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Jillian Press and her bridesmaids the morning of her August 12, 2017, wedding to Kyle McGrath.

Gifts for Your Girls

When it comes to weddings, the vow “for better and for worse” doesn’t just apply to you and your future hubby.

Your bridal party—usually the nearest and dearest ladies in your life—are there for you through it all, so it’s a nice gesture to thank them with a gift. A bridesmaid gift can be anything you think your girls will enjoy from cozy pjs or robes to luxe beauty products or a spa gift certificate, but jewelry can be an especially appreciated option. After all, who wouldn’t love to receive a pretty pair of earrings, a bracelet or a necklace? Plus, giving jewelry takes the guesswork out of how your bridesmaids should accessorize for the wedding and leaves them with a special piece that can be enjoyed well beyond that day.

On the morning of her August 12, 2017, wedding to Kyle McGrath, bride Jillian Press of New Vernon presented each of her maids with a pair of classic pearl earrings. “I think you can’t go wrong with any piece of jewelry as a bridesmaid’s gift,” says Jillian, “but my girlfriends have bracelets and necklaces that they wear almost every day and the one thing they like to change up is their earrings. So for me it was a no-brainer: earrings!”

For her two sisters, who served as her maid and matron of honor, Jillian went one step further. She asked her dad, jeweler George Press of George Press Jewelry in Livingston, to custom make earrings that featured a pearl surrounded by three small diamonds to represent the three Press sisters. “It’s nice to indulge your maid and/or matron of honor a little

more," says Jillian. "There's a reason you chose them for that role, so do a little something different or extra for them." Her flower girl, a cousin on her husband's side, received a more petite version of the pearl and diamond earrings.

Buying gifts for a group can get expensive, but you don't have to break the bank, says Jillian, who notes that pearls can be a chic and not-too-costly option. If gold (which is very on trend right now) or silver are more your style, show your gratitude toward your bridesmaids by choosing a piece of jewelry with a symbol that sends a special message.

For example, for her wedding last year, Jillian's sister, selected gold pineapple earrings for her maids of honor. "Pineapples are a symbol of welcome, so they can represent welcoming someone to your family," says Jillian. Another clever idea: Gift your ladies with nautical love knot earrings prettily packaged with a note that says, "Thanks for helping me tie the knot!" They'll love the gift and the fact that you appreciate their support.

—Kristen Finello

JEWELRY

PEARL AND DIAMOND EARRINGS •
The classic pearl and diamond earrings are a timeless choice for bridesmaids. They are elegant and sophisticated, and they are also a great choice for a gift. The pearl and diamond earrings are a great choice for a gift because they are a classic and timeless choice. They are also a great choice for a gift because they are a classic and timeless choice. They are also a great choice for a gift because they are a classic and timeless choice.

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