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How to control wedding jitters

How can a bride control her wedding jitters? For a successful carefree wedding she need remember only two things: "One, you have the right to call it all off at any time. And two, if anything goes wrong — like the groom doesn't show up, or worse, the caterer doesn't show up — just keep repeating to yourself, 'It's only my wedding. It's only my wedding.'"

That advice is from the book "The Foolproof Bride," by Gay Haubner and Robert Hoffer (Wallaby Pocket Books).

They also tell a bride a surefire way to find out if her diamond is a quality stone: "Tell your fiancé you want to call the whole thing off. If he asks for the ring back before you've had a chance to explain why, it's a good diamond."

The authors also advise the maid of honor to tell the bride that the cigarette hole burned into her wedding gown "doesn't show at all." And all the groom must do is "show up and shut up."

Wedding shower gifts

Continued from Page 2

couple's other wedding plans.

• Ask the bride's mother or best friend for help with the guest list. It's always polite to invite the wedding couple's parents to come along, at least for the gift opening and a drink, and members of the bridal party are traditional guests too.

• The safest way to find out what the couple really wants as gifts is to see what they have registered for. Their wedding gift registry list will probably include plenty of variety. And, especially with a theme shower, the hostess should keep track of what each guest is planning to bring to avoid duplicates.

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