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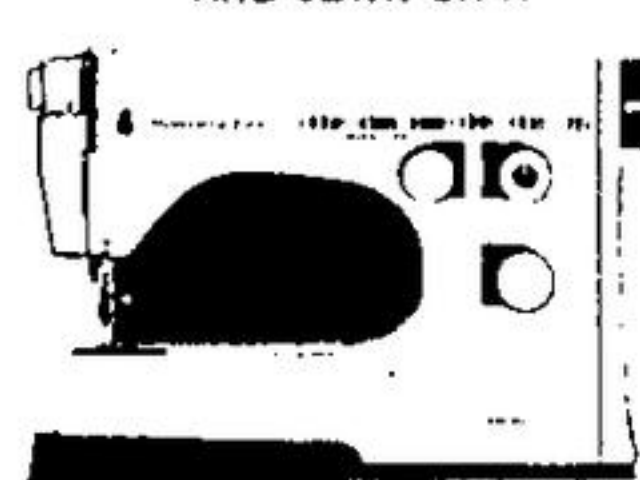


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White Favorite Color For Brides

Ever wonder why a girl receives a white diamond for her engagement? Or why she insists on a white wedding gown and white bridal bouquet for the wedding day? Or why she begins married life under a shower of white rice?

The bridal white tradition has evolved gradually through the centuries, and although the style of diamond engagement ring, wedding gown and bouquet has changed to suit the age, the white color still reigns supreme.

The white diamond has been associated with romance since early Greek times. In fact, the very word diamond comes from the Greek "adamas" meaning unconquerable. The Greeks believed that the fire in a white diamond reflected the constant flame of love.

The first white diamond on record as an engagement ring dates only to 1477 when Maximilian of Austria asked Mary of Burgundy to be his bride.

Max was a little shy about popping the question, so he consulted with an advisor who told him: "Your Grace must have a ring set with a diamond." Max did give Mary a sparkling white diamond, and a tradition was born.

Until the end of the nineteenth century, however, the diamond tradition was reserved only for the royal and the wealthy because of the rarity of diamonds. Then, diamonds were discovered in quantity in South Africa and a white diamond for the engagement rapidly became a bridal tradition most could enjoy.

Today four out of five brides in the United States walk down the aisle with a lovely white diamond on the fourth finger left hand.

Why are bridal gowns white? According to fashion history, at one time wedding gowns ran the gamut of colors: blues, pinks, yellows, and even red! Then, in 1799, Nellie Custis started a trend by choosing a white silk gown for her wedding to George Washington's favorite nephew.

By 1818, white gowns were so popular that white became the traditional bridal color.

The white bridal headpiece also can be credited to Miss Custis. She drew a pair of lace curtains around her head as she spoke to her fiancé through an open window one day. When he said she never looked prettier, she decided to wear a white lace headscarf for her wedding.

Although flowers have been used at weddings since ancient times, the white bouquet can be traced to 1830 when orange blossoms became the vogue in southern France. Orange blossoms were considered the flower of fertility and happiness, since the orange tree blossoms and bears fruit at the same time.

In later times, white roses for love and lilies for purity also became popular for bridal bouquets.

As for other bridal white traditions, throwing white rice at the newlyweds symbolized wealth and health. In the Orient, it means "may you have a full pantry." But in ancient times, rice was thrown as food for jealous evil spirits who hovered near the bride and groom.

The white wedding cake dates to ancient Rome, where a cake made of flour, salt and water was broken

BRIDE OF THE MONTH



Susan Kowalchuck was wed to Christopher Jones, both from Georgetown, on March 4th. The couple now reside in Brampton

RECENT ENGAGEMENTS AND MARRIAGES

Woods McDonald
Mr. and Mrs. Paddy Woods are pleased to announce the engagement of their oldest daughter, Susan to John McDonald, son of Mr. and Mrs. James McDonald, Toronto. The wedding will take place April 10, 1977 at St. Paul's Anglican Church, Kingston, Ont. 10E

Long Cooke
Mr. and Mrs. John M. Cooke of Kingston, Ont. are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Jeanne Marjorie Cooke to Officer Coliel Ian Alexander Long, son of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Long of Georgetown. The wedding will take place April 10, 1977 at St. Paul's Anglican Church, Kingston, Ont. 10E

Walley Freeman
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Clinton Walley of Pasco, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Elena Daziel Walley to Robert Clinton Freeman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm H. Freeman, R.R. 1, Georgetown. The wedding will take place April 16, 1977 at St. Paul's United Church, Ains. 10E

Danna and Debbie Long wish to announce the marriage of their mother Helen, to Tom Quinn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Quinn of Elora. Marriage took place March 1, 1977. 10M

Glaude Nuttall
Mr. and Mrs. A. Nuttall are very pleased to announce the forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Davie Lee to Martin Paul, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. Glaude. The marriage will take place at St. George's Church, on May 21, 1977.

IT'S HER DAY...

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over the bride's head to wish her fruitfulness. Not many brides today would like cake on their head, and thankfully this tradition has evolved to just eating the cake. But modern brides still cherish the other white traditions, and choose to be married in white and wear the lovely white diamond throughout their life.

Groom Is Also There

When it comes to a wedding, it's tradition that the bride is star of the show. No one notices the bridegroom unless he happens to forget the rings.

But weddings are changing. Not only are ceremonies simpler and music lighter, but according to the Men's Fashion Association, the new male formal wear allows the bridegroom to share some of the spotlight on the wedding day.

Today there is a definite trend towards new styling in wedding attire for men. The young "about to be marrieds" are picking it up quickly. It is one way they can add a new and modern touch to their wedding without violating any established traditions.

The new look for the bridegroom is elegant and regal. It is based on the Prince Albert coat, which was popular at the start of the twentieth century. The dinner jacket is extra long, high-buttoning, and features a spare cut bottom. It is extremely shaped so the prospective bridegroom would do well to stay trim for his wedding day.

For a daytime wedding the jacket is gray. For a wedding in the evening, its black. Both jackets feature velvet collars and lapels edged in braid.

With the daytime jacket the bridegroom wears gray striped trousers, a wing collar shirt and striped tie. For evening black trousers match the jacket and the bridegroom wears a formal shirt with a bow tie.

Otherwise, weddings still are governed by rules. If the bridegroom prefers the standard wedding attire, he should remember that his outfit is determined by the bride's gown and the time of day for the ceremony.

If it's going to be a daytime semi-formal wedding (which means it's only somewhat less than formal), he should wear a short black or oxford gray "strawler". He wears it with either a white shirt and tie of subdued pattern - usually a gray moire stripe or a small black and white check.


For an evening semi-formal wedding, the bridegroom has a choice of either white or black dinner jacket, perhaps with satin faced lapels. For this occasion, he should forego the colorful evening shirts, cummerbunds and accessories which are considered too informal for a wedding ceremony.

If the bride wants a formal evening wedding, the bridegroom wears the ultimate in formal wear - A tuxedo with a white formal waist coat. His trousers will match the tuxedo, and he'll wear a wing collar shirt with a white formal bow tie.

For informal wedding ceremonies, the bridegroom has several outfits from which to choose. First is a dark business suit complemented with a white shirt, a tie of restrained color and pattern, and black shoes. If you are buying a new suit for the big occasion, remember that today's suits feature long jackets and often feature fancy pocket treatments.

Also acceptable for informal weddings, particularly if they are garden weddings, or ceremonies held in the country, are navy blue or black blazers worn with white or very light gray slacks. Blazers can be worn or in one of the new knits. Again, the shirt should be white and tie subdued.

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Sofa units can be easily arranged to fit a multitude of room situations, and a wall unit is the ultimate boon to the space shortage.

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Brides

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