the knot

The Top Wedding Trends of 2021

Welcome to the Year of Intentionality.



Every year, The Knot Editors compile a list of wedding trends we forecast for the year ahead. Traditionally, this has encompassed color palettes, cake trends, floral inspiration and the excitement that comes with weddings. Over time, couples have leaned into experiences over aesthetics, creating hyper-personalized affairs and curated guest "moments." The onset of the coronavirus, however, cannot be overlooked as it relates back to weddings in 2021, and from the flames of a pandemic has arisen a need for the nouveau: new wedding trends, new experiences, new design elements, all to capture couples' new beginnings.

"Weddings aren't stopping," notes New York-based planner Amy Shey Jacobs of Chandelier Events. "And trends are born of necessity. For example: When I got married, save-the-dates weren't a thing. Now, we're seeing the need for change-the-dates too." As couples increasingly marry the necessity with the new, we welcome 2021 wedding trends as it's coupled with the Year of Intentionality.



by Esther Lee · Updated Oct 02, 2020

Brunch Weddings



Molly Carr Photography // Venue: Hotel Château Du Grand-Lucé

Grab your mimosas and Bloody Marys, because the brunch wedding is a hot commodity in 2021. As more weddings are held outdoors, couples are taking advantage of daylight and sun-kissed experiences, including lush garden brunch parties and mouthwatering brunch boxes under airy tents. The best part for guests is having the option to continue the party through the day, or retiring home after an eventful celebration for a delightful, late afternoon nap.

Sentimental Tabletops



Molly Carr Photography // Venue: Hotel Château Du Grand-Lucé

Custom linens, along with thoughtful touches per table, like thank you notes to guests, are continuing to flourish well into 2021. "Tabletop details will become more intimate, personal and elaborate," speculates Skaggs. "As well as food service and entertainment."

"This girl loves a seated dinner," Norwood adds. "I just love the fabulousness of it all. And since we have to space guests out for a wedding, that lends itself to new table designs that look more like styled shoots than packed reception tables of the past. Think: stunning details like luxe linens, crystal glassware, layered china and lots of candles."