



The garden wedding usually means an old-fashioned or country look much like that shown here. This Ivory pointe despirit wedding gown of Belgium lace is in the \$300 range. The bridesmaid gown of polished wallpaper print cotton is about \$80. Matching hats and umbrellas are available. The wedding gown was designed by Morry Hamburger and can be seen at the Boulevard Bridal Shop in Birmingham. (Staff photo by Dick Kelley)

## You can still rent

While renting a bridal gown may not appeal to many brides, it is an option open as a way of cutting costs for the important day.

The service is as popular as ever, but it is becoming increasingly difficult to find a shop that will rent a gown. Many bridal shops that used to provide the service no longer do so.

The A-Glo bridal shop on W. Warren in Detroit, however, does a brisk rental business. Owner Gloria Artrip gets brides from all over. "We have had brides from as far away as Toledo, Ohio and Flint, Mich.," she said.

A bride, according to Ms. Artrip, can save more than 50 per cent this way. The rental fee varies depending on the style of gown and headpiece the bride selects. It includes any necessary alterations and, of course, cleaning. A security deposit is required, but is refundable depending on the condition of the dress when it is returned.

"It's a hard business," said Ms. Artrip. "But we like to provide the service for those brides who can't afford to purchase a gown, but who still want to look nice."

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