

Kay & Martin

He proposed with a £10 ring from Topshop and she organised a relaxed, indulgent, truly personal day...

The proposal

Martin planned to propose during a hot air balloon ride but it was cancelled due to bad weather, so he proposed over dinner instead

The bride's outfit

Kay's cream Mon Cheri gown (moncheri.co.uk) with lace and Swarovski crystals was from amorebrides.co.uk, and was the first one she tried on! "I wanted a dress with thin straps because this pulls you up and gives you a feminine bust line and waist curve that suits my figure," explains Kay

The accessories

Kay wore Gina shoes, a necklace borrowed from Martin's sister and a diamond bracelet from Martin as a gift as she was getting ready



BRIDE'S TOP TIP

"GIVE EVERYONE A LIST OF JOBS TO DO IN ADVANCE. THEN THEY WON'T ASK ON THE DAY!"



The big day details



Where: St John the Baptist, Shenstone, Staffordshire

When: June 2008

Photographer:

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The groom's outfit

Martin wore a chocolate brown suit and cream shirt, made by a local tailor. In contrast, the best man and ushers wore cream suits to complement Kay

The bridesmaids

Kay's two closest friends looked amazing in hot pink! Kay also bought them both crystal necklaces as a gift to wear on the day

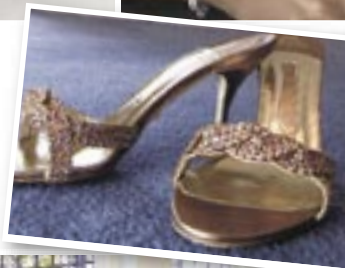
Hair and make-up

Kay had hair extensions two weeks before the day and total pampering 48 hours in advance. She also had her teeth whitened and straightened, and monthly facials for a year! "I felt like a million dollars!" she says

The flowers

Kay stuck to the 'less is more' rule with a bouquet of orchids by

"Martin asked for my number and I said 'no' so his friend came and asked for him – pair of children!"



BIG DAY BUDGET
 "WE SPENT AROUND £40,000 BUT THE DAY WAS ABSOLUTELY PERFECT!"





TOP TIP
WHEN YOU SEND YOUR INVITATIONS, INCLUDE MENU CHOICES ON YOUR RSVP SO GUESTS CAN CHOOSE JUST WHAT THEY WANT



buttercupsanddaisies.co.uk, plus roses and lilies at the reception

The transport

Kay arrived in a new Bentley Arnage, while Martin borrowed his friend's Bentley Continental

The ceremony

Getting married outside of their parish, Kay and Martin needed to attend the church for six months prior to the wedding, during which they got to know the vicar very well and felt really comfortable at the service. Kay's Auntie read a poem called 'Love is...' as a special and personal touch to the formalities

The reception

The couple exclusively hired Swinfen Hall Hotel (**swinfenhallhotel.co.uk**), hosting a delicious three-course meal with live piano and cello music. Kay also hired chairs

“We have been together for a long time – he is my world and I can't imagine my life without him”



Bride's top tip



"Ignore the unwritten rule book – it's your day! I never take 'no' for an answer and nor should you. Once you've come to terms with the excitement, get your business head on. You are spending more money on one day than you ever will again so let your head do the thinking."

STEAL HER STYLE
 HANG BISCUIT FAVOURS ON A ROTATING TREE WITH A NOTE SAYING 'HELP YOURSELF'

for the weekend: "I didn't want the look to be ruined, so I hired 80 chairs for £280 and it totally transformed the room." Tables were decorated with crystals, mirrors with tall vases, candles and handmade place holders that doubled up as menus. In the evening, guests were entertained by a '1950s rat-pack-style solo artist, fireworks and a band into the early hours

The cake

Ben the Cake Man (thecakeman.co.uk) made an amazing cake with cream icing, orchids and pink ribbon

The honeymoon

Kay and Martin wanted fun and sunshine so they visited Miami, Palm Beach and Naples.

W
 ideas

