

More saving secrets

DRINKS Celebrities often choose expensive Dom Perignon Champagne at \$100 a bottle. Save bundles by using Mionetto Prosecco sparkling wine (\$9-\$20 a bottle) and by creating a signature drink instead of offering an open bar. J. Lo's drink, the Something Blue, is made with 2 oz. HPNOTIQ liqueur, 1 oz. white wine and 1 oz. ginger ale.

the bouquet

STAR SPLURGE:

Jessica Simpson's huge bouquet for her 2002 wedding to Nick Lachey was made up of stephanotis flowers by designer Mark Held of Mark's Gardens in Beverly Hills. "These flowers grow on a vine and it's very time-consuming to put a bouquet like this together," Held tells In Touch. "The bouquet is the centerpiece for most brides and it's important that it enhances the look of the dress." Jessica's flowers matched her lacy Vera Wang gown perfectly, but with more than 3,000 blossoms used to create the unique look, it was estimated to cost \$4,000! "Our wedding left us bankrupt," Jessica jokes. BARGAIN: To get the same look for about \$250, Held recommends mixing stephanotis with roses and using ribbons as streamers instead of costly flowers.

INVITATIONS

For her 1999 wedding, Courteney Cox chose elaborately engraved invitations that cost over \$5,000! As a budget alternative, try thermography, a form of printing that simulates the raised look of

engraving but is much cheaper.

SHOES When Bachelorette Trista married Ryan Sutter, she wore Stuart Weitzman platinum-and-diamond-encrusted sandals estimated at \$50,000, "This was Trista's dream shoe," says Weitzman. He also sells an affordable crystal imitation called

Brazen for \$375.

the cake

STAR SPLURGE:

Jennifer Lopez's cake,
which fed 110 on the day
of her nuptials with Marc
Anthony, featured a custard
cream with layers of chocolate
— and it cost \$1,700! "It's made to
look like the fishtail of her Vera Wang
dress," says Jane Lockhart of Sweet
Lady Jane in West Hollywood.
BARGAIN: If you want an expensive
cake, wedding planners suggest getting
a smaller version of it, along with an
inexpensive sheet cake. This copy from
Elegant Cheesecakes feeds 50 people
and costs \$500. Elegantcheesecakes.com



