

Do we really have to fire up the Jacuzzi? (snore... snore... snore)

We're not claiming to have a say in what goes on in the bedrooms of the nation, but it doesn't take a sexual statistician to deduce that, outside of conservative religious establishments, the virgin-union is as dated as those black-and-white sitcoms featuring twin beds in the master suite. Sure, the wedding night is special, but let's put things into perspective: You've just hosted the biggest party you'll ever have to plan, spent the entire morning, afternoon, evening and night schmoozing with your dearest friends and family members, hugging, dancing and posing while hopped up on Champagne and adrenalin and cake. You've lived the electrifying and dizzying experience of having the world revolve around you, and when you finally tear yourself away, even the most deliriously in love are bound to crash hard. Save the elaborately adorned luxury suite for your first anniversary, when you'll have the energy to really get your money's worth out of a rose-petal-filled Jacuzzi. All you're really going to need on your wedding night is a bed.

There's got to be a morning after (What time is that flight?)

When you were planning your wedding, you probably thought the perfect morning-after-the-big-night would involve little more than sleeping until noon, then boarding a flight to Bora Bora for a month. Not that there's anything wrong with that plan, but chances are you'll discover that what you really want to do when you wake up for the first time beside your new spouse is dish about the wedding with the people who were there. After all, wasn't the best part of going to a high-school dance talking about it afterwards with your bestest gal pals? You wanted to know who danced with whom, who drank too much, who cried, who snogged whom in the parking lot, how gorgeous you looked, etc. Who better to fill you in on all the goings-on you missed during your wedding than your closest friends and fam, especially when the details are still fresh in their minds? Besides the dishy part, you'll also likely feel sentimental about how far your grandparents, cousins and best friend from junior high travelled just for you. The day after is probably your last chance to see them before they leave for home or you dash off for your honeymoon.

So how to gather, and with whom, for a relaxed, fuss-free event that isn't, god forbid, a voyeuristic gift-opening extravaganza? Local wedding planner Lisa Hanslip recommends the tried-and-true brunch, adding that there's no need to invite local friends, except those who were in the bridal party. "It doesn't have to be a big stressful 'do. It should feel laid-back; it's a wind-down kind of thing." Let people know with a phone call, e-mail or extra little note in their mailed invitation so that they can book flights accordingly if they want to attend. Depending on how much or little you can spend, the key is to keep the day after low maintenance. "If it's at your parents' house, get a caterer. Nobody wants to wake up the morning after the wedding and start cooking breakfast." Otherwise, says Hanslip, "book a table at the hotel where most guests