

Choosing a bridesmaids dress

Michaela Jedinak from Joy of Colour provides advice how to find what suits you best, how to coordinate it with your wedding outfit and the rest of your wedding. After all – it's going to be one of the most – in – the- spotlight accessory.

Before you are deciding your bridesmaids outfit you need to choose firstly your personal white for your wedding dress. Your wedding dress needs to be colour coordinated with your dominant colour and the personal colouring of your bridesmaids.

In order to be certain to have chosen the right white you need to know what your dominant colour is. Your dominant colour is depending on your skin, eye and hair colour. Make sure when you buy your wedding outfit that your hair colour on that day won't be changing when you get married, because that will affect your dominant colour and ultimately your personal white and the colour for your brides maids outfits.

Once you know your perfect white you can start to colour coordinate your bridesmaids, your mother, the flower girls, your flower bouquet and your table decoration for your reception and so on.

Choosing outfits to suit you all can be tricky if there are lots of bridesmaids or a large age range. Adults won't want to be dressed the same as children, and hopefully the bride will also bear in mind that the outfit(s) she picks need to flatter people of different ages (and sizes!)

Alternatively, you can ask all your bridesmaids to wear the same style and fabric, but let them choose the colour from the colour palette, which works best with your personal white, wedding theme, wedding season (summer or winter wedding) and with your wedding place (England or going away wedding).

Modern bridesmaids' outfits

While the traditional wedding scene features a row of identically dressed bridesmaids in frilly dresses, the days of "one style fits all" are gone.

If you don't have your heart set on dressing your bridesmaids identically - here are a few reasons why it might be better to be more flexible:

- Your bridesmaids have very different heights and figures.
- You have a mix of child and adult attendants.
- Your bridesmaids are from different cultural backgrounds.
- You can't imagine your choice of attendants being happy dressed identically.

But just because the bridesmaids won't be dressed in the same dresses it doesn't mean that they can't look stylish and formal. There are several ways to create a unifying look, while retaining individuality and flexibility...

Choose the same colour

It's perfectly acceptable to select a favourite colour, which is part of your colour palette, when you would like to express yourself and your personality when choosing a colour or different colour combinations for your bridesmaids outfits.

Keep in mind that almost every colour has a positive and negative characteristics and then it always depends which colours you combine together to emphasise either the positive or negative aspects. Combining your wedding dress with a bridesmaids dress in the colour of:

Red

Red is the colour of power, love and energy. Combined with your personal white it will underline the love, the passion you feel on that day but will also underline the perfection you are seeking and the new beginning you are about to enter that day.

Pink

It suggests a softness and gentleness about and around you. Dressed in pink it will bring out the femininity and romantic in you and add sweetness with your white wedding dress.- it brings the youth out in every woman.

Blue

Choosing blue creates positiveness and tranquillity around you. Blue induces a sense of calm and will make you appear peaceful, trustworthy, and perceptive combined with your wedding dress.

Green

Green conveys freshness and reassurance and it will demonstrate imagination and a sense of feeling alive and enjoying it. Combining with your wedding dress you symbolise hope, good luck and fertility for your new life to come.

Orange

Wearing orange is the intensification of wearing yellow. Picking orange will reflect as well that you are a fun loving person and who is comfortable with herself but also has a love for exotic things. Good colour for late summer weddings.

Purple

Dressing purple will express creativity and will underline your individuality and confidence you are entering the new chapter in your life.

Material matters

When choosing a material keep in mind that some material will look more figure hugging and shiny, which might not work for all your bridesmaids, because they feel uncomfortable bringing attention to their body parts they prefer to hide.

A popular option is to choose a fabric and let the bridesmaids get their dresses made from the same material. That way they will be able to choose a style that suits them and still retain the bridesmaid look, but you will give up control on the overall look of your wedding theme.

Long and short of it

A must is on agreeing on the length of the dress in order to create a uniformity within the wedding theme. If your bridesmaids are going to choose different dresses it can look a little odd if some are in full length silk and others in short mini dresses.

Separates solutions

Separates are becoming very popular among modern bridesmaids. Choosing two-piece styles gives a wider scope of tops in the same colour and fabric. It also enables a maid of honour to stand out from the other attendants by having a different-style top from the other bridesmaids.

Adults only

No adult really wants to appear at a wedding dressed the same as a toddler. Children in identical dresses can look adorable, but if there are to be adult attendants too it is usually best to contrast their outfits with those of the children rather than try to match them!

Written by Michaela Jedinak from [Joy of Colour](#).

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