



A Letter to Newlyweds Everywhere

Dear Lovers,

Tenderly you touch each other's hands. Gently you look into each other's eyes. Your voices often become hushed as you speak to each other in our midst. Special smiles pass between you... your love for each other speaks to us so clearly and concisely. You are a living, breathing and very appealing invitation to fall in love with each other all over again.

We find ourselves looking into each other's eyes and saying, "Oh, yes, I remember..." What a blessing your love for each other is for us.

Never let us tell you it is "kid stuff." Answer us that we need to be "kids" with you. Don't listen if we tell you that this will pass with garbage to be taken out and lawns to be mowed and dirty socks and diapers. Just smile and whisper to us that it doesn't have to. Help us believe that marriage is not the end of romance but a commitment to living romance as a lifestyle. Help us look at you and then turn to each other and say, can you hear us? We are telling you how very, very much we need you. You are the living memory of how we began... and, you are the promise of how we can continue.

Thank you,
Rochester Marriage Encounter

A Financial Guide For Bride & Groom

Who's responsible for what in a wedding? The bride and groom each have a number of financial obligations — which, incidentally, balance out very well if they follow this simple guideline.

Obligations for the Bride

- The bride pays for:
 - Her wedding gown, headpiece and veil.
 - Her personal trousseau.
 - The gifts for her attendants (the attendants purchase their own gowns).
 - The bridal portrait.
 - All decorations (including the floral decorations) and music for the wedding and reception.
 - The attendants bouquets.
 - The wedding photographs.
 - The wedding reception, including the fee for the place in which the reception is held.
 - The fee for the place of the ceremony.

The wedding cake.

The wedding ring for the groom.

The bride's personal wedding gift to the groom.

Obligations of the Groom

- The groom purchases:
 - The engagement and wedding rings for the bride.
 - The marriage license.
 - The bachelor dinner, if any is given.
 - Gifts to the best man and ushers.
 - Contribution to the clergyman.
 - The bride's bouquet and going-away corsages, as well as corsages for both mothers and all boutonnières.
 - The groom's personal gift to the bride.
 - Attendants' ties and gloves if the wedding is formal.
 - The wedding trip.

History of White Gowns

Must every bride be married in white? There are, of course, no steadfast, unyielding rules regarding the selection of color for the wedding dress; one of the greatest pleasures the modern bride enjoys is the knowledge that she is absolutely free to plan her wedding as she sees fit, with no musts other than the marriage license itself to hinder her creativity.

Yet every woman planning to marry might be interested to know a little more about the tradition of bridal white before she makes a decision on her wedding attire.


From ancient times, white has been a symbol of purity and joy to all nations, all cultures. The Orientals and the people of India worshipped white animals, and ancient Romans donned white robes for all joyous occasions.

This is not to say that white was always the color connected with matrimony. The ancient Roman brides were covered from head to toe in orange-colored veils.

And for hundreds of years European brides went to altar dressed in red! This was probably a carry-over from the Chinese custom of wearing red as a symbol of

gaiety. The first white wedding gown (in the Western tradition of wedding attire) was worn by Anne of Brittany when she married Louis XII in 1499. Her gown of pure white set the trend in Europe, which soon became the standard for all bridal dress in Europe and the Americas.

If a bride chooses to wear purest white on her wedding day, this information will enhance the meaning of her color selection. However, it is quite acceptable — even traditional — for brides to choose gowns in shades of ivory, candlelight, blush pink or ice blue, or white gowns with an accent of color.



For Your Wedding

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The Roman Way Cake Broken On Bride's Head

"The bride cuts the cake... the bride cuts the cake..."

As the merry guests sing this happy refrain, the bride, her hand steadied by her new husband, cuts the first slice of the tiered wedding cake.

Did you know this time-honored tradition is meant to insure their happiness?

For almost as long as there have been weddings, there have been wedding cakes surrounded by all sorts of romantic tradition. In the time of the ancient Romans, the wedding cake was broken over the head of the bride; its crumbs collected by guests as tokens of good luck.

In medieval England, the bride and groom tried to kiss over a pile of tiny weddingcakes brought to the ceremony by their guests, and heaped together in the middle of the table. They were supposed to kiss without disturbing the pile of goodies.

In an attempt to make this tradition less of an obstacle, the French baker put all the cakes together and iced them as one

thereby giving birth to the much admired tiered wedding cake.

A piece of this treasured confection, under the pillow of an unmarried girl, will induce dreams of her future groom, goes the legend of pre-feminist days.

With informal weddings growing in number, many young women now bake their own wedding cakes, lovingly made and trimmed with garlands of flowers, stars, lovebirds, and cupids, unfailingly topped with a miniature bride and groom.

Ring Event

Inscribing your name or initials and your wedding date on the inside of each ring is traditional and romantic.

To ensure their lasting plan to spend about one week's salary for each band. Since price varies with the style and amount of work involved, there is no practical buying guide to use, but the salary guide just mentioned can be a starting point.



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Our Challenge

Helping to dress the best-looking grooms in town is our business. Each and every wedding party that walks through our doors becomes a new and exciting challenge.

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This may well be the happiest day of your life and making people happy is the secret of our success.

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