



Traditional Wedding Anniversary Gifts

1st Anniversary Gift: Paper

The first year of marriage is like a clean sheet of paper, a new beginning upon which to write your passage through the years together. Also like paper, it is fragile and can easily rip, not having yet been tried by the fires of adversity and the storms of life.

Here are a few first wedding anniversary gift ideas: put together a photo book from the honeymoon, a suitcase filled with her favorite magazines and books, or post notes around the house that explain why you love and appreciate your spouse. The notes can lead her/him to a special date that includes toasting with your wedding champagne flutes and eating the top layer of your wedding cake. If you didn't save it, just order a mini cake with the same frosting and filling. You can set this up in your own backyard!

2nd Anniversary Gift: Cotton

Like the interwoven fibers of cotton, the second year of marriage brings a couple closer together as their lives become increasingly intertwined. And as cotton is at the same time both strong and soft, the couple is learning how to be flexible and adapt to each other's needs.

Let them know you appreciate their individuality by giving them a t-shirt or hoodie (or a few!) featuring a favorite sports team, rock band, hobby, movie or TV show. A cozy pair of pajamas with a whimsical print could make them smile. Or if you'd like to splurge a little, you could treat them to a plush terry bathrobe and tuck an extra surprise in the pocket, like fine jewelry or a new cell phone. At a local shop or craft show, find a handmade quilt—a piece of art they can snuggle up in.

3rd Anniversary Gift: Leather

Leather has traditionally symbolized protection and covering; our ancestors covered and protected themselves from the elements with the leather hides of animals. The bonds of marriage offer security and shelter as each partner takes care of the other. Now in its third year, the growing relationship is becoming a source of stability for the married couple.

Celebrate your third anniversary by opting for a natural, casual accessory: a bracelet of braided leather. or perhaps a blank journal with a leather cover for anyone who likes to write. Of course you could opt to get each other leather jackets, shoes or boots.

4th Anniversary Gift: Fruit or Flowers

During the fourth year of marriage, the budding relationship is beginning to blossom like a flower and ripen like fruit. Just as fruit nourishes the body and flowers the soul, so the deepening commitment and nurturing love of the couple brings refreshment and renewal to the marriage.

To celebrate your fourth year together, you could make and enjoy chocolate-dipped strawberries together. Bring home a bouquet of white roses and one red one. Add a note: "There's no one like you." For a reminder of your wedding day, you could re-create the bridal bouquet. Or if you would really like to splurge, you could buy plane tickets now to attend the Tournament of Roses parade in Pasadena!

5th Anniversary Gift: Wood

In ancient times, trees symbolized strength and wisdom. By the fifth year of marriage, the married couple is developing strong, deep roots like a venerable oak tree and is gaining insight and understanding from the mistakes and stumblings of the first five years. The pair has learned the most important lesson of all and the secret to a successful marriage: forgiveness.

For your fifth anniversary, plan a romantic outdoor picnic in the park/woods to celebrate the strength of your relationship. Hang photos and words that represent your first five years of marriage together from a tree and set up your picnic beneath. For an extra touch, hang the photos and words in wooden frames.

6th Anniversary Gift: Candy or Iron

As candy is to the taste, so romance is to marriage: sugary sweet. Celebrating the sixth year of marriage offers a time to rekindle the flames of love and passion that brought the two of you together. In older times, iron also symbolized the sixth anniversary. A strong and sturdy metal that brings good luck, may good fortune shine on your marriage all the days of your life.

Your sixth anniversary is the perfect time to give sweets to your sweet. Use gummy candy letters to spell out a romantic message on a plate or tray. Make or buy your “Sugar” a few kinds of candy they’ve never tried before, like Turkish delight, salted caramels, French creams or marzipan. In an anniversary card, write that every year together is a sweet new adventure. If you’d like to splurge, you could give them a box of gourmet chocolates, and replace one of the chocolates with a surprise. It could be a tiny wrapped gift, like jewelry or a hundred-dollar bill folded up, with a note telling them to spend it at their favorite store.

7th Anniversary Gift: Wool or Copper

Congrats you made it past the “seven year itch!” Both wool and copper are known for producing heat. Therefore they represent warmth, comfort, safety, and security - necessary ingredients for a healthy and stable marriage. Reflect on these traits as you celebrate seven years together.

This year you can give your spouse a wool blanket with your sewn monogram. If your wedding anniversary is during the fall or winter seasons you can set up the blanket next to your fireplace, roast marshmallows and watch one of your favorite romantic comedies together.

8th Anniversary Gift: Bronze or Pottery

The gifts for wedding anniversaries tend to increase in substance and value over time as marriage itself should grow and strengthen over time. Bronze is stronger than both iron and copper, symbols of earlier years of marriage, because it is a blend of two metals (copper and tin). This mixture represents the union of two lives and the strength resulting from combining time with perseverance.

Celebrate your eighth year of marriage by setting a flowering plant in a pot out on the front step to greet them on the morning of the anniversary; be sure to tuck a romantic card in the foliage. Or you could buy a ceramic sculpture for the front yard or garden—or, if you share a sense of humor, a gnome couple!

9th Anniversary Gift: Pottery and Willow

A potter molds a lump of clay, shaping it on the potter's wheel, and then fires it in the oven, creating something both rich and beautiful. So too, the marriage of two people is molded and shaped by choices and experiences, fired in the oven of adversity, and over time, something beautiful emerges.

For your ninth anniversary you could pack a picnic basket with all of their favorite things and surprise them with lunch or dinner in the park. Or consider assembling a small, custom-made gift basket with a favorite hobby (such as fishing, knitting or reading) as a theme. You could also buy some wicker furniture for the yard or patio - a perfect spot for enjoying snacks and drinks at sunset.

10th Anniversary Gift: Tin

Tin symbolizes preservation and longevity. At one time, food was stored in tin-plated iron cans. The tin protected the iron from rust and corrosion, preserving the food inside, potentially forever. A couple at the milestone anniversary of ten years has the ability to go the distance. Therefore, the tenth anniversary should be celebrated with special honor.

Traditionally speaking this is considered your first milestone wedding anniversary. The tin represents a ten year marriage that "can bend and be flexible, but will not break." If you are taking a trip this year, present the plane tickets, along with small items you'll need for your vacation, along with breakfast in bed served on a beautiful tin tray. For an added touch, engrave her favorite Bible verse or quote, or your wedding vows, on the tin tray.

11th Anniversary Gift: Steel

Steel is one of the strongest, most durable metals in the world, and therefore a fitting symbol for the eleventh anniversary. The cord binding the marriage together can no longer be easily broken, if it ever could. Strength and permanence define this anniversary.

Here are a few eleventh wedding anniversary gift ideas: get a steel ice bucket, fill it with ice and a few cold beverages, attach a ribbon or bow and put it in the fridge for them to find. For the athletic couple, you could splurge and surprise your beloved with a new bicycle—or even a tandem bike!

12th Anniversary Gift: Silk

A couple that reaches twelve years of marriage has, undoubtedly, sailed through many rough waters and overcome a great many obstacles in their relationship. Having been strengthened by enduring difficulties, they now eagerly anticipate that the road ahead will be smooth as silk. It is time to enjoy the finer things in life.

Celebrate this twelfth anniversary by taking time to indulge in luxury and pleasure. Think silk undergarments: for him, a pair of silk boxer shorts, for her, a silky camisole. Silk robes also feel luxurious. You could also make the bed with a new set of 100% silk sheets.

13th Anniversary Gift: Lace or Textiles

As lace signifies refined beauty and elegance, so a marriage of thirteen years exemplifies polished and perfected love. The passage of time has created a delicate but strong object of beauty.

For starters, to celebrate your thirteen years of marriage, you could wrap any item in lacy fabric or doilies. You could also purchase lace-trimmed tops for her or lace underwear for him (yes, there is such a thing). Be sure to ask them to model their new frilly clothing! If they aren't the frilly type, buy a pair of sneakers in their favorite color...and add an extra pair of contrasting "laces." Lace-up work boots and lace-up boxer trunks fit the theme as well. You could also go the textiles route and give the gift of a revamped wardrobe. Take them on a shopping spree! Have fun picking things out and trying them on.

14th Anniversary Gift: Ivory or Animals

Note: The traditional 14th year gift was ivory, but endangered elephant populations make this an unethical choice.

Ivory symbolizes purity and innocence. Rare and beautiful, this precious commodity signifies the integrity and fidelity of the marriage relationship and the extraordinary sense of commitment two people must have to make a marriage last fourteen years. Loyalty and devotion are qualities worthy of commemoration.

To celebrate your fourteenth year of marriage, you could tie a love note to a new stuffed animal...or to your pet's collar. If you've never done it, try out a horseback riding lesson together. Or, take a nature walk and look for birds and other wildlife. Want to do more? You could go on an eco-tour to see animals in the wild.

15th Anniversary Gift: Crystal

Crystal is the first truly expensive gift in the traditional anniversary list. The costliness of crystal is representative of the sacrifice and investment the couple has made to the marriage over the past fifteen years. Crystal also symbolizes clarity and transparency, reflecting the state of the couple's relationship. They now know each other better than they know themselves.

Crystal is magnificent but still needs to be handled with care. What a perfect reminder for marriage. Cook your spouse a special five-course meal, or better yet, create the menu you had on your wedding day fifteen years ago. Use crystal stemware to savor your delicious yet memorable meal.

16th Anniversary Gift: Silver Hollowware

Silver Hollowware is traditionally any item made from silver that are hollow. However, nowadays, it can also include items that are silver plated and thus not necessarily made from silver. You could gift your spouse of sixteen years with a silver plated ornament or present them with a silver plated sculpture or a silver cutlery set.

17th Anniversary Gift: Furniture

After seventeen years of marriage it may be appropriate to look your furniture to see if needs updating or restoration. Perhaps your furniture has become outdated and you'd like to replace some furniture in one of the rooms in your house.

18th Anniversary Gift: Porcelain

Porcelain is the term used to refer to high quality ceramics typically originating from China. Kaolin is used in the manufacture of porcelain, and it is usually delicate; however, it is also relatively tough. With good quality porcelain, you should be able to see the shadow of your fingers if you hold it up to the light with your fingers behind it.

By now, after eighteen years of marriage, you should know their favorite flower, so you could put together a bouquet, or even just one bloom, into a beautiful porcelain vase.

19th Anniversary Gift: Bronze

Give her a bronze-colored purse, evening bag or pair of shoes. Bronze-colored nail polish with a manicure gift certificate is another great way to go. You could also find a classy new bronze lamp for his or her desk. For a unique gift, you could have a favorite heirloom, perhaps an item from your wedding, put through the bronzing process. Bronzing can turn just about any item into a bronze sculpture. If you'd like something for your yard, you could give a bronze sundial for the yard inscribed with the message: "Grow old along with me...the best is yet to be."

20th Anniversary Gift: China

China symbolizes the beautiful, elegant, and fragile nature of love. It is a reminder not to take your marriage for granted, but to continue to care for it so your love will flourish. In addition, just as China, although fragile, is also durable and long-lasting, so a twenty-year marriage has withstood the test of time.

This one is for men to give to women. As one of your anniversary gifts, fill a china vase with her favorite flowers. Attach a note on each stem that shares qualities you love about her. If you are surprising her with a trip or special gift, each stem can have a clue to where you are going or where that special gift is hidden.

21st Anniversary Gift: Brass or Nickel

After twenty-one years you may find your relationship gets better with every passing year. Embrace the beauty and sophistication of your love with gifts that fit the traditional themes for this year: brass or nickel. The modern theme for the twenty-first wedding anniversary happens to be the same because, like your love, some things are just too good to change. This year, shop together for brass and nickel gifts that will make a statement in your home or surprise your partner with an exceptional piece they won't soon forget such as brass jewelry or a nickel keepsake they can treasure for years to come.

22nd Anniversary Gift: Copper

Celebrate your twenty-second anniversary with the beauty and durability of copper. This versatile metal makes a fitting traditional and modern theme for the twenty-second wedding anniversary, as it can be used in everything from coins, to jewelry, to cookware and home goods. For twenty-two years, your relationship has made it through a lot, making it just as versatile. Celebrate this with gifts you can enjoy together, like kitchen goods for cooking an anniversary dinner or decor for your home. Give her copper jewelry she can wear anywhere and give him a money clip or simple treasure he can keep with him always.

23rd Anniversary Gift: Silver Plate

For the traditional theme of Silver Plate symbolizing beauty, this is the perfect wedding anniversary theme for your twenty-third wedding anniversary. The theme of Silver Plate is a significant reminder to you and your significant other of sharing meals and building a family. Silver plated jewelry, picture frames, silverware, etc. could all be presented to your beloved to celebrate twenty-three years of marriage.

24th Anniversary Gift: Musical Instruments

A great relationship is like a favorite song, it touches your heart and mind in a way that just can't be explained. This makes theme of music a perfect theme for the twenty-fourth wedding anniversary. Celebrate this anniversary by dancing the night away together or listening to the songs of your wedding day while you reminisce about your years together. Give an instrument to your spouse that they enjoy or get a new one you can learn together. Other ideas for musical gifts include a favorite CD, music player, home speaker system or stereo for you and your partner.

25th Anniversary Gift: Silver

Congrats on a quarter of a century together! Silver is one of the most precious metals known to man. It has always been prized the world over and considered very valuable. It is therefore an appropriate symbol for the twenty-fifth wedding anniversary. Like silver, may your marriage continue to shine in splendor and radiance all of your days as you grow old together.

Of course a new piece of silver jewelry or adding another band to your wedding and engagement ring is always an option.

26th Anniversary Gift: Original Pictures

The twenty-sixth wedding anniversary is frequently a year of adjustment. With this year's wedding theme how about getting new family pictures taken and compare how you've each changed and grown over the years since your wedding day.

27th Anniversary Gift: Sculpture

Add some beauty and sophistication in your anniversary presents. Select a sculpture for your home or garden and get a whole new look.

28th Anniversary Gift: Orchids

Orchids are a symbol of nobility, friendship, elegance and perfection - making these exotic, flowers an ideal anniversary present.

29th Anniversary Gift: Tools

Give them new "tools" for their favorite pastimes and hobbies. This might be a manicure set, drill bits or cooking utensils. You could also give them the fancy table saw or sewing machine they're always drooling over. Another option could be tucking a gift card to a hardware, home improvement or home décor store in an empty toolbox with a note reading, "Fill It Up."

30th Anniversary Gift: Pearl

Lying hidden deep inside the shell of an oyster is one of the most exquisite and treasured gems imaginable: the pearl. Symbolizing hidden beauty, the pearl reminds the maturing couple that true beauty comes from within and that what is most valuable is the shared experience of life with another.

Need a vacation? The pearl is the perfect gift to present your exotic vacation to Bora Bora, Australia, Hawaii, etc. Grab snorkeling gear and leave a pair of pearl earrings or pearl cuff links inside the goggles. It's time for you to go pearl diving (or maybe just snorkeling) and the beach is calling your names. If you aren't into the pearl, nowadays couples will give diamonds for their 30th anniversary, which is a pretty easy gift to give to any woman!

31st Anniversary Gift: Timepieces

Your 31st anniversary gift of a timepiece will be a loving reminder to the couple who receives it of time well spent, and your wishes for much more time together. Timepieces include wristwatches, pocket watches, and clocks, but can also include sundials and other less conventional instruments by which we measure time.

32nd Anniversary Gift: Conveyance (Vehicle)

What is a conveyance? The answer: anything that transports you! Be that over water, on snow, in the air, underwater, on land or into a transcendental state.

33rd Anniversary Gift: Amethyst

The stunning gem is used in an array of jewelry and back in Roman times they used to drink wine from vessels made from amethyst to try and stop them becoming inebriated, but whatever you buy that has an amethyst gem in it, be it a bracelet, earrings or necklaces or even a ring, you can be assured that the beautiful purple/blue color will make her eyes light up.

34th Anniversary Gift: Opals

Opals are the modern gift suggestion given by anniversary gift guides for the 34th year of marriage. When considering these gems, evaluate the characteristics of each individual stone. Compare the rare beauty of each opal and choose the one for your 34th anniversary gift that best reflects the unique personality of the recipient.

35th Anniversary Gift: Coral

Coral has often been called the "garden of the sea" because it covers the ocean floor. In ancient times it was considered sacred and believed to contain magical properties of protection from sickness and harm. It was also thought to represent the life-force due to its blood-red appearance. Like coral, loyalty and commitment are the lifeblood of a good marriage and love the shield that protects the union.

For a more simplistic nod to this anniversary, you could adorn your home-cooked dinner-for-two with coral napkins and candles. Seafood is the natural choice for cuisine! However, you could also travel the world by visiting coral reefs in Hawaii, Mexico, Honduras, Fiji and Indonesia. Too far? Take a trip to the Biltmore Hotel in Coral Gables, Florida, for VIP treatment or Cape Coral, Florida, for world-class bird watching.

36th Anniversary Gift: Bone China

What Is Bone China? Bone China was actually created in the year 1800 when Mr. Josiah Spode II (son of the Spode porcelain factory owner) decided to add bone ash to their standard porcelain formula. This resulted in the strongest, hardest porcelain ever made! Correspondingly, bone china does contain genuine bones, as the bone ash is an important percentage of the total formula.

A gift of bone china, which possesses the timelessness and elegance that its name has come to symbolize, allows for many possibilities as a 36th wedding anniversary gift. One can choose from standard collectibles, special anniversary figurines, artistic statues, dishes, decorative bowls, or tea sets. Does the couple have a special dish set to which you can add? Why not purchase a bone china vase and present it with 36 floral blooms?

For the couple who loves to travel, why not consider a tour of the Lenox Factory -- the only bone china factory in the United States. Located in North Carolina, the Lenox factory will clearly demonstrate the many steps involved in producing this treasure! It can provide both a wonderful romantic getaway and an educational experience.

37th Anniversary Gift: Alabaster

Sometimes known as satin spar, this historical art-medium comes in two basic varieties: calcite alabaster and gypsum alabaster.

What Is Alabaster? Calcite alabaster, the alabaster of past days, is quite hard. Also known as Oriental alabaster, this was the material used for small perfume bottles and ointment vases. Originating in the Far East, the very beautiful calcite alabaster has also been used for windows (as it is translucent when used in thin sheets). A 37th year wedding anniversary gift of antique alabaster, such as a diminutive bottle or vase, would make a lovely presentation, while paying tribute to past days.

Gypsum Alabaster, or present-day alabaster, is quite soft. Although this means it can be easily damaged, it also boasts properties that are perfect for carving. We often see gypsum alabaster used for ornamental stones and sculptures, both excellent gift ideas for a 37th wedding anniversary gift. Consider giving alabaster bowls, vases, figurines, or statues. An alabaster vase containing a bouquet of anniversary flowers would be stunning. It is easy to find alabaster at specialty gift shops or while shopping online. There are many styles and product types available.

If you want to stay close to the modern suggestion of alabaster without actually giving alabaster as a gift, why not buy a beautiful coffee table book about Egyptian Museums? As Egyptian museums are often the homes of stunning alabaster, these artistic photos and historical writings might be the perfect way to share in some of the world's finest alabaster.

38th Anniversary Gift: Beryl and Tourmaline

The 38th wedding anniversary is a significant landmark that rejoices in years spent together and the ultimate partnership that evolves. There are two specific gift suggestions for the 38th wedding anniversary gift - beryl and tourmaline. With the natural beauty and appeal of each of these stunning minerals, gifts will certainly inspire awe and appreciation in their recipients.

Beryl: It often surprises people to learn that beryl is actually colorless in its pure form. However, thanks to varied impurities, this lovely gem mineral boasts a variety of breathtaking hues.

Tourmaline: This precious stone is referred to as the rainbow gemstone, due to its rare and varied colors. With its name derived from the Sinhalese words tura mali, meaning "stone of mixed colors", it is prized for its unlimited color range. In fact, Egyptian legend states that as tourmaline left the earth's heart to journey to the sun it actually traveled along a rainbow, absorbing all of the colors.

39th Anniversary Gift: Lace

When one pictures lace, images of fine, delicate stitching immediately come to mind. Lace is elegant; it is fancy; and, above-all, it is an example of the beauty that comes from the intermingling and looping of thread. It demonstrates the artistry of the human spirit, and it is a timeless and classic illustration of winsomeness throughout time.

For a unique twist on the lace idea, consider a gift of Black Lace fish. This variation of the Angel Fish species will bring the soothing properties of tropical fish to the celebratory couple. Graceful patterns of Black Lace fish swimming in calming waters is a lovely way to send a more holistic present to the lucky couple.

Lace-Themed Travel: If travel is appealing, consider a trip to The Lace Museum in Sunnyvale, California. With their extensive collection of lace and lace tools, visitors walk into both a historical and a hands-on environment. Perhaps the anniversary couple would enjoy participating in one of the ongoing lace making classes offered at the museum.

If you're searching for international flavor, maybe a trip to Ireland's Sheelin Lace Museum would be more intriguing. Boasting house vintage items from the 1800's, this award-winning museum could be one stop on the trip of a lifetime! In fact, there are lace-oriented museums in many countries throughout the world, and since so many people appreciate the gift of vacation and travel, a lace focus could be incorporated into many special locales.

Think about Lacey Flowers: Queen Anne's Lace is known for its tiny white flowers. The delicate, lacey blooms grow in flat topped clusters. Although these wildflowers are considered destructive by some, others will purposely plant Queen Anne's Lace in their gardens to attract insect predators. For those appreciating wildflowers, this could be a lovely 39th year wedding anniversary gift idea.

40th Anniversary Gift: Ruby

Symbolizing love and passion, the ruby is one of the most coveted gemstones of all. Within the heart of this stone is thought to lie a flame of fire that grows brighter with each passing year, just like the flame of a forty-year marriage.

Is it time for a party? An anniversary party with the sparkling touch of ruby decor is a great way to add tradition in a non-traditional way. Think red wine, ruby florals, ruby paper lanterns, etc. Ask your children, friends, and family to bring a photo and write (in ruby red ink) a special memory they have with your spouse which can be framed and used for centerpieces. For a true adventure, visit a town/place called "Ruby" such as Ruby River in Utah or Washington!

41st Anniversary Gift: Land

The gift of land has become a literal reminder that a successful marriage must be built on a strong foundation, and can give you the inspiration you need to present your mate with land-related gifts that speak to her interests, or create a memory for him that the two of you will always cherish.

Gardening Gifts: Buy gifts that will make gardening easier for you and your spouse. Put together a gift basket for him filled with garden gloves and tools like a rake and hoe with handles decorated with his initials. Purchase gloves and additional gardening tools for yourself, so the two of you can plant the vegetable and flower seeds that you've selected for your husband's anniversary gift. Then, spend the day outside adding new plants to the front or backyard of your home, symbolizing how the two of you have grown and flourished together.

Picnic and Road Trip: Pack the car with a small suitcase for an overnight trip and a picnic basket filled with all your wife's favorite foods for a short road trip and picnic to celebrate your 41st wedding anniversary. For instance, ride through the rural parts of your state to view the open pastures with wildflowers, and pick a bouquet for your wife before getting back on the road. Or, take her to a horse stable close by, so she can see her favorite animals up close and watch the animals run freely. At lunchtime, travel to a local park or land space to enjoy a picnic meal together; include a blanket in the color she likes best, and serve dishes like homemade biscuits with preserves, cold cuts, and cups of fresh fruits like grapes, berries, and pineapple. Bring along mini bottles of wine or champagne for an outdoor anniversary toast.

Surprise Vacation: Organize a surprise mini vacation for your husband so you can spend your 41st anniversary at one of his favorite outdoor locations. Blindfold him before you leave for your trip, and take him to the nearest good-quality golf course so the two of you can enjoy some time on the greens for a few days. Purchase pink or purple golf clubs for yourself, along with a leather golf bag embroidered with his monogram, and present these to him when you arrive at your destination.

Or plan a weekend camping trip for your wife at a nearby campground; buy a tent and sleeping bags if you don't have them and bring along outdoor cooking equipment so you can prepare a special anniversary breakfast for her such as vegetable omelets and banook (a biscuit-like bread originally prepared by North American Indians), or kabobs with vegetables and chicken or beef cubes to go with roasted potatoes.

42nd Anniversary Gift: Real Estate

This could take many spins: maybe buy a vacation home or why not fix up your house or apartment? Make a home improvement that adds fun to your life together, such as a deck or patio or redecorate your bedroom.

It doesn't have to be extravagant, it just has to be an "improvement!" This is also a great idea for children to chip in and help Mom and Dad fix up their home..

43rd Anniversary Gift: Travel

A gift of travel is a memorable gift that couples can share. There are no rules on what type of travel the gift should be, or how long the trip should be. It can be a quick stay at a nearby beach or a longer getaway to a new continent. The idea behind this gift is to broaden minds and horizons, by offering the couple a new experience.

44th Anniversary Gift: Groceries

According to the modern list, the anniversary gift for the 44th year is groceries. However, don't just head to your local market to stock up for this anniversary -- make plans and set a romantic mood to celebrate this special date.

A Romantic Dinner: Since the modern gift is groceries, take some time and think about your spouse's favorite foods. What does your spouse love? Prepare a list of items and plan an intimate, romantic dinner. Groceries can include wines, chocolates and lavish desserts. Use candlelight and pull out the fine china to mark this important date.

More Exotic Groceries: If you've saved for this anniversary present, take your partner on a getaway that he won't soon forget. If you've saved for this anniversary present, take your partner on a getaway that he won't soon forget. Buy groceries, but don't buy them from your local store. Instead, surprise your spouse with a trip to an exotic location. Go buy fresh groceries in Paris or London. If you have been saving for this anniversary, you can purchase plane tickets to any locale that you and your partner enjoy. If you have always wanted to visit a particular spot, this is your chance. Just make sure you stop by the market so that you can sample the food at your destination.

A More Modest Budget: If you don't have the funds for an elaborate trip, you can still incorporate the groceries theme with a more modest budget. Take a trip to the local grocery store and pick up items that would be perfect for a romantic picnic. Go to a local beach or park and enjoy the sunset as you look back over the years that you have enjoyed with your spouse.

45th Anniversary Gift: Sapphire

For long ages the stone of royalty, the sapphire is the perfect gem to honor a forty-five year marriage. Two people together for this length of time are a shining example to all married couples. Theirs is a union worthy of admiration and respect.

A visit to a blues club or an R & B concert will probably give you both the opposite of the blues. You could also get your love sapphire-studded jewelry: rings, necklaces, tie tacks, cuff links offer many ways to set off these gemstones.

46th Anniversary Gift: Poetry

Consider purchasing your spouse a beautiful leather-bound book filled with poetry from her favorite poet or type of poetry. For a more creative approach, write your own poem and recite it to your spouse over a romantic dinner or write 46 short poems and recite one each day. The Perfect Anniversary Gifts website suggests having your poem written in elegant letters by a calligrapher and then frame it with a picture from your wedding day. To surprise your spouse, compose a song and ask a singer to perform it with a tribute to your spouse while at dinner. Share the love you have for your spouse by publishing your love poem in a local newspaper so your entire community can see how much you love each other.

47th Anniversary Gift: Books

Autographed Books: Purchase an autographed book for a 47th wedding anniversary gift. Find out the favorite author of the gift recipient to see if you can purchase an autographed copy. Boutique book stores that specialize in finding rare books are a good place to start. If the author is still living, contact the publisher to see if there is a possibility of getting an autographed copy of a book.

Anniversary Scrapbook: Compile photos for a anniversary scrapbook. Gather pictures from all 47 years of marriage and put together a scrapbook. The scrapbook can include poems, letters, wedding day photos, photos of important family events and keepsakes that have been collected over the years. Try to leave blank pages at the end of the scrapbook so the happy couple can add future photos and memories.

48th Anniversary Gift: Optical Goods

Shine light into your marriage with the gift of optical goods for your forty-eighth wedding anniversary. Optical goods are symbolic of all the wonderful sights you have seen together as married couple.

You could look into buying a new camera for your significant other to capture the new memories that you will continue build together. Another spectacular gift idea would be a telescope, where you can spend some time stargazing – how romantic!

49th Anniversary Gift: Luxuries

Your forty-ninth wedding anniversary should be celebrated in the right way – with luxuries. Luxuries can be anything that gives you the feeling of ultimate indulgence, comfort or pleasure, so celebrate the quality of your marriage with something that feels wonderful to you, whatever your budget.

Diamonds are the epitome of luxury, so look into various bits of diamond jewellery such as, necklaces, earrings, rings and bracelets. Alternatively, Modern classic watches are often reasonably priced but offer a level of stylish sophistication, with a look of opulence that your other half will love.

For an extra level of refinement, choose a piece of personalized couples jewelry, where you can add beautiful inscriptions of both of your names. Or try engraveable jewelry, where you can add further inscriptions, and mark the special occasion with your anniversary date.

50th Anniversary Gift: Gold

Only one gift can rightly capture the crowning achievement of lifelong love: gold. Symbolizing prosperity, strength, and wisdom, it represents the essence of what a fifty-year marriage should be. Congratulations. Here's to many more years of health and wedded bliss. Cheers!

Hands down the most celebrated “golden” wedding anniversary. The tradition of gold signifies strength and optimism. Why not relive your wedding day?! Pour (golden) champagne, renew the vows you said 50 years ago, and dance to your “first dance” song! In gold pen write a list of things you still want to experience together and start checking away.

51st Anniversary Gift: Photos or Cameras

Get prints of several family photos, make a collage, and frame it.

Splurge:

If you didn't do it on your fiftieth, go to a professional photography studio to get a portrait of the two of you. Remember, your family members would love to have copies.

Buy a top-of-the-line digital camera, and learn to use it together.

52nd Anniversary Gift: Bath or Spa

Give scented shower gels or bubble bath.

Splurge:

Spend the day at a spa, and come home relaxed and revived.

53rd Anniversary Gift: Plastic

Nothing screams plastic like a credit card. You know that one store they're always talking about? Give them a gift card to it.

Splurge:

Get them a great pair of designer sunglasses. Be sure to write something in the card about how they light up your life.

54th Anniversary Gift: Glass

Give them an elegant hand mirror. Add a message to remind them they're more beautiful than ever.

Splurge:

To enjoy the outdoors more and add charm to your home, install a glassed-in porch or a greenhouse.

55th Anniversary Gift: Emerald

Treat the love of your life to an emerald gift on your fifty-fifth wedding anniversary. Emerald, renowned for its vivid green hues, is one of the more traditional gemstones, and was historically said to be a favorite gem of Cleopatra, Queen of Egypt. Said to symbolize goodness, fidelity and love, it is a wonderful choice to celebrate the value and love of your marriage.

With its deep green, lustrous color, emerald jewelry makes a lavish gift for your other half. You can pick from a choice of rings, necklaces and earrings to make your partner glow with elegance and style. Emerald is also the birthstone for May, so could be even more special if your anniversary or birthday falls within this month.

56th Anniversary Gift: Day

Watch a movie with “day” in the title, such as “The Remains of the Day,” “Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day” or “(500) Days of Summer.”

Go on a lunch date, bring your wedding album along, look through it together, and reminisce. Don’t be surprised if the restaurant gives you a free dessert.

Splurge:

Take a day trip to a nearby town.

57th Anniversary Gift: Night

Watch a movie with “night” in the title, such as “It Happened One Night,” “Date Night” or “A Hard Day’s Night.”

Go stargazing in the country.

Splurge: If it’s been a while, have a real night on the town, with dinner, a show and maybe even dancing.