

Gloves



Gloves add an elegant touch to your attire. They come in satin, crushed velvet, sheer organdy, and lace and can easily be embellished with trims.

Generally, wear short gloves with a long sleeved gown; wear long gloves with a short sleeved or sleeveless gown. Because gloves stretch and are handled a lot, attach trims by sewing rather than gluing.

Accent gloves with trims that reflect the style of the gown; perhaps repeat an embellishment used in the headpiece. For instance, hand-stitch a smaller version of the satin bow to back of wrist, echoing a bow used in a barrette or pillbox hat. Look for ribbon trims that match the gloves. Sew the trim loosely along the cuffs, allowing room for the gloves to stretch when worn. Continue down the outside seam to just below the finger. Customize plain gloves with a silk ribbon embroidery and bead design. Or stitch purchased ribbon roses along the cuffs of simple floral lace gloves, and stitch pearl beads to the center of the flower motif. Sew through each bead twice for added security.

Drawstring Bag

A drawstring fabric bag for the bride or bridesmaids is a perfect catchall for the occasion.

Make the bag from medium weight fabric, such as taffeta, brocade, velvet, velveteen, moiré taffeta, or satin embellish the bag with ribbon roses or whatever suits your fancy.

The bag top and casing edges can be serge finished

A wedding is a ceremony that celebrates the beginning of a marriage or civil union. Wedding traditions and customs vary greatly between cultures, ethnic groups, religions, countries, and social classes.

In some countries, cultures and religions, the actual act of marriage begins during the wedding ceremony. In others, the legal act of marriage occurs at the time of signing a marriage license or other legal document, and the wedding is then an opportunity to perform a traditional ceremony and celebrate with friends and family.

A woman taking part in the ceremony is called a bride, a man called a bridegroom, after the ceremony they become a wife and a husband, respectively.



Wedding ceremonies vary within country and cultures however, most contain wedding vows of some kind and a proclamation of marriage, usually officiated by a local religious clerk. Most weddings also involve wearing the traditional clothes of the culture in which the couple is wedding. A wedding is often followed or accompanied by a wedding reception.

Other elements may include music, poetry, prayer, scripture, or other traditions. In most societies a number of traditions or customs have emerged around the wedding ceremony, many of which have lost their original symbolic meaning in the modern world. Other wedding traditions are relatively recent. Some elements of the Western heterosexual wedding ceremony symbolize the bride's departure from her father's control and entry into a new family with her husband. In modern Western weddings, this symbolism is largely vestigial, since husband and wife are of equal power and status. In some cultures, same-sex weddings are celebrated.

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If you are planning on being a wedding consultant or photographer there is a strong likelihood you will be limited to the number of weddings you can do on any specific day.

Most weddings are local, so look for information pertaining to your area. For the number of weddings in any specific area call the County Clerks office in that county.

Statistics for the Wedding Industry

- **2,226,000** weddings occurred in the US from June 2004 to June 2005 spending approximately \$85 billion. If considering all the items a bride will purchase 6 months prior to 6 months after her wedding the total exceeds 120 billion dollars.
- Over **9,000,000** weddings in China per year with an average \$19,900/wedding.
- 714,000 Japanese brides spend an average of \$70,000 per wedding in 2005.
- Number of worldwide weddings 115,000/day.
- #1 wedding city in the world is **Istanbul, Turkey** with 166,000 for the year.
- #2 wedding city in the world is **Las Vegas, Nevada, USA** with 116,000 weddings.
- #3 wedding city (2nd in USA) is **Gatlinburg, Tennessee, USA** with 42,000 weddings.
- #4 wedding city (3rd USA) is **New Orleans, Louisiana, USA** with 36,545 marriages in 2002.
- In Australia figures show that the average age of a bride in 2003 was 29, compared with 26 in 1993. And 75 per cent of couples lived together before marrying, up from 16 per cent in the 1970s. Average number of guests that are being invited to a wedding is 164.

If you are looking to determine the number of brides in a specific area and you do not have the time to locate the county or city clerk's office to get that information. About .007% of the population will wed in any specific area during a year's time frame.

for a decorative effect. Or the bag can be sewn completely with a conventional sewing machine.

Tip

After the wedding, use your drawstring bag to store small remembrances of the day, such as table favors, garter, invitation, and flower petals.

Making a Drawstring Bag

You Will Need

- 3/8yd. outer fabric
 - 3/8yd. lining fabric
 - 1 1/2yd. narrow decorative cording, or filled satin cording for drawstring
 - Plastic canvas
 - Decorative rayon thread for serged edges
1. Cut one 11in. x 12in. rectangle from outer fabric; mark a line on right side of fabric 2in. from upper long edge. Cut two 1in. x 11in. casing strips from lining or outer fabric, if the edges will be serged; cut the strips 2in. x 11in. if the edges will be folded under. Cut one 12 1/2in. x 21in. rectangle from lining. Cut

Average traditional wedding in the USA is \$20,000 - \$25,000 ** Average age for first-time brides is 25 years. For grooms, it's 27. ** June is the most popular month for weddings, followed by August, September, October and May ** One third of engaged couples retain a wedding consultant. ** The average household income of a newly married couple is \$60,000/year.

99% of couples who get married go on a honeymoon. ** Couples spend an average of \$5,000 on their honeymoon. ** The honeymoon industry is a 12 billion dollar a year industry. ** An average honeymoon vacation is one week. 45 percent of honeymoon trips are to domestic locations; 55 percent are international. ** Most popular honeymoon activities that honeymooners enjoy are:

- Visiting a new place for sightseeing, restaurants, entertainment and nightlife - 75%
- Beaches and lakes - 45%
- Casinos - 20%
- Cruises - 15%
- Golf/sports vacations - 10%
- Skiing trips - 5%

- 4 1/4in. circles from outer fabric and lining. Cut 3 1/4in. circle from plastic canvas.
2. Serge long edges of casing strips, using overlock or rolled hem stitch, use decorative rayon thread in loopers and regular thread in the needle. Stitch 1/4in. double-fold hems at short ends. Or, if using conventional machine, stitch double-fold hem on short edges, and press long edges under 1/2 in.
 3. Pin casing strips to outer fabric, with top edge of strip along marked line and outer hemmed ends 1/2in. from sides; inner hemmed ends meet at center. Stitch close to long edges of casing strips, leaving ends open.
 4. Fold rectangle, right sides together, matching short ends, stitch 1/2in. seam, taking care not to catch casings in seam. Press open.
 5. Stitch two rows of gathering stitches 3/8in. and 1/2in. from lower edge; pin-mark lower edge and circle from outer fabric into fourths. Pin circle to lower edge, right sides together, matching pin marks; pull gathering threads to distribute fullness evenly. Stitch 1/2in. seam; stitch again close to previous stitches.
 6. Stitch 1/2in. from edge of lining circle; press seam allowance under along stitching line. Place plastic canvas circle on bottom of bag, inside seam allowance. Pin lining circle, wrong side down, over plastic canvas, slipstitch in place.
 7. Fold lining fabric in half crosswise, right sides together; stitch 1/2 in. seam on side and bottom. If top edge of fabric and lining will be encased instead of serge-stitched, leave a 6in. opening on bottom for turning.
 8. For a serged top, pin top edge of lining to top edge of purse, wrong sides together. Serge edge with overlock stitch. Or, for seam-encased edge, pin top edge of lining to top edge of purse, right sides together. Stitch 1/2in. seam. Turn purse right side out through opening of lining; stitch opening closed, and tuck lining into purse. Press upper edge of purse, and edge stitch
 9. Cut cording into two 26in. lengths, for drawstrings. Using bodkin or safety pin, feed one cord through casings, all around bag, beginning and ending at one side. Repeat for remaining cord, beginning and ending at opposite side. Knot ends of each cord; knot cord ends together for carrying. Draw cords to close bag.
 10. Make three ribbon roses. Hand stitch to center front, under casing. Attach other embellishments as desired.

Variations

Silk Ribbon Embroidery

Before constructing bag, embellish outer fabric with silk ribbon embroidery and beads .Wrap cord ends with thread to prevent fraying.

Lace Over Satin

Use colored lining to accent lace pattern. Add an heirloom button. Seal cord ends with liquid frat preventer, stitch together and hide inside casing.

Monogrammed Velvet

Secure purchased monogram to bag before sewing. Stitch beaded design around monogram for added detail. Adorn with a fabric bow.

Ceremony Accents

Like theatre props, items carried or used to decorate the ceremony play an important supporting role. While conveying the wedding theme, they add charm, style, and richness.