

Cultured pearls, cherished for centuries, reflect bride's radiance

A strand of cultured pearls adds a glowing touch to bridal attire. Brilliantly rich cultured pearls enhance the radiant bride's beauty on her wedding day as they always add a lustrous focal point to her outfit whenever they are worn.

In the future, the shimmering strand of cultured pearls may be loaned to a soon-to-be-wed sister, niece or cousin who'll appreciate the thoughtfulness for something "old" and "borrowed" to complete her wedding attire.

Cherished for centuries, the precious pearl has been woven into numerous tales regarding its everlasting beauty and value.

The ancient Greeks

believed that Aphrodite, the goddess of love and beauty, was born like a pearl out of a shell that was washed up from the sea. According to Roman mythology, Venus, the goddess of love, was born in a similar fashion.

In the East, the pearl represented love, gentleness, purity and compassion — a tradition carried into every part of the civilized world.

At one time, pearls were the exclusive privilege of the noble and wealthy. Julius Caesar invaded Britain in order to obtain a treasure of pearls, according to the Roman historian, Suetonius. After the invasion, Caesar presented a breast plate, set with pink pearls

from the Conway River in Wales, to the goddess Venus Genetrix in her temple in Rome.

Throughout history, royal women decorated themselves in pearls. Queen Nephretete of Egypt went to her wedding practically covered with pearls. Elizabeth I entwined pearls in her hair, wore them as necklaces and had them embroidered into her robes.

Today, cultured pearl jewelry adorns many public figures. Princess Diana often wears a long, knotted rope of cultured pearls. Nancy Reagan complements her dresses with shorter princess length or choker styles.

Cultured pearls, the prized gems of eternal beauty, are worn by many women today who consider their elegance and versatility a valuable investment.

In 1982, the most popular cultured pearl jewelry appeared to be necklaces composed of uniform 5mm-6mm cultured pearls. A trend towards purchase of longer necklaces, 24 to 30 inches in length, to complement the leaner look of current fashions, also seems prevalent.

If you don't already own cultured pearl jewelry, why not purchase a strand of cultured pearls for your dreamed-about wedding day? Consider the neckline of the bridal gown when choosing an appropriate style:

High, round necklines can be adorned with either

The most formal look would be a matinee or opera length necklace falling softly over the bosom; this style is equally alluring with a high-standing collar.

Deeper, scooped necklines are most luxurious with a bib of several strands of pearls falling from the base of the throat to the top of the gown's neckline.

For a final touch, wear a

delicate pair of cultured pearl earrings or, if your sleeves permit, a simple single or double strand cultured pearl bracelet.

No matter what your final selection may be, you can be certain that your time-honored cultured pearls will be the perfect choice in jewelry for your wedding day and all the honeymoons yet to come.

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Stroller Coat . . .
Grey with grey striped trousers, light grey vest, pleated front shirt and four-in-hand tie.

Black Tie . . .
The cut, the fit, the classic and sophisticated "black tie" by Lord West for morning or evening wedding.

Cutaway . . . (Not shown)
Grey coat, grey striped trousers, light grey vest, winged collar, shirt and ascot tie.



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SIMPLE AND ELEGANT cultured pearl jewelry enhances bridal attire. From the Cultured Pearl Associations of America and Japan, the beautiful choker necklace consists of 6mm perfectly matched gems. Paired with 7½mm cultured pearl stud earrings, the cultured pearl jewelry adds a classic finishing touch to the scallop edged open neck gown and headpiece by Priscilla of Boston.

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