

LYNDSEY'S FINE PAPER

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Lyndsey Childers is framed by a wall of windows that look out onto Oleander Drive. Sitting in an upstairs nook of Dragonflies, examples of letterpress wedding invitations, foiled programs, and glittery bridal brunch invites surround her. She's showing a bride-to-be proofs of her wedding invitations and personalized cocktail napkins. From exact postage to address changes, Lyndsey addresses each and every concern, and the bride leaves laughing and smiling.

"When a bride walks out, one of the last things I tell her is check this off your list. It's going to be perfect," says Lyndsey, a former preschool teacher.

She admits she never thought she'd find herself discussing invitation etiquette with brides-to-be, but after working with Angie Slagle of Mindy & Angie's Fine Paper on a personal project in early 2015, her path became clear. Although Angie was in the process of phasing out the business, Lyndsey's passion and talent for mixing and matching fonts, finishes, and color palettes quickly became apparent to both women. Soon after, Lyndsey began the process of acquiring the business and making a new life for herself.

"Angie and Mindy laid the foundation of a great business. They're such good people. I remember loving their store when I was growing up here and now, what I have is because of them. I just want to take it to the next level and make it as fabulous as it can be," says Lyndsey, who still talks to Angie on a daily basis.

As Lyndsey officially moved into the ownership role, one bride turned into two and three, and before she knew it, she was in the middle of her first wild wedding season. Always fearless but always prepared, Lyndsey jumped feet first into the planning process with her brides. One wedding involved nothing but postal and digital communication because the bride was living in New Orleans and still, Lyndsey managed to capture the essence of the bride's vision so much so, that she was invited to the ceremony to act as day-of coordinator.

The parents of the bride, Dr. and Mrs. John Remington, said of Lyndsey's Fine Paper: "Essential is the word that comes to mind with Lyndsey's participation in all phases of our daughter's wedding, especially since this was a destination wedding in New Orleans. Lyndsey was there from the first stationery selection to the glorious fireworks over the Mississippi River to the final moment of the last rose petal falling."

Although Lyndsey would like to expand services in the future, right now she's focusing on crafting exceptional wedding paperie and broadening her accessory offerings. Monograms in any form are always popular, but for weddings, they're the perfect symbol of two people joining their lives. From cocktail napkins to drink stirrers, Christmas ornaments to cutting boards, if a bride comes to Lyndsey with an idea, it's going to happen. She even offers custom ribbon that can be used to tie guests' gift bags and while Lyndsey says these details are important, it all starts with the invitations.

"The invitation sets the tone for the event. Some brides come in and know exactly what they want. Others aren't sure. I always ask her to just close her eyes and I ask her how do you see yourself on your wedding day? I can confidently say that I've never had a bride that, at the end of everything, said her invitation didn't match her wedding...."

Finding the right invitation is the first step to crafting your dream wedding and although Lyndsey's Fine Paper will fit into every bride's budget, her experience and enthusiasm is priceless. She also carries exclusive lines such as Vera Wang and Crane & Co, works with Susan Fryt of Scripted Word Calligraphy for in-house calligraphy, and prides herself on providing the newest trends in the store for cutting edge brides.

"I want to make my family proud...I want to make Mindy and Angie proud. Right now, I'm trying to take it day by day, but having a humble attitude and being grateful for what you have is what helps a business grow. One day maybe I'll have a Charleston style storefront where it's all fun and glitter and champagne. Right now, it's work, work, work.," says Lyndsey.

As the expert on wedding etiquette and stationery design, Lyndsey's Fine Paper is the only place in town to get truly customized paperie for events that turn into your most prized memories.

