

Social do's and don't's for novices, second-time brides

Times are changing and, along with them, the traditions attached to marriage and the wedding ceremony.

For women taking the vows for a second time, the feelings of happiness, joy and excitement, once reserved only for first-time brides, are being shared by all.

"The whole atmosphere surrounding second weddings has changed," observes Barbara Tober, Editor-in-Chief of Bride's magazine.

"There is nothing that can be considered taboo anymore. The only question couples need to ask themselves is, 'Will what we're doing make our friends comfortable and happy for us?' If it will, by all means, go ahead!"

In past years, second marriages were handled with care, and little, if

nothing, was said about them in public.

Couples were urged to be discreet, despite the fact that the declaration of marriage is a public assertion of love and commitment.

Today, a second marriage is nothing to be embarrassed about. Rather, remarriage has become very much a part of the wedding scene. According to Bride's magazine, 28 per cent of all marriages today are remarriages.

As for the novice bride, there have been rules of etiquette established for women getting married for the second time.

Engagements are not usually announced during divorce proceedings from a previous marriage.

The ceremony itself is often kept simple, with traditions such as the giving-

away and long procession down the aisle omitted.

Throwing the bouquet and garter are left out, but otherwise the reception can be as large and lavish a party as desired.

A woman marrying again has her choice of wedding outfits.

Depending on the style of

the wedding and the time of day, the bride may wear a short or long dress or a suit, the groom, a trim, well-tailored suit or a tuxedo.

Good taste and manners, along with the consideration of others, will result in the ceremony of remarriage being a joyous celebration of new-found happiness.

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