

BRIDAL CORNER

You don't have to be a star to arrive in style

RONDA ADDY
Special to The IFP

Nothing says glamour like Hollywood. You think it would be cool to have a Hollywood wedding but you don't have the faintest idea how to get started. You could use some help. Lucky for you, help is on the way.

Every wedding starts with the invitations. For a Hollywood wedding, consider having your invitations designed to look like movie theater tickets and worded like invitations to a movie premiere or an awards show. State the theme of your wedding and let guests know how they should come dressed. Regal gowns and tuxedos and sparkling jewelry are trademarks of a Hollywood gathering, but be sure to let your guests know that the dress code is optional, as some may not feel comfortable dressing up in costume.

For your wedding attire, there are a number of directions you could take. You could wear a slinky gold dress with long white gloves, a fur stole and flashy jewels, while the groom wears a dinner jacket or tuxedo. For a '60s look, you could wear a white dress with black accessories and jewelry, while the groom wears a silk shirt with the top left unbuttoned to show off his chest and some gold jewelry. To complete the assemble, the maid of honor and bridesmaids could

wear cocktail dresses or slinky dresses with a boa or stole and lots of jewelry, while the best man and groomsmen wear dinner jackets or dark suits with dark sunglasses. If you are having a flower girl, why not dress her up like Shirley Temple complete with curls and tap shoes or like a miniature movie star with gloves, sunglasses and jewelry?

Hollywood movie premieres are notorious for stars arriving in some form of outrageous transportation related to the film (remember Arnold arriving in a Hummer?). You could arrive with the wedding party in a stretch limo, a fire engine, a boat if you're by the water, a Roman chariot or a horse-drawn carriage.

Decorating the reception hall in Hollywood fashion is not as difficult as it sounds. You could have a red carpet, spotlights, old-fashioned movie cameras, a marquee and lots of cameras going off, as well as a master of ceremonies to introduce you to your public. You could name the tables after famous people and provide director's chairs for the wedding party with their names upon them. You could scatter old 16mm film reels, clapperboards, movie star photos, life-size cardboard stand-ups and film posters about the room.



Depending upon your budget, you could hire celebrity look-alikes to walk around or local actors to perform scenes from some famous films. As for the food and music, you could serve food named after famous celebrities and play motion picture soundtracks.

To continue your theme, you could give out Oscars to the wedding party and hold press interviews with plenty of posing and flash photography. For wedding favors, you could give out autographed pictures of you and the groom or copies of a scandalous tabloid story with a photo of you and the groom covering your faces. If you have the budget, you could even have a photo booth set up where guests could have their own pictures taken.

This is just a sample of the many ways you could have a Hollywood wedding. So many themes are up for grabs, from the golden age of film to awards to film genres. You are only limited by your imagination and your budget. No matter what you choose, you will always come out the winner with a Hollywood wedding.

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