



# Guide Renting vs. Buying



MY CREATIVE EVENT

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# About.

When planning your wedding, decor choices are key to setting the atmosphere. However, with so many beautiful pieces to choose from, it can be challenging to decide whether to rent or buy your decor items.



In this guide, we'll break down the pros and cons of both options, offer a cost breakdown, and provide a helpful checklist to help you determine what's worth renting versus buying.

# RENTING VS. BUYING



## Renting Wedding Decor

Renting allows you to access high quality decor items without the full upfront investment. You'll typically rent from a specialized vendor and return the items after the event.

## Buying Wedding Decor

Buying means that you'll own the items and have them to keep, sell, or repurposed after the wedding. This can be ideal for items you want to reuse in your home or for future events.

# PROS & CONS OF RENTING WEDDING DECOR



## Pros of Renting

- **Cost-effective for one-time use:** Renting is ideal for items that are needed only for the wedding day.
- **Less storage space needed:** Since you're returning the items after the event, you won't need to worry about storing them.
- **Access to high-end items:** Renting allows you to use high-end decor that might otherwise be out of budget.
- **Convenience and time-saving:** Many rental companies offer delivery, setup, and pick-up services.

## Cons of Renting

- **Limited customization:** Rental pieces might not be as personalized as what you would buy and could limit your creative control.
- **Return policies and fees:** Rentals often come with strict return timelines and fees for any damage or missing pieces.
- **Availability:** Some rental items may not be available during peak wedding seasons.



## Pros of Buying

- Personal ownership: You'll own the decor, allowing you to keep it, resell it, or re purpose it for future events or home use.
- Customization: When you buy decor, you have full creative control to choose exactly what you want, and you can tailor it to your theme.
- Long-term value: Decor items can be kept as keepsakes or used in your home, making them a lasting reminder of your wedding.



## Cons of Buying

- Higher upfront costs: Purchasing wedding decor can require a larger budget upfront, which may be challenging for some couples.
- Storage space needed: You'll need space to store purchased items before and after the wedding.
- Resale difficulty: Some decor pieces may be hard to resell after the wedding, especially if they are highly personalized or niche.



# PROS & CONS OF BUYING WEDDING DECOR

# COST BREAKDOWN: RENTING VS. BUYING

When it comes to planning your wedding decor, one of the most important decisions is whether to rent or buy your items. Below, you'll find example prices for some of the most commonly used wedding decor items in the UK. These estimates are designed to help you compare costs and make informed decisions that suit your vision and your budget.

Item	Renting Cost	Buying Cost
Chair Covers & Sashes	£1.50 – £3	£4 – £7
Tablecloths & Runners	£1.50 – £3	£15 – £35
Centrepieces (basic floral or candle)	£8 – £15	£25 – £80
Candelabras or Statement Decor	£10 – £30	£50 – £150
Lighting (fairy lights, uplighting)	£15 – £40	£200 – £600+
Backdrops/Arches	£100 – £300 (per setup)	£150 – £400
Signage (Welcome, Table Plan)	£75 – £200	£25 – £60 (custom printed)
Floral Arrangements (Real or Silk)	£30 – £100	£60 – £250+

**Tip:** For items you won't use again, renting often makes more financial sense. For items that have long-term value, such as furniture or decor pieces that fit your home style, buying may be a better option.

# WHAT TO RENT AND WHAT TO BUY

## ITEMS WORTH RENTING

- **Chairs & Tables:** If you're not planning to reuse them, renting is more cost-effective.
- **Linens:** Tablecloths and chair covers are often expensive to buy, and renting allows for a wider selection of styles.
- **Candelabras & Large Centerpieces:** Large statement pieces are often costly and can be difficult to store or repurpose.
- **Specialty Furniture:** Lounge furniture or unique pieces that won't be used again.
- **Lighting:** Specialty lighting, such as chandeliers or string lights, is often best rented.





- **Personalized Items:** Anything that has your names or a specific date on it, like signage or photo frames, is worth buying.
- **Decorative Vases & Smaller Centerpieces:** You can repurpose these at home or for future events.

# ITEMS WORTH BUYING



- **Wedding Favors:** Items that guests take home can be personalized and bought in bulk.
- **Tableware & Glassware:** If your wedding will have multiple events, these can be used again for holidays or future parties.
- **Flowers:** For smaller personal arrangements like bridal bouquets or boutonnieres, it's worth purchasing fresh flowers for a personal touch.

# FINAL THOUGHTS

A bride and groom are captured in a romantic moment, dancing together at night. The bride is wearing a white, long-sleeved wedding gown with a full skirt, and the groom is in a dark suit with a white shirt and a dark bow tie. They are surrounded by a dense canopy of warm white string lights that create a soft, bokeh effect in the background. The scene is set on a paved area, possibly a courtyard or a walkway.

Whether you choose to rent or buy wedding decor depends on your budget, wedding vision, and long-term plans. Renting is ideal for one-time use items that don't need to be personalized, while buying makes more sense for pieces that you want to keep or repurpose. By knowing the costs, pros and cons, and making a list of what you truly need, you'll be able to make the best decision for your wedding decor.

# THANK YOU FOR READING

We hope this guide has helped you feel more confident in deciding whether to rent or buy your wedding decor. Every wedding is unique, and your choices should reflect your personal style, priorities, and budget. Whether you're leaning toward the ease of renting or the keepsake charm of buying, remember: it's all about creating a day that feels beautiful and true to you. If you need help styling your wedding, sourcing decor, or simply want expert advice—we're here for you.



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