

BRIDAL ACCESSORIES

Beautiful ideas from head to toe

Your bridal accessories — borrowed, old, new and blue — lend a personal and intimate touch to your wedding. Select your jewelry, shoes, gloves, headpiece and undergarments with sentiment, style and comfort in mind.

JEWELRY AND EXTRAS

Unless your ensemble is highly sophisticated, your jewelry should be subtle rather than large and dramatic. Choose items that will complement the neckline of your gown and the styling of your hair and headpiece.

Neckwear favorites include strands of pearls or diamond studs. Wear a dainty bracelet on your wrist.

It's up to you whether you carry an embroidered handkerchief, Bible, rosary, fan, basket or parasol. The traditional bouquet is usually the most subtle adornment; you may want to ask your florist to personalize it with a sentimental ribbon, heirloom hanky or touch of antique lace.

HEADPIECE AND VEIL

The right headpiece will add a romantic, crowning touch.

According to Rachel Leonard, fashion editor of *Bride's* magazine, "Veils fashioned of lace and tulle are still the classic choices, but satin bows and seed pearls, pillbox hats and delicate pouts

also top off many of today's stunning bridal looks."

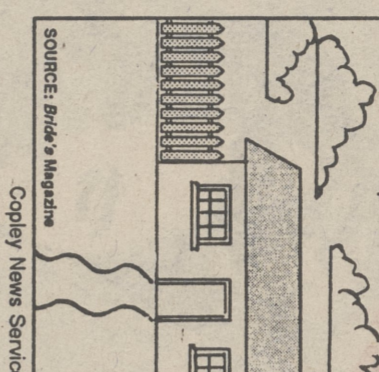
Consider your wedding style. A wreath of fresh flowers would be out of place at a sophisticated city wedding as a smart pillbox hat would be at a country celebration.

Keep the mood of your ceremony in mind when shopping for a headpiece, or choose one that relates to the special theme of your wedding: a grandmother's heirloom veil honors family traditions; a crown of orange blossoms evokes a mythic past (Juno, the Roman goddess, gave these fragrant blossoms to Jupiter on their wedding day).

Your cultural heritage may also be rich with unusual suggestions — for example, the black wig and white hood worn by Japanese brides can be adapted for an American bride who wants to honor her family's roots. Ask rela-

MARRIAGEFACTS:

■ 24% of couples own their own home or apartment.



source: *Bride's* Magazine
Copley News Service

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Bride's Guide to Fabric and Lace
It's helpful to know the differences in fabrics and lace when you are shopping for your gown and attendants' dresses.
Charmeuse. Classic charmeuse is made of silk. Polyester blends are also available. It is a soft, lightweight cloth that drapes beautifully.
Crepé de chine. Silk or blended fabric with a floating quality.
Fulle. A full-bodied pure silk or polyester fabric often used for autumn or wintertime gowns.
Organza. Crisp sheer silk, often accented with appliques.
Taffeta. That silk or silk-blend fabric known best for its rattle — just like Mammy's red silk taffeta peacock in "Gone With the Wind."
Tulle. Looks like veiling, and many brides use it on their headpieces. Also nice in layers on a dress.
Alençon lace. An expensive lace from France. Beloved for its delicate leaf and floral patterns.
Brussels lace. Rare, delicate lace with subtle designs. Imported from Belgium. Used on the finest gowns.
Chantilly lace. Also from France, it is known for its delicate spider's web pattern. Authentic Chantilly is identified by its soft feel.
Schiffli embroidery. Made in the United States, it comes in delicate patterns resembling more expensive laces. It is embroidered on the gown.

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BEYOND THE VOWS

Building a marriage takes patience

After months of planning and preparation, Matt and Eileen's wedding went off without a hitch. They recently returned from a glorious week on Maui, and the last thank-you note was just mailed out. Settled in a new home with a small but functional amount of furniture, they're able to relax, knowing it's all behind them now.

Or, should we say, all before them. Matt and Eileen — and thousands of other newlywed couples — have just embarked on a lifetime adventure, a job that began at the first stage of commitment and which, in a good marriage, will never be complete.

Your first weeks and months together as a married couple will be intense and full of enlightening discoveries and satisfying experiences. Even for couples who have dated many years or lived together, from the marriage pact emerges a new identity and a refreshing sense of permanence. Establishing yourselves as a unit in which love, happiness and common goals prevail takes time and practice. Don't expect the gears that will help get you through the intricacies of life to begin synchronizing magically.

In many ways marriage is a business proposition. Both you and your spouse will bring operational skill, subtle and intuitive knowledge and common sense into the partnership and together forge ahead into a successful life. From the basics, such as how to sleep together, to budgeting for your future, your lives will now be a learning process of objective decision-making and goal-tending.

Building a marriage takes patience

Just remember: You're in this together, and now you're playing together. Sleeping together is a wonderful and serene part of your new life. Your most tender moments will take place in bed.

As you become more familiar with each other and as outside elements become influential, your sex lives and ways of relating to each other may change. Be prepared to work at achieving sexual fulfillment — it's not a chore! Try not to go to bed angry or to argue in bed. At least leave the subject open for discussion the next morning, and give your partner a soft touch or cuddle before assuming your sleep position.

By Robin Spear
Copley News Service

MARRIAGEFACTS:

■ Average age of groomsmen has risen over the years:

YEAR	AGE
1961	22.8
1971	23.1
1975	23.5
1981	24.8
1989	25.7

source: *Bride's* Magazine
Copley News Service

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