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# Lighter-weight fabrics gaining popularity

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Many collections have begun to feature lighter-weight fabrics, taffeta and soft satins. Resurgence in the use of sheer soft layers featuring lace, tulle and organza trimmed with crystal or embroidered lace accents. These soft sheer layers will soften the look of heavy satins and richly embellished bodices. Couture collections are showing a mix of extravagant ball gowns and modified mermaid designs with floral appliqués, frothy ruffles and shredded tulle covering the full body of the skirt. Colour reigns in these collections which offer bold, striking accents for the bride looking for whimsical fashion forward designs.

For bridesmaids, designers are using bright, bold colours like cobalt blues, rich purples, hot oranges and corals, bright fuchsias and chartreuse greens. Designer Alfred Angelo is offering beaded sashes that can be used to differentiate the maid of honor from the bridesmaids or to simply add a bright splash of color. Knee-length gowns have become a popular choice for summer weddings and soft shimmering satin the new fabric of choice.

Even the smallest members of the bridal party are sure to find something special from the collections of Alfred Angelo. Flower girls dresses are available in shades of white and ivory with many offering sashes to co-ordinate with the bridesmaids' gowns. If colour is your choice choose from a selection of styles available for flower girls and junior bridesmaids in colours from

the myriad of shades offered in the bridesmaids' collection.

The mothers of the bride and groom have an important role to play and should choose a style in keeping with the tone of the wedding. Moms are much younger in their fashion sense today, so strapless gowns or halter-style necklines are very acceptable and can be fitted with wraps or boleros to provide coverage for the ceremony.

Hemlines are subjective; for a formal wedding, mothers usually select full-length dresses even if the attendants are wearing short. A short dress is acceptable but if this is the choice be sure that you choose sumptuous fabrics with some crystal, lace or bead accents to lend an air of elegance.

Each year, Elizabeth's showcases the latest trends and styles at local bridal shows. The first show of 2012 is The Perfect Wedding Show at the Mississauga Convention Centre Sunday, Jan. 15. Elizabeth's will be participating in the Bridal Fashion Show and the Bridal Blowout Sale at this event. Discontinued bridal gowns will be priced from \$99-399. Elizabeth's will also be presenting a fashion show featuring fashions for the entire bridal party at the Ever After Wedding Show at Glencairn Golf Club in Milton Sunday, February 26.

For all the latest in bridal style and ladies fashions, visit Elizabeth's Fashions and Bridal Boutique at 77 Main Street South in downtown Georgetown. Call 905-873-1470 to book your appointment today or visit the website at [www.bridalsplendor.com](http://www.bridalsplendor.com).

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