

whichever customs and traditions you decide to incorporate into your big day, Hanami Dream wish you health, wealth, happiness and all the very best in your married life



despite the traditional rhyme saying that marrying on Saturday is bad luck it is the most popular day to tie the knot > now consider a cheaper (and luckier) week day alternative



rich fruitcake covered in plain white royal icing for the wedding cake is traditional > now cake can be the dessert as cheesecake, cupcakes or even just cheese, giant porkpies or pancake stacks



flowers were carried to mask odours and convey secret messages > now flowers can be made of paper, carried as a hoop or substituted with brooches, feathers or a balloon



bride's dress was traditionally white > now pastel colours or florals are a great alternative to ivory



considered unlucky to see each other before you get to the alter on your wedding day > now couples are choosing to capture a private first look before the ceremony



paper guest book for people to sign > now have other objects to sign like wish trees, pottery, wooden furniture, board games, fingerprint artwork, recipe books or wine bottles



bridesmaids dresses were identical to the bride's to confuse evil spirits > now mismatch bridesmaids dresses in same tone but different styles to suit wearer



printed stationery for every aspect of the day may be expensive and not ecological > now consider electronic invitations (with online RSVP service) or print on wood, magnets or tea towels



wedding vows included the bride promising to 'obey' and the groom vowing to 'worship' his wife > now some couples choose to 'love and honour' or 'love and cherish' or write their own vows completely



traditional top table has parents of the couple and main attendants > now parents host their own family members on separate tables, happy couple sit at different tables for each course, or have a table just for two

## a break from tradition... modern alternatives to personalise your wedding



traditional gift list from one department store of homeware items > now choose from curated online lists, patchwork options, gift experiences or contributions to honeymoon



instead of posed family portraits > now consider candid photo booths, drones or 360oC video footage



formal seating at the ceremony had rows of chairs or pews with bride's family to the left and groom's to the right > now pick a seat not a side, opt for a circle or even a spiral of chairs working inwards to the couple



throw the bouquet to single women to find next person to marry > now present the bouquet to longest married couple with an anniversary dance or leave your 'lonely bouquet' for someone else to find



first dance where couple slow dance in front of guests > now involve wedding party in flash mobs, have a choreographed routine, mash up of songs or outfit changes



Traditional receiving lines can take up precious time > now circulate to each table when eating to speak to everyone



favours for guests were 5 sugared almonds for health, wealth, happiness, long life and fertility or love knots made of ribbon > now choose more unique, personalised, dated or themed gifts to eat, meet, keep or have as a treat



happy couple were sent off from the reception to go on their honeymoon > now celebrations last longer and couples stay with guests the next day or over a weekend



hanami dream weddings and special occasions | [info@hanamidream.co.uk](mailto:info@hanamidream.co.uk) | [www.hanamidream.co.uk](http://www.hanamidream.co.uk)



#UKWedLunch

1pm-2pm  
Wednesdays