



# Ukiah Wedding Faire

## Tips For Attending a Bridal Show Navigating Wedding Expos Successfully

*A bridal show is a great one-stop shopping experience where you will have the opportunity to talk to many wedding professionals face-to-face in one location. They are a wonderful resource for brides and grooms planning their wedding. Navigate the crowd successfully with these tips and tricks.*

### **1. Bring your Fiance, Friends, Bridesmaids and Mother (and Mother-in-Law-To-Be)**

They can help offer opinions about the choices of wedding merchants. (Note: If your fiance WANTS to go, great!, -- but don't force him if he doesn't really care about the wedding details (you'll be much happier & have more fun if he's not grumpy). About 30% of fiancés attend, in spite of what you may assume, so he won't be the only one there!)

### **2. Set Up a Wedding Email Account**

In the early stages of wedding planning, consider setting up a wedding email account through Gmail, Yahoo, or Hotmail. It be convenient to receive all wedding-related communication through one account. You can also use it down the road, when offering guests a way to RSVP to your event.

### **3. Print Address Labels At Home**

Many vendors hold drawings for trips, prizes, and discounts: your labels save you time and writer's cramp by printing up address labels at home prior to arriving. Each label should have the names of both the bride and groom, mailing address, the wedding email account, your wedding date, phone number and email. There may also be drawings for Non-Brides, so make sure everyone has their own set of labels!

**4. Plan to Spend at least TWO or THREE Hours** so you can visit all the wedding merchants and see at least one fashion preview. You will kick yourself if you don't. Nowhere else can you get as much done in as short of period of time. Seating at the Fashion Show is usually limited, so come early and you can use this time to rest your feet.

**5. Wear Comfortable Shoes** - you don't want to miss anything by having sore feet!

**6. Be Prepared to Register at the Door.** Be Patient. It's well worth it.

**7. Bring your Checkbook or Credit Card** -- in case you decide to book services or hold dates with a deposit.

**8. Bring your Calendar, Notepad and Pen(s).** You will probably find vendors with whom you would like to schedule a one-on-one consultation.

**9. Ask Questions.** The vendors are there to help you. You are under no pressure to buy from them, so find out everything you need to know. Bring a pen (or two!) and a notepad to take notes. Take the time to write neatly on drawing slips. Prize winners are often chosen at random from the registration form: make sure your vital information is legible.

**10. Relax and Have Fun** - Wedding events can be really exciting and open your eyes to a world of wedding possibilities. Make sure you enjoy yourself -- this is your wedding after all!