

Bridal Corner

What's hot—and what's not—in wedding trends

Wedding trends. Just the mention of the world "trend" may tie up your stomach in knots. The wedding world is constantly changing, so much so that it's hard to keep up.

If you're in the middle of planning a wedding and want to know what's going on with wedding trends, here's a brief list to help:

- **Coordinated décor is out and less coordinated décor is in.** More and more couples are varying the type and size of decorations in their weddings for a less coordinated look. Some of the reception tables may have large formal bouquets, for example, while others may have a single rose bud.

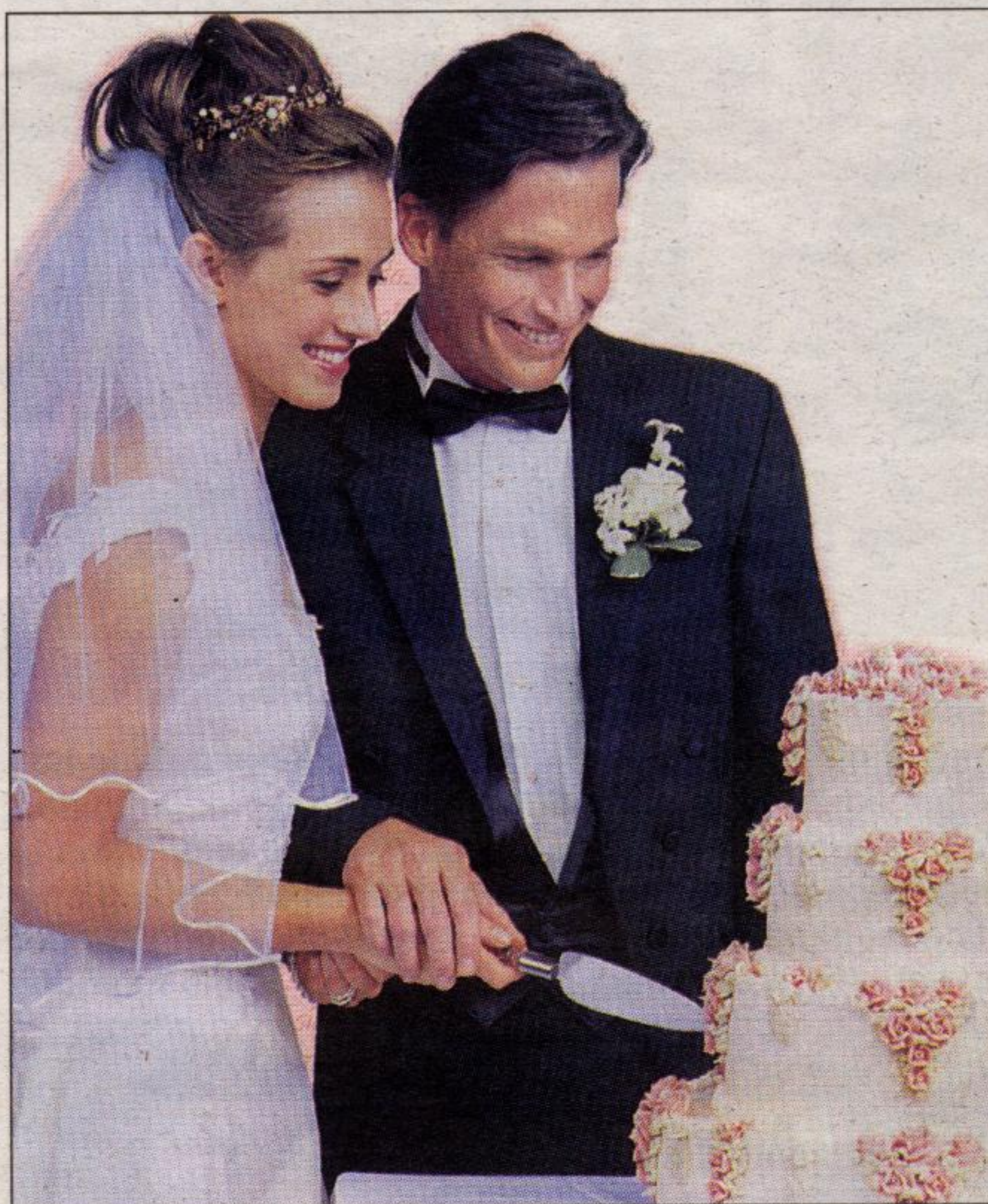
- **Head tables are out and small tables are in.** Many couples are choosing to forgo the pomp and circumstance of a head table and sit by themselves or with immediate family at a smaller table near the front.

- **Single-flavored wedding cakes are out and multi-flavored layered wedding cakes are in.** Many couples are choosing to give their guests more of a selection with a multi-flavored layered cake. Cakes made with a chocolate layer, a vanilla layer and a marble layer are all the rage. Some couples go all out and provide an even wider selection by offering both a dinner and a dessert buffet.

- **Pale hues are out and deep, rich colors are in.** Couples today are choosing deeper tones, like amethyst, burgundy, chocolate, indigo, navy, rose and ruby for their weddings. Lighter shades like periwinkle, sage green, soft pink and taupe are also hot. Shading has become important. Anyone who finds it difficult to match the color they have selected for their wedding can go with shades of it. A couple who has decided to have an amethyst wedding, for example, can incorporate various shades of purple into flowers and other decorations.

- **Phones calls are out and wedding newsletters are in.** Couples who are tired of answering the same questions over and over about their wedding are taking advantage of wedding newsletters. Posted on-line or sent by e-mail, wedding newsletters are a great way to let friends and family know what is going on with the wedding planning and make announcements, like upcoming fittings.

- **Portrait photography is out and photojournalistic photography is in.** Many couples today are asking photographers to take a photojournalistic approach to their wedding and go for more candid shots. Black-



and-white photography with touches of color is also hot.

- **Receiving lines are out and greeting guests individually at the reception is in.** More and more couples are eliminating the stuffy receiving line and greeting their guests individually at the reception

while they are seated and waiting to be served. Although time-consuming, the approach is more personal.

- **Standing in front of the congregation is out and facing them is in.** Many couples today are choosing to connect with their guests by facing them when they exchange their vows. Not only does it give everyone a great view, but it provides the photographer with an opportunity for some great photos.

- **Traditional wedding favors are out and less traditional ones are in.** More and more couples are choosing to offer guests unusual favors, like personalized chocolates, small perfume bottles or monogrammed wine glasses, rather than the typical sachets.

- **Transportation by limousine or car is out and more unusual modes of transportation are in.** Many couples today are choosing to make a statement by arriving at their reception in a horse-drawn carriage, sleigh, motorcycle or even a hot-air balloon.

These are just some popular wedding trends. There are many others. Some couples, for example, arrange to have a supervised playroom where guests can drop off their young kids and be free to enjoy the ceremony and reception. For a complete look at current wedding trends, conduct a search on-line, browse bridal magazines or ask your wedding coordinator or consultant.

Wedding trends come and go. What's hot this year may not be so hot next year. However, that doesn't mean that you can't incorporate a past trend into your wedding. It's your wedding. Make it one to remember.

—By Tresa Erickson, special

FULL COVERAGE STILLS & VIDEOS
Digital Photography at it's best!
J.H. Fishback Photography
 Ballinafad 905-877-2322

Distinctively Yours Invitations
 Custom invitations for all occasions
 Specializing in elegant stationary and silk floral arrangements for weddings
 64 Derry Road East, Milton
 Call Designer Jammie Steeves
 64 Derry Road East, Milton
 905-878-5844 or
 tammie@sdistinctivelyyours.com or
 visit www.distinctivelyyours.com

NORTH HALTON GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB
 We can accommodate 10 to 150 guests.
 Beautiful surroundings and professional staff are ready to host your event. We offer exclusive wedding services to our community in a private club setting.
 Call Brian Garvey at (905) 877-5236
 2005-2006 dates still available

To advertise in this feature, please call Aaron at 905-873-0301 ext. 232. or email achiasson@independentfreepress.com
The Independent & Free Press

The Bridal Specialists
 905-457-3363
 389 Main St. N Brampton
 Between Vodden & Williams Parkway
 Eight Time Winner "BEST BRIDAL BOUTIQUE"
 BRAMPTON GUARDIAN'S READER'S CHOICE AWARD
 ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL
 Free Honeymoon with each Wedding Gown purchased between April 15 & May 1, 2005
 No Appointments Necessary ~ Lots of Free Parking
 Shop early for best selection
BeaShawn FASHIONS
 Store Hours: Mon. Tues. Wed. 10am - 6pm Thurs. Fri. 10am - 9pm

Blue Springs Spa & Salon
 ...experience beauty, health and wellness.
 We have Bridal Specialists... let us design your hair & make-up to compliment your gown & accessories to complete your perfect look.

Special Occasion Package \$60 (\$70 w/updo) Shampoo & Blow Dry Polish Change Hands & Feet Full Make-up	Formal Night Package \$135 (\$150 w/updo) Shampoo & Blow Dry Spa Manicure Spa Pedicure Full Make-up	Wedding Day Package \$185 (including Wedding Day & pre-trial) Full Make-up (including Wedding Day & pre-trial) Mini-Manicure Mini-Pedicure Spa Snack
---	---	--

 9 Mill Street East, Acton 519-853-8859

Heather's Bakery Café Ltd.
 Specializing in Cakes and Pastries for any occasion
 Heather Brownridge
 103 Main St. S., Georgetown
 905-873-6569
 HOURS: Mon.-Wed. 5:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
 Thurs. & Fri. 5:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m. Sat. 6:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.