



Fashion trends

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ones. They all wore wide-brimmed straw hats, a simple strand of pearls, and short white gloves. Best of all — that dress will go to the office, to a dinner party, anywhere!

"And the mother of the bride wore a dress of a similar design in beige. The groomsmen, unlike the groom in his 'tails,' wore dark business suits. They looked so tailored and classy."

ABBY NOTES THAT more brides and grooms are electing to have their groomsmen wear dark suits. "Not only does it save the cost of time and money for rentals, but the man's own suit is likely to fit much better since he would have had it altered specially for him."

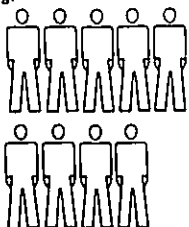
If you do use rented tuxedos, Abby suggests, "to prevent disaster on the wedding day, please instruct every one, from groom to groomsman, to try on the whole outfit once more before leaving the store. Too many guys have discovered that they made the pants too long — 20 minutes before the ceremony begins!"

Formalwear styles for men reflect new, rich fabrics and designs, observes Bride's magazine, which "harken back to a more lavish age when a gentleman dressed with exquisite care and imagination for the great events of his life."

This translates into men's wear tuxedos with satin shawl collars, vests and waistcoats of silk jacquard in rich, vivid colors and gold-threaded lapels; notched or peaked lapels; black wool gabardine pants with sleek black satin waistbands; imported white shirts with bow-tied pleats and French cuffs; black-on-black diamond (L-shaped window panel) patterned dinner jackets; paisley bow ties and cummerbunds you get the idea.

BRIDESFACTS

■ The majority of new husbands wear a wedding ring.



Nine in ten newly married American husbands wear a wedding ring.

SOURCE: Diamond Information Center

Copley News Service

When asked about attire for child attendants, Bride's magazine gives these suggestions from Pat Kerr, a bridal gown designer in Memphis, Tenn:

Children's fashions should reflect the overall tone of the wedding. For a semi-formal or formal wedding, a flower girl may wear a style similar to the bride's gown (with a higher back or neckline, of course), perhaps in silk or taffeta. A junior bridesmaid might wear a dress similar to your maids' (in the same color but perhaps with a drop waist or other style suited to a younger figure).

For a ring bearer, consider English-style knickers of silk taffeta, with tab ties or elastic; a silk shirt with a Peter Pan collar, or an antique cotton shirt with a face collar. Older boys may wear all white or off-white; a junior groomsman, a tuxedo to match other male attendants.

Guests should heed this advice from Modern Bride magazine: "At a formal wedding, women wear street-length dresses or suits in the daytime, long, ballerina, or tea-length dresses in the evening. The attire for men is coordinated to their escorts, unless otherwise stated on the invitation."



From the maid of honor to the flower girl, attendants look great in sweetly traditional dresses. These, by the way, were made from Simplicity patterns. Children's fashions should reflect the overall tone of the wedding. The flower girl may wear a style similar to the bride's gown with a higher back or neckline in perhaps a different material.

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