



## Top Wedding Trends

### **Bold Colors**

Bright colors... particularly jewel tones... are definitely in this year. To get the biggest bang, use brightly colored tablecloths for your reception. Contrasting colors create an exciting atmosphere. Consider these pairs:

- yellow with white, chocolate brown, silvery gray or black
- lime green with bright pink or citrus orange
- hot pink with black or silver
- chocolate brown with sage green or turquoise blue
- raspberry with deep purple or electric blue

Love the idea and look of wedding white on your tables? Add dazzling floral centerpieces paired with brightly colored chair ties on the seats!

### **Going Green...Eco-Friendly Weddings**

Concerned with our environment? Here are ways you can contribute at your wedding.

- “go organic” with your menu or appetizers
- use locations that are eco-friendly
- use recycled paper for your invitations and programs
- use china and glassware at your reception instead of plastic, or at least use biodegradable products
- choose an eco-friendly wedding gown of hemp and organic silk.
- **SPECIAL TOUCH:** Consider planting a tree at the end of your ceremony.

### **Saturday Morning Weddings**

Want to make your Wedding Day unique? Have a Saturday morning wedding. Why?

- Morning is one of the best times for photography, the lighting is perfect
- After your wedding, you'll have an afternoon and evening for more party fun... a pool party, a picnic with family centered activities, and a night at the Opry.
- Save money... venues and vendors may give you a special deal
- A breakfast or brunch menu will be much less expensive for your reception
- Less alcohol. Less money!

### **Or have a Party After the Party**

On your wedding day, you'll never want it to end! However, it may not be possible or practical to have an all day wedding and reception. So enjoy your glorious event for 2, 3, or 4 hours and meet your friends afterwards at the hotel, or at a local hot spot for a more relaxed, less expensive ending to your event!

### **Usable Favors**

Consider your guests when choosing favors. A rule of thumb...give them something to treasure or use...or don't give anything! New ideas:

- Make a donation to a favorite charity in lieu of individual favors. Announce the donation in your program
- An organic sachet in lavender or vanilla for a lingerie drawer or closet
- A packet of organic herbal teas or hot chocolates

- Farewell hors d'oeuvres... treat your guests to goodies as they leave such as a tray of sweet and savory bites, donuts and coffee, or a packet of cookies

### **Weddings as a weekend event**

Guests travel many miles for your wedding and then only get to spend an hour or two with the bride and groom. To alleviate this, many couples are choosing to make their wedding a weekend affair, rather than just a single day affair.

- **Friday Night Weddings**  
Having a Friday night wedding is a fabulous start to the weekend. Follow with a after the event brunch for all of your out of town guests and spend the afternoon and evening going on a tour of Nashville, or have a picnic with a game of softball in the park! End everything with an intimate breakfast with close friends and families before you leave on your honeymoon.
- **Sunday Weddings**  
Turn the above activities around and have a weekend full of fun with your friends and families. Culminate the weekend with a fabulous wedding as a truly lasting memory!

### **Unforgettable Invitations**

Your invitation sets the stage for your wedding, so make a statement! Choose an elegant beribboned invitation, or a clever packet that conceals each individual item in a fabulous fun package. Follow your theme with your save the date cards, your programs, your seating cards, the menu card and add colored napkins to match.

### **Dresses: Focus on Waistlines**

You'll see an emphasis on waistlines this year. Jeweled belts can add an elegant detail to your dress. Large sashes and Obi belts will dominate the runways. Consider adding a sash in your favorite color to your dress and a contrasting color sash on your bridesmaids' dresses.

### **Foods**

Want to treat your guests? Some great ideas:

- **Asian Fusion**  
Asian motifs, Asian foods, Asian cocktails...an elegant, soothing theme for your event.
- **Coffee Bars**  
From simple to extreme you can't go wrong with this favorite. Consider a real cappuccino bar with all flavors and choices or a theme such as a Mocha Coffee Bars with an emphasis on Chocolate. Having a summer wedding? Offer a huge punch bowl filled with iced coffee for your guest to help themselves.
- **Chocolate Fountains; Still an all time favorite**  
Add a chocolate fountain to your reception menu arrayed with fruits, cakes, marshmallow, and all the decadent options. On a budget? Have the chocolate fountain instead of a groom's cake.
- **Aqua Bars**

As a truly unique idea, couples are offering guests a specialty *water* station. Stocked with exotic waters from all over the world, guests are treated to an elegant and healthy treat!