



R is for Royal Weddings Wedding guest preparation

Wedding guests are made up of friends and families who wish to celebrate the marriage, but they actually play a very important role. Guests attend the ceremony to hear the promises that the couple make to each other, just as God hears them in a Christian wedding.

Why not imagine you are a guest at a royal wedding at Westminster Abbey? You might imagine you were attending the medieval wedding of King Henry I and Matilda of Scotland or the modern wedding of Prince William and Catherine Middleton. How different do you think they would have been?

Design your own invitation

How do you know you are a wedding guest? You've received a special invitation, of course! Imagine what a royal wedding invitation looks like. Why not design your own? It needs to include your name, the name of the couple getting married, the date of the wedding and its location – Westminster Abbey.

Design your own outfit

Now that you have received your invitation, it's time to think about what you would wear. People often wear their most special outfits at weddings as it is such a special occasion.

Sometimes women wear fascinators on their heads or a fancy hat. Fascinators can be on a headband or a clip in your hair. What would your fascinator look like? Let your imagination run wild. Think about colour, shape, theme. Would you add flowers?

Men wear a suit, tie and sometimes a hat. They may wear medals they have won in the armed forces. What would your tie look like? Think about the colour and the design, make it your own.

Can you find things from around your home to dress up in? Make sure you have permission if they are special items.

Practise your singing

A wedding is an occasion for beautiful music to be sung.

Think about a piece of music that is special to you. How does it make you feel? Does it make you feel like dancing? Walking slowly? Is it romantic or grand? If you were planning a wedding, what type of music would you choose and why?

We don't have any footage of Henry and Matilda's wedding ceremony but you can watch a short clip of Catherine walking down the aisle: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5u6-CpU-1EY>

William and Catherine would have put a lot of thought into what music was played at their royal wedding in 2011. The opening music is really important. The royal couple chose anthem by Charles Parry

called 'I was glad'. This was played as Catherine was walking down the aisle with her father, to meet William.



"I'm all dressed up for the occasion" said Livingstone the lion, "I've even warmed up my singing voice. Are you ready too?"

Share your wedding guest preparations on Facebook or Twitter using #WAbbeyFun