personal touch.

Wooden photo frame, £60, John Lewis. Lace, from a selection at VV Rouleaux. 'Wrapped in Love' placecards, £1 each, Intricate Creations. Rob Ryan wallpaper, £50 a roll, Mini Moderns



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# Pearls of WISDOM

For a successful and stylish big day, follow these top tips from the experts in the know



### Picture it

"Ask your photographer to do a pre-wedding shoot with you. It's a good opportunity to practice being photographed and make you feel at ease in front of the camera. You can also get some great pictures to give to your loved ones as presents on the day."

Photographer Julia Boggio ([www.juliaboggiophotography.com](http://www.juliaboggiophotography.com))



### Perfect platinum

"The soft lustre of platinum enhances the signature inscriptions and textures of Wright & Teague jewellery. Its durability ensures that you can celebrate your love for years to come."

Jewellery designers Gary Wright and Sheila Teague from Wright & Teague ([www.wrightandteague.com](http://www.wrightandteague.com))

Minoan rings, from £2,450.



### If the shoe fits

"If you are having your gown made to measure, it's important to choose your shoes in advance of your fittings, and if possible take them to your calico trial fitting, which will happen 10-12 weeks prior to your wedding. The heel height is crucial in getting the length of your dress correct. It's usually unnecessary to wear a strapless bra under the majority of our gowns, but it's important to wear a well-fitting bra with straps to your dress trial, so the shape and fit of your gown is perfect."

Dress designer Stewart Parvin ([www.stewartparvin.com](http://www.stewartparvin.com))



### Something sweet

"Think about giving cookies or cake pops as quirky favours – they are surprisingly cost effective compared to bags of more traditional sugared almonds and so much more personal! Cake makers can match both to your cake design, or any aspect of your wedding, such as your flowers or dress." Cake maker Juliet Sear ([www.fancynancy.info](http://www.fancynancy.info))



### Potted perfection

"Plants can make wonderful, inexpensive reception displays. Alternatively, simple white milk glass pots bursting with lavender and herbs will smell divine and look gorgeous. They also double up as fabulous gifts for guests at the end of the day – just attach a personal message."

Florist Philippa Craddock ([www.philippacraddock.com](http://www.philippacraddock.com))

SHOES: MOIRY SATIN PEEP-TOE SANDALS WITH CRYSTAL DETAIL, JERRY CHOO, £50 ([www.jerrychoo.com](http://www.jerrychoo.com))