



Multi-strand pearl necklace, £20, Accessorize (monsoon.co.uk)

The perfect accessory for a 1920s outfit. Hairband, £8, Accessorize (monsoon.co.uk)

“Do your own make-up. I booked a couple of trials beforehand and the beautician gave me stacks of samples”

Make a beautiful 'good wishes' postbox. Birdcage, £45, Lovely Favours (lovelyfavours.co.uk)



Nostalgia-themed cupcakes, from £2 each, Comfort & Joy (comfortandjoycakery.co.uk)



Vases, £45 for four, The Balcony Gardener (thebalconygardener.com), with Romantic scrapbook images, £2.95 for 50, Mit Hus (mithus.co.uk)



Retro cakestand floral display, from £120, Sweet Pea Floral Design (sweetpeaflowers.co.uk)

Vicky's TOP TIPS

Vicky shares her secrets for W-day style on a shoestring

DECIDE WHAT YOU WANT

Do you want a designer dress, paid bar and elaborate flower displays? All of these things come at a price. Set a realistic budget, work out what you want most, then cut back in other areas to make it happen.

SWAP BARS FOR BYO

Our venue didn't have a bar and we couldn't afford to provide all the alcohol ourselves, so in lieu of gifts we asked guests to bring their favourite tippie. We then took advantage of Waitrose's free glass hire, saving money for a band and a BBQ.

PICK OTHER BRIDES' BRAINS

There are lots of wedding forums out there, such as youandyourwedding.co.uk. If you want to save on something in particular, set up a thread and ask – 200 heads are better than one.

HAVE A TEA PARTY

Compared to a sit-down lunch, afternoon tea has a low cost per head. Get some friends on sandwich duty and ask guests to bring a cake instead of a gift. Collect cakestands from charity shops, make labels explaining what everything is and you're away.

ASK FOR HELP

Maybe your aunt is a cake guru or a friend could make some cracking invitations? I called in favours everywhere and this turned out to be my most effective cost-reduction tactic.

PHOTOGRAPH OF VICKY: ROSIE PARSONS (ROSIEPARSONS.COM). RECEPTION ACCESSORIES STYLED AND SHOT BY KATIE HORNBY