

# SHOW US THE MONEY

Hoping to get some cash pressies? Here's  
*Confetti's* guide to asking (nicely!)

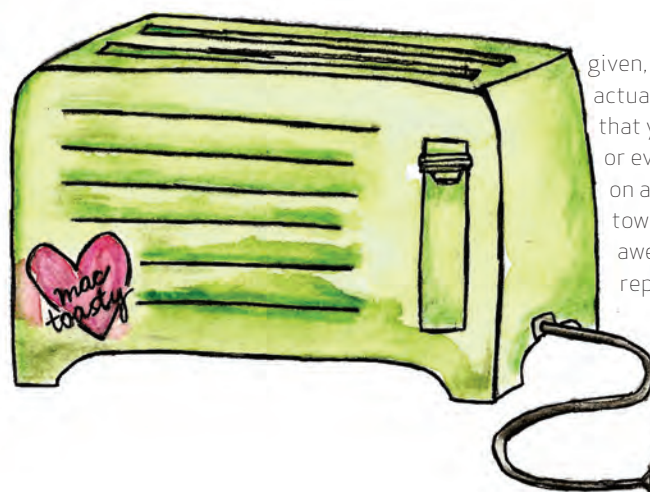
MANY OF YOU will be coughing up for your weddings yourselves, and that's no mean feat. Thankfully, cash gifts are becoming the norm, and most guests will gladly help to relieve some of the financial pressure a wedding brings. Of course, putting any kind of pressure on your guests is equal parts tacky and not sound. But for those guests actively looking for some direction, here's our simple guide to letting them know you'd love some dough.

## INVITE, NOT INVOICE

We're not big fans of mentioning gifts (or worse, "flat gifts"...gross!) at invitation stage. An invitation should be just that - you're inviting guests to be part of your day. Otherwise it's just a beautifully calligraphed gift request. Try to resist the urge to ask. Worse case scenario, you'll get some pretty gifts. How bad is that?

## SOFTLY, SOFTLY

When asked directly what you'd like as a gift, be tactful and gracious. Let guests know that you'll honestly appreciate anything you're



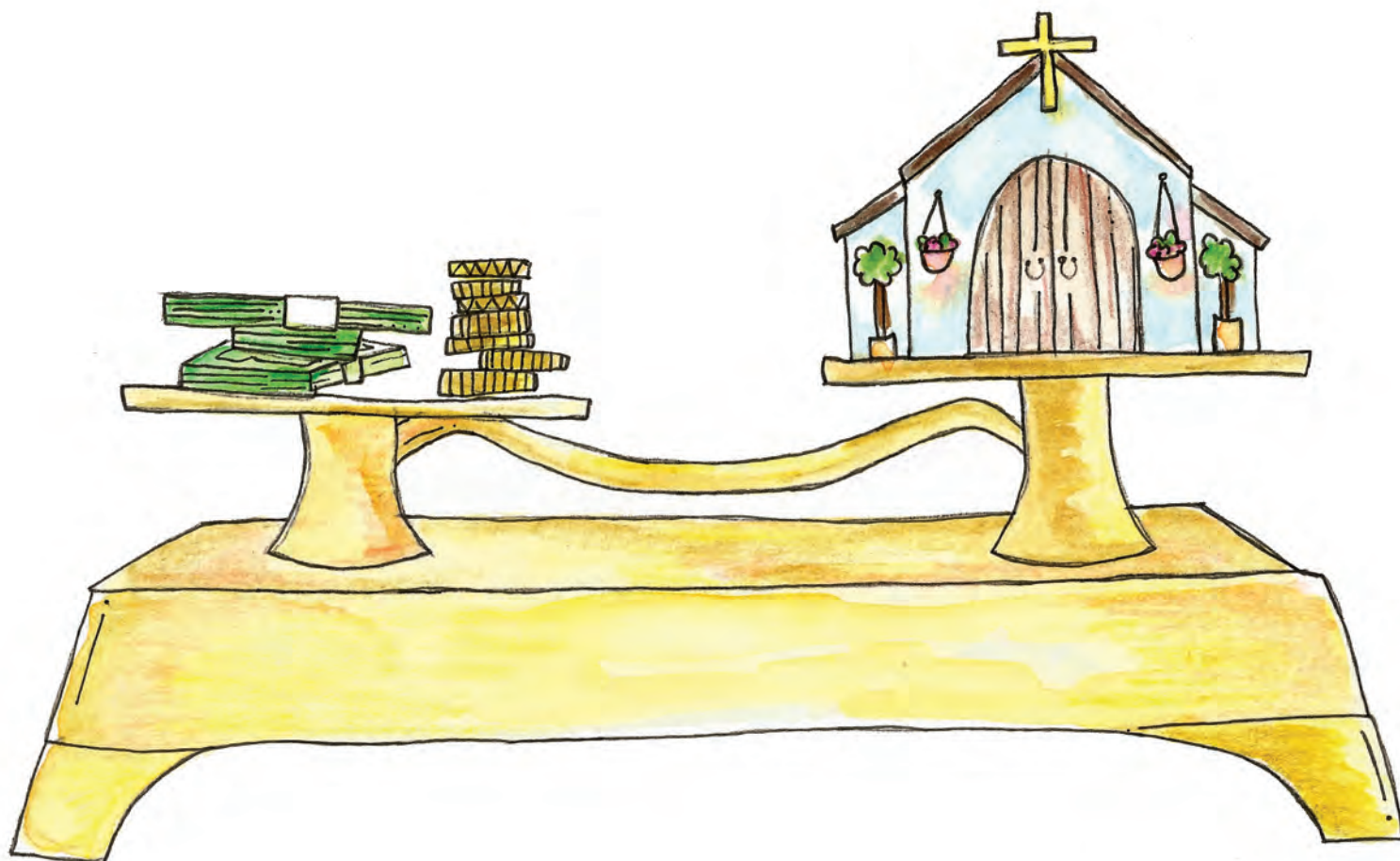
"The vast majority of Irish couples use their wedding gift moola to pay for an amazing honeymoon"

given, but maybe mention that you're actually saving at the moment so that you can relax on honeymoon or eventually put a downpayment on a house, so any contributions towards that would be completely awesome. It's certainly nicer than replying: "Cold hard cash, please!"

## WE DON'T NEED ANOTHER BLENDER

(To be sung to the tune of Tina Turner's 'We don't need another hero')  
You probably moved out of the family home

and established a household of your own a long time ago at this stage. Hopefully everybody is aware of this fact and knows that you already have a perfectly good toaster. Admitting that you don't really need anything for the house should naturally bring people to the conclusion that you might prefer a cash contribution.



### BE COOL

It might be true, but telling guests that you need the money to offset the cost of the wedding you're inviting them to is in pretty poor taste. You might as well ask them to slip you an extra €50 because they were a bit greedy with the canapés and had the rack of lamb instead of chicken

### DROP HINTS, NOT BOMBS

If word spreads that you could do with the cash for something substantial and landmark like a house deposit or masters degree fees, guests are more likely to lean towards the cash gift naturally. Your friends will more than likely be only too happy to help out.

### MUM'S THE WORD

Guests are likely to ask your parents or bridesmaids what they think you'd like as a gift. If your mum feels comfortable letting everyone know that you'd prefer some cash, then great!

### (DON'T) SAY IT WITH POETRY

If you must ask directly, (and you shouldn't), at least make it rhyme. You'll find any number of witty ditties on the 'net that will help you ask for \$s. Example: "We hope you don't find our request to be funny, but we really would appreciate the gift of money." Cringe!

### DIGITAL DOUGH

There are tons of wedding registry sites where you can set up an account for people to donate online. However, although it might sound like the easiest way for you to get the word out that you'd like cash without asking directly, most of these sites will take a hefty cut, so it's probably not the smartest move.

### HONEYMONEY

As the vast majority of Irish couples use their wedding gift moola to pay for an amazing honeymoon, maybe cut to the chase and set up a honeymoon registry online. Depending on the site, guests can donate whatever amount they like to a general fund, a 'spending money' fund or even pay for specific activities like a swish dinner or a scuba diving lesson.

### GOOD GIFTS

Some people just love to give material gifts, wrapped in ribbons and bows. Gifts are great, so don't totally neglect that area and be ready with some ideas for those guests. Consider taking out a small registry with some selected pieces that you'd love. If you've got everything you need, there's no harm getting an extra set of gorgeous bedding for when your current ones need replacing. Or how about upgrading your dishware to something fancier? Isn't getting married brilliant? ♥