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May

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May Day Around the World

Unique Traditions and Customs

The first day of May—otherwise known as May Day—has long been recognized as an international holiday with ancient roots. Records of celebrations trace back all the way to the Roman Republic. Today, various cultures have their own distinct ways to celebrate.

UNITED KINGDOM

In the UK, May Day symbolizes springtime fertility of the livestock, soil and the people. Traditions include lighting wild bonfires, dancing around a maypole (complete with brightly colored ribbons) and crowning a May Queen. Specifically chosen, the May Queen represents everything that is good, true and wholesome about May Day.

FINLAND

The Finnish word for May Day is Vappu. In Finnish culture, May Day is celebrated on the street, marked by outdoor activities such as picnics, parties and dressing up. Both adults and children alike sip on a staple drink called “sima.” Sima is a mead with low alcohol content, so everyone enjoys it throughout the day’s festivities.

FRANCE

According to French tradition, on May 1, 1561, King Charles IX of France received a lily of the valley as a lucky charm. The following year, he decided to give a lily of the valley to the ladies of the court. Then in the twentieth century, it became customary for people to give this flower to loved ones. Today in France, La Fête du Travail is celebrated to campaign for workers’ rights.

GERMANY

German celebrations include bonfires, maypoles and dancing away the last night of April until May arrives (Tanz in den Mai). Another noteworthy tradition is the Maibaum (May tree). Small communities erect poles decorated as trees with streamers and flowers. Then, towns in the area try to steal one another’s May trees, requiring a ransom of beer and food in return.



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From the desk of
Dave Baker

Partners in Printing

Where does the time go?

A friend of mine posted something on social media the other day asking where the time goes. She answered her own question by saying that it goes into making us the people we are today. She's absolutely right and I like to think of it that way. Time can be invested in many things and it is important to remember where it has gone and what it has gone into. This past year it has gone into learning life lessons, into becoming better fathers, mothers, sons and daughters. It has gone into our careers and our hobbies, our passions, our marriages and our friendships. It has most certainly gone into our education at school and that has led us to where we are today.

So, now as May is upon us, we want to recognize those who are graduating and those who have supported the graduates. The time you have spent has gone into character formation, education and experiences that will help to shape who you are becoming in life.

The key to remember is that it is never done. We are never done growing. We are never done learning and becoming better versions of ourselves. It is a continual process until the day we die. I want that to be an encouragement to us all, not a depressing thought. Just know that none of us have "arrived." We are all on our way somewhere. Let's make sure that it's a path towards a better future for us and for those around us.

From all of us at Baker Bros. we want to say "congratulations" on the education you are receiving. The journey is not over but just beginning. May it continue to be time well spent.

Dave

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How to Plan the Ultimate Summer Vacation

Spring is underway, which means summer is just around the corner. As schools come to a close this May, children will soon have vacant summer days to fill with swimming, playing outside and of course—vacationing. Make sure your family has the best summer vacation ever with these tips.

Set goals.

You can't plan a vacation if you don't know what you want to get out of it. Before you decide on anything, consider your intentions for the trip. Have each member of the family set their goals for the vacation and choose a destination that meets these expectations.

Plan early.

If you're reading this, then you've already taken the first step toward planning and budgeting your perfect summer vacation. Arranging the trip in advance is the best way to save on expenses like flights or hotel prices. Plus, you can always change things up a bit as the days draw nearer.

Use lists.

When it comes to vacations, there are a million and one things to remember. Chances are you will forget some of them—*unless* you have a list. Make a list of everything you need for the trip, then take it with you to check again before returning home.

Pack light.

This one is easier said than done, but it's true. If you don't absolutely need an item, then leave it. Traveling is easier with fewer items, and it's nice to leave a little extra room for your vacation purchases and souvenirs.

Let things slide.

Finally, relax. Whether you're traveling with friends, your spouse or kids, it's tough to stick to a "normal" routine while on vacation. Don't be afraid to let things slide here and there. If someone goes to bed late or eats too much dessert, it's not the end of the world.

Designing a Wedding

Save the Dates, Invites and Programs

It's officially here: wedding season. As the weather improves and you start to dream of your big day, reach out to Baker Bros. Printing and we can help you design and print your wedding stationery. Here are a few thoughts to help you create the perfect wedding materials.

Define the voice.

As a bride or groom, you have specific styles in mind for your big day, and you want your wedding stationery to reflect that. Before starting on your design, define the overall voice for the wedding—cool and casual, or sophisticated and elegant?

Match the colors.

Do you have a color scheme in mind for the wedding? Even though save the dates, invites, programs and thank-yous might span over the course of a few months, design them together with these colors in mind.

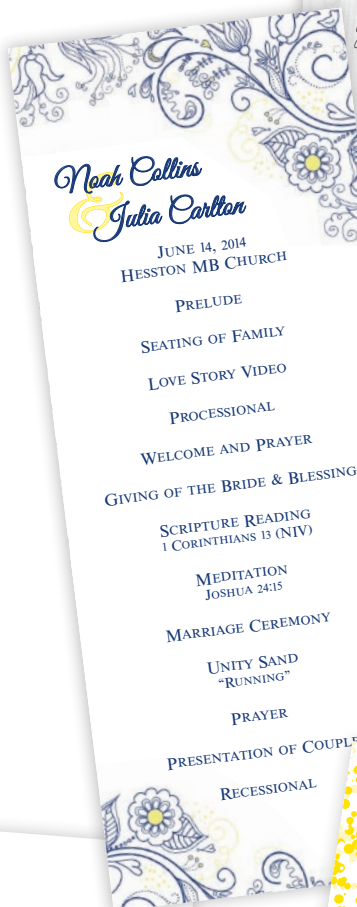
Don't forget the envelopes.

You have enough on your plate already and removing one more detail from your list can be a huge help. Order envelopes for your wedding stationery with your return address already printed on them. You can have it printed on the front or the back of the envelopes.

Choose the paper.

Both the weight and texture of paper quality influence overall appearance and style of the printed pieces. Determine whether the theme of the wedding is modern, romantic or non-traditional, for example, and we can help you choose a paper that demonstrates your theme.

Wedding
Designs
by



Kindly Respond

We are looking forward to celebrating with you!

Number Attending _____

Please reply on or before September 15, 2018





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