



Tips From the Experts

How to Truly Customize Your Gift Registry

How to Truly Customize Your Gift Registry

Thinking Outside the Box

It wasn't long ago that couples lacked choice when it came to their wedding registries. They signed up for a china pattern, silverware and towels from one store, and called it a day. All that has changed over the years. Now, couples can create wish lists that are unique expressions of their lifestyle and values. Soon-to-be newlyweds Sarah and Ryan are one couple that has left the ho-hum registry behind. Continue reading to get some fun and creative ideas from their outside the box registry.



All-in-One Convenience

Research shows that couples often have multiple registries from various stores. One way to simplify this is to use a registry service that allows couples to put gifts from many different stores into one central place. Sarah and Ryan opted for this feature and are able to direct friends and family to one customized web page, where guests purchase gifts and write notes to the happy couple.

Choice: Product, Experiences & Services

While many couples still want products like housewares, a growing number are asking for experiences and services as well. Sarah and Ryan's picks are all about flexibility and choice:

 1 - Month Paid in Full Evolution Rock + Fitness - Concord, NH \$70.00	 1 lb Variety Pack Caramels Tahona Confections - Portsmouth, NH \$25.50	 100 Meals New Hampshire Food Bank - Manchester, NH \$50.00	 All-Clad Slow Cooker Things are Cooking - Concord, NH \$179.99
 Atrezzi Annual Wine Club Atrezzi - Portsmouth, NH \$29.00	 Baking/Pizza Stone Things are Cooking - Concord, NH \$25.99	 Belaying 101 Intro Class Evolution Rock + Fitness - Concord, NH \$35.00	 Bite Sized Gift Box, Variety L... Chemo Bites - Seattle, WA \$25.00

Product picks:

- Pint glasses
- Cheese slicer
- Pots and pans
- Hand crafted salad tongs
- Tablecloth
- Slow cooker

Experiences and services picks:

- Date night pottery class at a community art center
- Rock climbing gym memberships
- Annual wine club
- A bread subscription from local bakery
- Gift certificates to their local bookstore
- Home inventory service

Charitable Donations

Wedding planning is a time for couples to reflect on what's meaningful to them and their guests. Requesting donations on behalf of a favorite charity is a great way to give back. Sarah and Ryan asked that charitable contributions in their name go to the New Hampshire Food Bank and the Camp Scholarship Fund at Prescott Farm Environmental Education Center.

Supporting Local

The buy local movement is gaining momentum as more people learn about the positive impact of buying from their neighborhood businesses. Building a gift registry with items from independent retailers, services and nonprofits is good for the local economy, and it opens up a new world of gift options. All of Sarah and Ryan's gifts are from independent businesses.



Cheese Slicer

Cassidy Shaker Village - Cassidbury, NH

\$16.95

Made in the USA.

Material

Quantity

[ADD TO SHOPPING BAG](#)

[ADD TO REGISTRY](#)

Shared Values

The more a couple customizes their gift registry, the more it reflects their shared experiences and values. Sarah and Ryan put it this way: "Our registry is so much more about who we are than just a set of plates from a big box store. This is about what we do and what we value."

Nearby Registry is a New Hampshire based online shopping and gift registry marketplace for local businesses and nonprofits. NEARBY was dreamed up when owner Allison Grappone got married in 2009. She and her husband wanted to support their favorite local businesses, but weren't able to do so using the traditional gift registry model. Instead, the couple created their own registry, allowing friends and family to purchase gifts that reflected the couple's personalities.

For more information contact: registrysupport@nearbyregistry.com or 800.634.4760.



Photography Courtesy of Nearby Registry / Studio One Photography