

Making Everything Easier!™

The Royal Wedding

FOR
DUMMIES®

Learn to:

- Plan a right royal street party
- Hold a royal quiz for family and friends
- Get around London on the big day
- Select a spot to catch the action in person

Julian Knight

Editor, The Independent on Sunday and author of British Politics For Dummies



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The Royal Wedding For Dummies®

Visit

www.dummies.com/cheatsheet/royalweddinguk to view this book's cheat sheet.

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by Julian Knight



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About the Author

Julian Knight was born in 1972 in Chester. He was educated at the Chester Catholic High School and later Hull University, where he obtained a degree in History.

Julian has been a journalist since 1998 and has written for the *Guardian*, Financial Times Group and many other publications.

From 2002 to 2007 he was the personal finance and consumer affairs reporter for BBC News. Since 2007 he has been the Money and Property editor of the *Independent on Sunday* and has won many industry awards for his journalism. He has also authored *Wills, Probate, and Inheritance Tax For Dummies*, *Retiring Wealthy For Dummies*, *The British Citizenship Test For Dummies* and *Cricket For Dummies*.

Dedication

To Pip. Enjoy the big day! With all my love.

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We're proud of this book; please send us your comments through our Dummies online registration form located at www.dummies.com/register/.

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Introduction

The royal wedding is, by far, the biggest British national celebration of 2011. Millions of people plan to watch on television as the energetic and dashing young Prince William and the beautiful Catherine (Kate) Middleton are married, and hundreds of thousands of well-wishers are expected to line the streets of London.

This book is designed to help you get the most from the build-up to the wedding event of the year and during the big day itself.

I cover everything you need to know about the participants and the wedding and how to organise your own festivities, from a street party to a fun quiz for friends and family.

William and Kate's wedding is the good news event of the year and this book shows you how to enjoy it to the max – happy reading!

About This Book

For Dummies books are all about giving you useful advice and information in a light easy-to-access format, and this one's no different. I go through the background to the royal wedding as well as royal weddings and major celebrations of the past. In addition, I look at the wedding itself, the venue and how best to view the whole event. If you're visiting London I advise on where to stay and if you're staying at home how to organise your own celebrations and get the most from what's sure to be a day to remember.

This book is chock-full of hints and tips to help make life as easy as possible for you on the big day. What's more, the wedding's covered with a fair smattering of humour; the day's going to be fun and I hope this book is as well.

Conventions Used in This Book

To help you navigate through this book, I use a few conventions:

- ✓ *Italic* is used to highlight new words or terms that are defined.
- ✓ **Boldfaced** text is used to indicate the action part of numbered steps.
- ✓ Monofont is used for website addresses.

What You're Not to Read

I've written this book so that you can:

- ✓ Find relevant information easily.
- ✓ Understand easily what you find.

Although I'm sure that you want to pore over every last word between the two yellow covers, I identify material that you can skip if you so desire by placing such text in sidebars.

These sidebars share observations and interesting snippets, but although interesting and related to the topic in hand, this

material isn't crucial or essential to know.

Foolish Assumptions

I make some general assumptions about you as follows:

- ✓ You aren't an expert on the royal family but want to know more.
- ✓ You're looking forward to the royal wedding day and want to consider all the options for having fun.
- ✓ You plan to watch the royal wedding at home on television or travel to London for the event.

If after reading this book you want to discover more about the royal family and its huge role in British history, check out *The British Monarchy For Dummies* by Philip Wilkinson or *British History For Dummies* by Sean Lang (both published by Wiley).

How This Book Is Organised

The Royal Wedding For Dummies is organised into four parts. The chapters within each part cover specific topic areas in more detail, so that you can easily and quickly find the topic you need.

Part I: The Background

The chapters in this part give you background to the big day, and a rundown of the developing relationship between William and Kate. I take you into the inner sanctum of the royal family, giving you the lowdown on famous people who you normally see only on stamps or on the TV (in Chapters 1 and 2). In Chapter 3, I take you through some royal weddings of the past – the successful and less successful. Read Part I to get clued up on all things royal!

Part II: The Wedding

In this part I peer behind the scenes of the big day itself. In Chapter 4, I examine the venue (the gothic masterpiece Westminster Abbey), its history and describe some highlights for visitors, as well as look at what happens during the ceremony. Chapter 5 lifts the lid on the arcane world of royal etiquette – for example, what you should say if you bump into the Queen (the big clue is not to call her Liz). I also let you in on the wedding guest list, describing some famous faces you can spot among the guests in Chapter 6.

Part III: Taking Part in the Festivities

Part III is for you whether you're staying at home or travelling to London for the wedding day. Chapter 7 advises you on how to travel to the ceremony and what other sites to see while in one of the most exciting cities on earth.

If you decide to stay at home, I help you to organise a street party successfully and safely in Chapter 8. What's more, those looking to cook a celebratory meal are sure to eat up Chapter 9 on traditional British party fayre. If you want to test your royal