

*Ellie's Autumn/Winter Styling Notes*

*For this edition of styling notes I thought I would explore one of the newest wedding themes to emerge in recent years – modern country - and some alternative table number ideas*

*Modern Country Mood Board*



*As the mood board suggests modern country is a contemporary twist on the popular vintage wedding theme and it works particularly well in Brympton with its air of glorious faded grandeur. Instead of using either vintage jugs or crystal vases to hold flower displays – as you would expect in a ‘straight’ vintage styled wedding - flowers are arranged in a variety of glass containers in strong contrast colours such as plum, grey and green interspersed with delicate clear glass bottles. To this mix you add silvered mercury glass accessories with some selected silver vintage pieces – my Aspray punch bowl would work well for example. Flowers are most effective if they are abundant and fall within a selected colour spectrum. Board games in the drawing room – perhaps for after dinner on Friday night? – and croquet on the lawn after the ceremony all fit in with the modern country theme. Storm lanterns - both inside and outside – are used to define space and add interest. Below I have jotted down some ideas to help you achieve the modern country look at Brympton.*

### *Great Hall*

*The refractory table can be accessorized with vases of flowers, candles, mercury silver votives and silvered antique trays. Storm lanterns define the doorway and pieces of furniture. A nice guest book idea – which fits into the modern country style - is to buy/make a precious memory box which can be displayed on a table adjacent to the refractory table. This table would hold a collection of writing instruments including a vintage typewriter, pots of pens, handmade paper, a selection of cards, notes and envelopes which your guests use to write their wedding wishes on and then post in the precious memory box.*

### *Castle House*

*The alter window can be dressed with my vintage Aspray silver punch bowl or a staggered height candle display. The other windows follow the coloured glass/silver votive theme – perhaps with the addition of tiny posy jars which we use to add interest/impact on the wedding breakfast tables later on.*

### *Great Stairs*

*Fill the windows with vases of flowers, candles and mercury silver votives. The newel posts can be dressed with storm lanterns accessorised with coloured pillar candles – the short fat ones work best in delicious colours including plum, russet green and burnt orange [all of which I have available to hire, as they are extremely expensive to buy].*

### *Ballroom*

*All of the displays within Castle House can be used to decorate the windows. For the tables silver or ivory candelabra provide the romantic qualities of flickering candlelight; whilst silvered votives and tiny silver place name holders, mixed with silvered bowls of flowers add depth and interest.*

### *Orangery*

*The walkway between the Orangery and house can be lit with jam jar tea lights whilst my ladder display unit can be used within the orangery to hold the vases of flowers/silvered votives etc from the ballroom windows and wedding breakfast tables. Braziers in the courtyard add warmth and can be used to toast marshmallows.*

### *Table Number Ideas*

*Table numbers are necessary to help your guests locate their table but all too often end up compromising the carefully designed style of the wedding breakfast tables. Below is a selection of ideas that I have put together from weddings that I have styled at Brympton - all of which are available from my stock of hire items. Place numbers for use in my picture frames are available in black or I can create a bespoke coloured number scheme for you to fit in with the table theme.*

#### *Distressed white 'baroque' style mini picture frames*

*Antique silver frames – all of which are different, some large, some small, some very ornate, others very simple: suits a vintage themed wedding or modern country very well*

*Numbered flower vases – clear glass flower vases, bottle shaped to suit most wedding styles with baroque style black table numbers on them*

*Standalone giant silvered table numbers – made from balsa wood and hand coloured and distressed*

