

in good taste



THE IDEA: When they sat down to their reception meal, guests at Shannon Tate and Paul Freehart's July 10, 2004 wedding found these stylish menu cards tucked into their napkins.

HOW SHE DID IT: Shannon called on her invitation designer, Bill Fitzpatrick of Cyrano Designs in West Chester, PA, to create menu cards modeled after the contemporary-but classy-invitations. Each menu card featured a silver band with Shannon and Paul's names and wedding date, a folded overlay that mimicked the tuxedo collars at the black-tie affair and a pink, orange or green taffeta ribbon to match the pink, orange and green centerpiece blooms. "My parents have a lot of friends who are wine connoisseurs and we have friends who have restricted diets, so we wanted everyone to know exactly what they were eating and drinking," says Shannon.

WHY WE LOVE IT: The menu card is a little touch that goes a long way. Not only does it make the meal itself feel more special, but it adds to the look of the wedding by bringing in different elements: the style of the invitations, the color of the flowers and the shape of the tux collars.

MAKE IT YOUR OWN: Your wedding stationery - from the invitations to menu cards and place cards - can help you highlight your wedding theme by using colors, ribbons and decorative motifs that fit with the rest of your choices. Choose a suite of complementary stationery to create a consistent sense of style from the save-the-dates through the thank-you notes.

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