

GOOD THINGS

TEXT BY LEIGH CRANDALL PHOTOGRAPHS BY AARON DYER

DESERT ROSE

Look sharp! A table “runner” of cacti in different heights and shapes is an easy centerpiece for any casual celebration. Premade paper flowers, placed on the plants’ spines or at the bases, add playful pops of color. The arrangement can also double as favors—have each guest take a pot to go as a long-lasting reminder of your party. (Ask your florist for not-so-prickly picks, especially for small tables.)

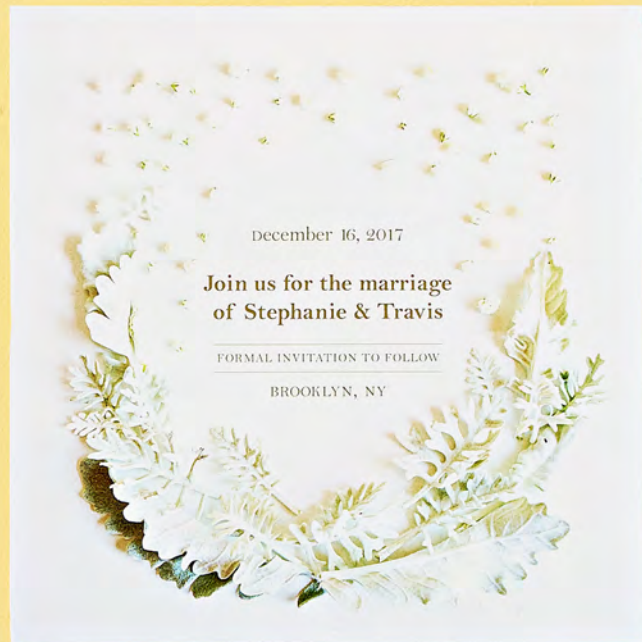
THE DETAILS: Noble Plants cacti, from \$10 each, 212-206-1164. “Rachel’s Yellow Flower” paper flowers, from 90¢ each, amols.com. Jamali Floral and Garden cement pots, from \$6 each, jamaligarden.com.



FLOWER PRESS

Receiving flowers is always a treat—and it's even better when they're in a form that won't fade away, like these frame-worthy save-the-dates. Artist Bridget Beth Collins of Flora Forager created these four unique floral borders especially for us, using foliage and flowers plucked from around her home in the Pacific Northwest. You can purchase and download them and, with a quick addition of text, create an enchanting wedding announcement all your own.

THE DETAILS: Flora Forager printable floral borders, \$25 each, floraforager.com.





Sometimes bigger is better—
on a plain black clutch,
oversize pearl beads feel cool,
not precious.

ROUND WE GO

Coco Chanel famously said that “a woman needs ropes and ropes of pearls.” We couldn’t agree more. Use faux gems to dress up accessories for yourself and your ‘maids: Pearl beads (from \$5 per package, mjtrim.com) arrive loose and can easily be attached with a fast-acting adhesive like Crazy Glue. **1.** Black-suede “Betunia” loafers (\$79, aerosoles.com) embroidered with love get a 3-D upgrade. **2.** Make sure your girls have all the essentials in hand: Give a gussied-up little “Bunkerhill” clutch, in Black (\$40, aldoshoes.com), along with a pearl-embellished initial wallet (\$18, aldoshoes.com) and compact mirror (\$12, cvs.com). **3.** Your future’s so bright, you have to wear shades (from \$5.50, claires.com), which are also perfect photo props—plan a group pic of your wedding party sporting the round version, with you in the middle, modeling the heart frames.



These calendars are a great way to display Instagram photos offline, using pics pulled straight from your feed.

SECRET SOURCE: ARTIFACT UPRISING

Ask any newlywed. One of the most challenging parts of a wedding comes afterward: wrangling and displaying all those digital images. Enter Artifact Uprising, which provides beautiful solutions to that common dilemma. Founded in 2012 by sisters who happen to be professional photographers, the business began with the idea of making photo books using sustainable materials. Now it offers a range of products, including framed prints, stands, and smaller-size books and calendars that can be created directly from your Instagram feed.

THE DETAILS (clockwise from top left): "Layflat" photo album, from \$139; "Float" frame, from \$65; brass easel and calendar, from \$48; wood calendar, \$30; Instagram-friendly book, from \$18; and gallery frame, from \$89, artifactuprising.com.



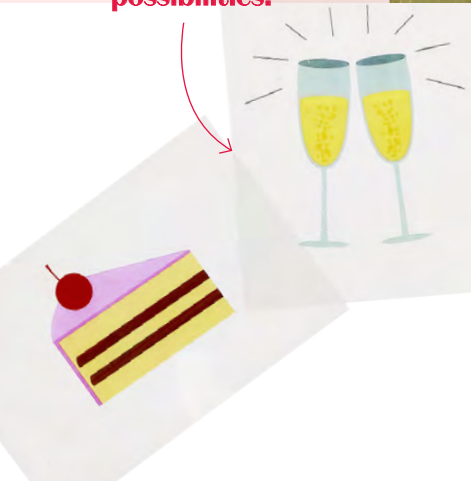
↑
Pick a purse
that suits your
flower girl's
dress—or her
personality.
—

BEYOND THE BASKET

Rather than giving your flower girl the expected vessel of petals, present her with a sweet purse for her trip down the aisle. It's a gift she'll love long after the ceremony is done. 1. Stella McCartney Kids "Girls Red Drum" bag, \$97, childrensalon.com. 2. Iridescent gift-box bag, \$10.25, childrensplace.com. 3. Cat-face gold leather bag (similar to shown), \$195, bonpoint.com. 4. Navy wool-broadcloth bag with floral embroidery (similar to shown), \$195, bonpoint.com. 5. Zaccone pink-bow bag, \$93, childrensalon.com. 6. "Mermaid Whimsy" seashell purse, in Mint Green, \$60, sincerelysweetboutique.com. 7. Milapinou "Mila Bunny" bag, in Rose Poetique, \$52, poppyscloset.com. 8. "Girls' Glitter Emoji" bag, \$49.50, jcrew.com.



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Have a toast,
take a bite—
emojis provide all
sorts of posing
possibilities.



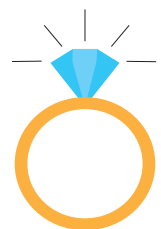
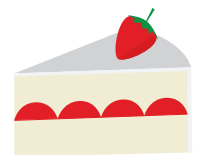
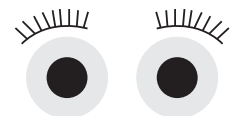
EXPRESS YOUR SELF(IE)

Up the fun factor for snap-happy friends—#nofilterneeded. Print life-size emojis (visit marthastewartweddings.com/wedding-emojis to download them) on clear transparency film, then just hold them up for instant silly effects. To create a selfie station at your wedding, print out multiple copies of each design and display them next to a simple, well-lit backdrop, so it'll be easy for guests to play with all the options.

THE DETAILS: Transparency film, 8.5" by 11", \$60 for 50 sheets, staples.com.



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We went with
classic wedding
and party icons,
but any simple
image—scaled to
size and printed
on clear sheets—
will work.





FRESH FAVORS

True love is forever, and while we can't guarantee these cookies will last quite *that* long, vacuum-sealed treats will stay fresh whether guests enjoy them on their way home or days later. And the practical packaging makes simple treats look modern—especially when they're pinned by the dozen across a fabric-covered board. Pro tip: While this packaging works with most bite-size desserts, sturdy cookies and candy do better than crumbly, delicate confections.

THE DETAILS: William Greenberg Desserts pink-and-white cookies, \$3.50 each, wmgreenbergdesserts.com. The FoodSaver FM2000 vacuum sealer, \$80, target.com.

IT'S A HIT

Step aside, kids: Piñatas are trending at grown-up gatherings, too. These glittering versions strike a balance of glitz and kitsch similar to a disco ball's—and they look just as good hanging over the dance floor. Bring out the bats at the end of the night and take the first swings, then let your guests have a go. Or plan to bash away at the after-party. Either way, make sure someone is snapping pics of all the excited faces when the goodies hidden inside finally burst forth.

THE DETAILS: Star and crescent-moon piñatas, \$28 each, apinata4u.com. "Fringe Letters + Numbers" piñata, 12", \$140, confettisystem.bigcartel.com.



Fun-Filled

It's what's on the inside that counts! Pack your piñata with surprising goodies like temporary tattoos and bottle-shaped candy.

THE DETAILS: Confetti, \$20 per qt., confettisystem.bigcartel.com. Louisville Slugger "Babe Ruth" mini souvenir bat, 18", \$6, kmart.com (painted with Montana Gold spray paint, in Malachite, \$7.75, amazon.com). Rifle Paper Co. "Gold Floral" tattoo, \$6 for 2, and "I Heart Sparkles" tattoo, \$5 for 2, tattly.com. Chocolate champagne mini bottles, \$35 for 30, amazon.com. Wax bottles, \$5 per lb., nuts.com. Glow-stick bracelets, \$11 for 100, amazon.com. Star stickers, \$2.25 for 3 sheets, mrsgrossmans.com.