## #10AL-2004

## Choices available for groom's tux

You don't have to walk down the aisle in front of everyone. You don't have to spend hundreds or thousands of dollars on what you are going to wear. All you have to do is select a tux. Unless you plan on wearing a tuxedo more than three times a year, renting is the best way to go. Price is another consideration. An average tuxedo sells for \$300 to \$500, while the cost of renting one is about 10 to 30 percent less. However, there is more to selecting a tuxedo than deciding to rent or to buy.

As the groom, you should make your style selection three to five months before the wedding. Deciding on what tuxedo style to wear depends on what type of wedding you are going to have. There is formal, informal and ultraformal.

• For a daytime semiformal wedding, a suit is acceptable. Navy or charcoal is ideal with white or khaki being seasonal. Ties are optional with a white shirt and a white boutonniere.

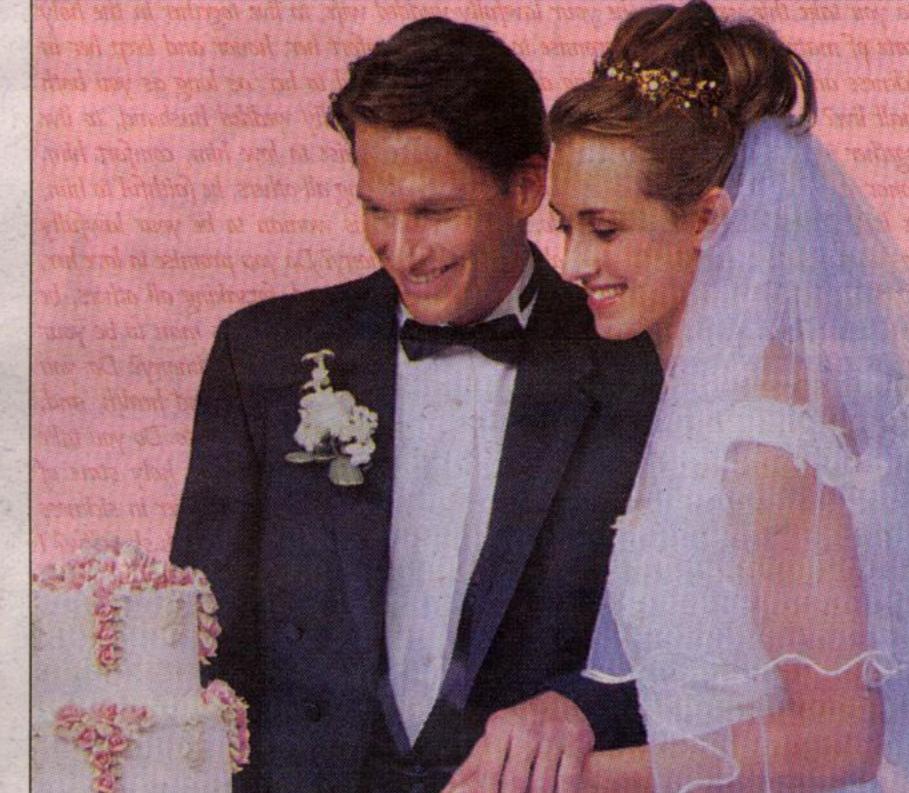
• For an evening semiformal wedding, a dark tuxedo and a bow tie and cummerbund or vest is acceptable. The shirt

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should be white with a wing-tipped or turned-down collar. White jackets are acceptable for a summer wedding.

• For a daytime formal wedding, a tuxedo and a gray stroller or tailcoat is acceptable. A white shirt with a spread collar, a matching vest, an ascot or a four-in-hand or pocket square is good.

• For an evening formal wedding, a classic tuxedo with a white wing or spread collar, a matching vest or cummer-bund, and a black bow tie is acceptable.

 For a daytime ultraformal wedding, a cuatway coat, gray pin-striped pants, a gray vest, an ascot and black shoes is acceptable.

 For an evening ultraformal wedding, a black tailcoat, black pants, a white pique wing collard shirt, a black vest or cummerbund, and a white bow tie is acceptable.

Check around for the best tuxedo rental place. Make sure the styles are current. A reputable formalwear store will know how to measure you correctly (inseam, waist, jacket size) and should be able to fit you well in advance of the wedding. They should also be able to supply you with the accessories needed—tie, cummerbund, cufflinks, suspenders and even shoes—and be able to supply suits for your groomsmen and best man. That way, everyone will be wearing the same kind of suit.



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