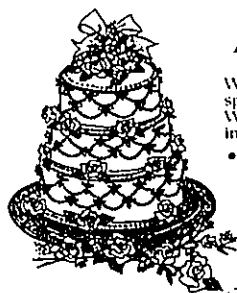


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ENTERTAINMENT AGENCY

Attire, from page 11

mering metallic golds, bronze and platinum. It's enough to make you want to wear that old bridesmaid's dress again - especially if it's a silver satin halter dress from Alfred Angelo. Or a bronze satin and lace fitted dress from Cattiva by Maya Jurnot. Or even a really red-hot number from Nicole Miller.

Black and white delight

Black and white also continues to be a popular combination for bridesmaids this spring. Karen Lawrence designs a dress skirted in black and white polka-dotted satin and topped off with a white halter and matching jacket piped in black trim. Bill Levkoff offers a sophisticated version of the black tuxedo for his bridesmaids - a long side-slit black skirt is topped with a button-front satin vest. A satin shawl jacket may or may not be worn over the vest. Another black Levkoff dress is a short cocktail dress with a longer, removable overskirt. Watters and Watters features a white satin princess dress with black satin bows at the waist.

Two- or three-piece outfits are other options for bridesmaids. Skirts of one color blend or contrast with novelty tops or jackets. Mix or match - it's up to the bride and her attendants. Many formalwear companies are now offering coordinating ensembles for the whole wedding party.

And no, you don't have to all look alike standing at the altar. Cookie-cutter fashion is out, even at a formal wedding. In fact, many bridal apparel makers now have companion colors and styles that give brides and their attendants as well as junior bridesmaids and flower girls plenty of individual choices, but an overall harmonious appearance, as they walk down the aisle.

While the body-conscious sheath dress may be all the rage, generally, A-line silhouettes will flatter more figures. But if you have attendants that are petite or size 14 and over, don't worry. It doesn't necessarily mean you have to make a trip to the dressmaker. Special sizes are now available from many bridal companies. There are even bridesmaids' dresses for expectant mothers!

The guys used to have it easy when it came time to choose their wedding attire. Just call up the local formalwear shop and order a few tuxedos to go. Now it's not quite so easy, but it's much more exciting. There are lots of ways for fathers, groomsmen and ushers to wear a tuxedo in the 1990s.

If you want to liven up those guys, the classic tuxedo is the perfect foil for contemporary accessories. You can create a formal or informal image from an array of shirts, vests and ties. Let your formalwear retailer be your guide.

And only for very informal weddings can you get away with wearing a dark business suit. In spring or summer, a white dinner jacket may be worn over dark trousers or a navy blazer with white flannel trousers - that's only for the most informal wedding.



Blooming bridesmaids: Softly flowing print organza from Alfred Angelo, available at area bridal salons in rose, yellow or navy.

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