

Wedding Bidder

Before leaving a wedding party, every guest of a Romanian wedding will offer money to the newly formed family, as a symbol of support in their new start in life.

A common tradition in the countryside is for each person to have to 'shout' the sum they will be offering to the newlyweds. This type of 'bidding' is intended to raise more money for the couple, since people tend to 'raise the bid' when they know everyone is listening.



In modern weddings this approach is avoided, and a much more discrete method is used: the wedding envelope.



For both cases, the biggest question is the same:

'How much money should one offer to keep the couple happy, give more than others, and still not overspend?'

With the 'wedding bidder', participants to a wedding can get an idea of what others are willing to give and adjust their own sum accordingly. The bids are anonymous, so the embarrassments of the traditional approach are avoided.

However, what you bid is not necessarily what you give, so there is room to play...