

# Countdown to the Anniversary

Contributed by Tracy Hargraves  
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We all know the appalling statistics on the survival rates of modern marriages. Any anniversary is cause for celebration ? so just do it!

If you are in doubt about which gift category traditionally applies to the anniversary in question, there are plenty of online guides to help you, with lists for the U.K., the U.S., as well as other countries.

For a unique anniversary gift, you could have the happy couple immortalized in artwork ? for example a photo-montage ? or in fiction. At Romance by You, for a modest fee the names of the happy couple can be included in the text of a novel. There is a range of styles of romantic fiction to choose from, including tropical, vampire, western and pirate romances. For a 25th anniversary, most couples and their families and friends will wish to make a special effort. The traditional gift is naturally silver. I recall my own parents bought each other a silver birch tree and planted it in the garden, to watch it grow a further 25 years. Party ideas include silver garlands and place-settings, balloons, gift-wraps, etc. Renewing the vows is a lovely way to celebrate. Friends can help a party go with a swing by compiling a CD with songs from the year of the wedding ? guaranteed to set a nostalgic tone to the proceedings.

A wish tree is an ever-popular idea which allows plenty of free rein to your imagination, is something everyone can contribute to and is bound to cause a stir. Take a big branch and spray-paint it silver. Then decorate it with a few silver ornaments and ribbons. The branches are to be hung with the major events from the couple's life, photos of loved ones, gift certificates for stores, shows and events or restaurants, tickets for a trip, traveler's checks, etc. Why not plan a trip to a place with "silver"

in the name? For example, Silver Springs in Maryland or Florida, Silverstrand Beach in California - or Ireland. Or you could have a picnic in a silver mine...

But if you are planning to spend your traveler's checks on a second honeymoon to celebrate that special day, be warned. Many married couples in modern America do not even live full time in the same city as each other, let alone spend time in the house together. So what happens when they finally take a holiday, just the two of them? According to at least one couple, this was a life-changing experience, and more than they had bargained for.

The second-honeymooners duly packed their lap-tops, blackberries and cellphones and headed for the poolside in Hawaii. They enjoyed the trip so much, they ended up selling the condo and the house and moving into the lakeside cabin, to continue their romance all year round.

There they began a tourist business, which now brings in a six-figure sum. Getting to Hawaii is not so easy for them these days, but they don't care ? they no longer need to get away to celebrate. And don't forget to apply for your letter from the President of the U.S.A ? for any anniversary over the 50th ? or from the Queen of England, for those special 60th, 65th or over 70th anniversaries. Can't wait! Roll on 60.

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Anniversary gifts are precious words of love reflected on every anniversary day. To create a lasting feeling of love, Jerry Carpos, an art enthusiast from <http://www.portraitkindom.com> , suggests that you choose only the right oil paintings art gifts.