To Have I to Hold

ideas

- photos
- advice
- fashion
- receptions

...and more

ALOCAL GUIDE TO PLANNING YOUR PERFECT DAY

A publication of Southern Lakes Newspapers SPRING 2025

HOST YOUR PERFECT EVENT Rotary River Center Riverside Park, Beloit, WI

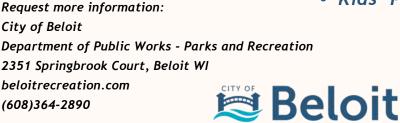


Create lasting memories to last a lifetime! Experience the flexibility of the Rotary River Center, a 3,000 sq. ft. venue overlooking the Rock River. Choose your own caterer and vendors or DYI it! Located in beautiful Riverside Park, the facility is surrounded by beautiful landscaping to capture picture-perfect memories.

The venue seats up to 120 individuals with maximum capacity of 266; seating and tables available for up to 120 guests or you can rent your own equipment.

- Wedding Receptions
- Rehearsal Dinners
- Private Parties
- Class Reunions

- Baby & Wedding Showers
 - Special Events
 - Banquets
 - Meetings
 - Kids' Parties





Get hitched to these wedding trends

Couples have many options to make their event unique

Modern couples are choosing to start their lives together in style. The latest trends suggest it's bound to be a fashionable year for those tying the knot in the months to come.

Check out these ideas that are on many a modern couple's wish list.

Scaled down style

It may be the year of the mini in terms of bridal style. From dresses to bouquets to diminutive foods, couples can't get enough of miniature items that, despite their small size, add maximum impact to the big day.

Colorful fashions

Modern weddings are big on color, from bold and vibrant floral displays to wardrobe choices. Gone are the days when brides must wear white – though many still choose to do so and then color the wedding up with flowers, table settings and so on.

They're now choosing everything from pastels to silver and even black if the mood hits. Plus, wedding party dresses are equally vibrant, with many brides opting to let their bridesmaids mix and match gowns and colors in a range of hues.



The latest trends suggest it's bound to be a fashionable year for those tying the knot in the months to come. From celebrant-led ceremonies and creative photos to colorful fashions and scaled down style, couples have many options for a unique wedding. METRO CREATIVE Spring Bridal

Celebrant-led ceremonies

For some, there is no more meaningful part of the wedding than the ceremony when two lives are joined together.

Although many couples still prefer traditional religious weddings, others are opting for more customizable, celebrantled events that are personalized and tailored to the couples' unique histories and stories.

Flexibility in relation to the ceremony location, and options for inclusivity and cultural diversity, are priorities among many modern couples.

Experiential extras

Sure, couples are still opting for a band or a DJ to provide the bulk of the reception entertainment, but many also are branching out into new arenas.

One new trend to emerge offers creative flair. Couples hire an artist to paint or sketch a portion of the ceremony or reception in real time, and guests can enjoy seeing how the scene unfolds.

Additional options regarding entertainment include culturally specific performers.

Creative photography

For years now, couples are increasingly opting for less stilted, posed photos in favor of at least some that are a little less rehearsed.

Candid photography and a photojournalism approach are popular requests among modern couples, but an even more adventurous photo style also is emerging.

As drone photography continues to becomes more common, aerial photos and video are being used to add an even more unique approach to wedding documentation.

Weekend-long weddings

Some people don't want the magic of the wedding to end after one day, so they opt for an entire wedding weekend. Hitched says searches for weekend wedding venues have risen by 50 percent in the past year.

Wedding styles and trends continue to evolve, and couples have many options that can help them make their big day unique.

(METRO CREATIVE)



A publication of Southern Lakes Newspapers

1102 Ann Street, Delavan, WI 53115 FOR ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES: Call (262) 728-3411

EDITOR IN CHIEF: Heather Ruenz GENERAL MANAGER: David Habrat PAGE DESIGN: Jen DeGroot ADVERTISING DIRECTOR: Vicki Vanderwerff



BRIDAL GUIDE - SPRING 2025

Unique wedding favor ideas

Guests bring gifts to weddings to express their love for couples. Gift-giving also tends to be reciprocal, with couples making sure that guests leave the celebration with their own tokens of affection and mementos of the special occasion. Although favors are not mandatory, they often are included in wedding planning to make the celebration that much more special.

Favors run the gamut from simple, such as tulle-wrapped Jordan almonds, to elaborate, like crystal vases. While there are no rules regarding the type of favors couples can offer, most soon-to-benewlyweds prefer something that is not only unique but will have utility as well. The following are some favors to consider.

· Food-based: Guests who already have a drawer full of personalized shot glasses, pens and drink stirrers with couple's names and wedding dates may appreciate the simplicity of a favor they can enjoy without having to store. A gourmet cookie, special jerky, small bottle of olive oil or maple syrup, or another food item that is widely enjoyed can be practical and affordable.

• Thank-you cards: Offer each guest in attendance a heartfelt thank-you for attending the wedding. Personalize the



sentiments to each guest. If you have a photo of yourself with that guest, include it in the card.

• Candy or snack bar: A wedding takeaway can be as simple as letting guests fill up decorative containers with various candies and other treats displayed on a special table at the reception. For a fun twist, try to find old-fashioned candy or items you remember eating as a child to stir up nostalgia.

 Flower seeds or seedlings: Sustainable gifts such as flower seeds or small seedlings can let guests plant something as a remembrance of the day.

• Scratch-off lottery tickets: The opportunity to return home from a wedding with a winning ticket and a few extra dollars in their pockets can appeal to guests.

• Charitable donation: Rather than giving guests favors, you may want to offer donations to a charity instead. This is a popular gesture among modern couples.

• Temporary tattoos: As a funny gag gift and segue to entertaining photo opportunities, give guests temporary tattoos that have your photo on them. They're clever and will not go to waste.

• Luggage tags: Guests will always think of you when they travel far and wide thanks to luggage tags printed with sweet sentiments.

• Wine stoppers: Customized wine stoppers will keep guests' bottles of wine fresh without taking up much space in a home bar.

Unique favors will help wedding guests feel even more special at the end of the celebration.

(METRO CREATIVE)





abbeysprings.org 262.275.61

262.275.6113 415262

CELEBRATE YOUR BIG DAY AT Staller Estate Winery

Winery hosts variety of events including bridal showers, weddings by Sandra Landen Machaj

CORRESPONDENT

Located on County Highway A near Delavan, Elkhorn and Whitewater, Staller Estate Winery stands out with its bright red buildings and beautifully tended grape vines.

Tables and chairs sit under a large pergola, with the bright green vines adding color and warm to the space. Originally an old dairy farm, Joe and Wendy Staller purchased the space more than 10 years ago with the plan to turn it into a vineyard and winery – a venture that has been a success.

Wine making had been a hobby since the couple's college days at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.

Wendy was so interested in learning more about wine that, after graduating from UW-Whitewater, she attended the University of California-Davis to complete a wine program, becoming knowledgeable about all aspects of wine making.

The business has taken off, turning the dairy farm into the vineyard much quicker than planned.

"It was a hobby that grew out of control and is now a full-time business," Wendy said. "We began with a small vineyard and then began to increase the number of vines. We now have three acres of grapes growing near the winery and another acre up on the hill."

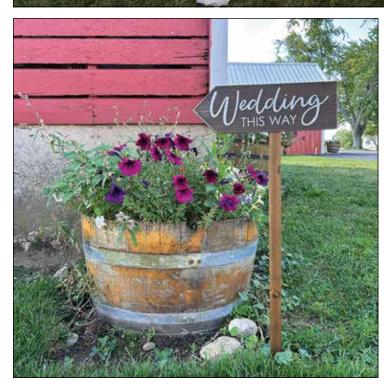
As the vines began to produce, the couple started to experiment with a variety of wines – reds, whites, sweet wines and dry wines until there was a good line of wines. The couple began entering the wines into contests, often winning awards, and as they found an audience for the wines, they began tastings at the winery.

When more and more visitors came to the vineyard, the two began to add even more services.

Ideal for many events

"We now hold a variety of different events here throughout the seasons," Wendy said. "Bachelorette parties, bridal showers, baby showers, special birthday or anniversary events and even small





A couple embraces while posing among the grape vines at Staller Estate Winery on their wedding day.

PHOTO COURTESY NICOLE ZADOR Spring Bridal

An old whiskey barrel is transformed into a planter with colorful flowers for a wedding. PHOTO COURTESY

> STALLER ESTATE Spring Bridal





Elevate Your Love Story Our Lake Geneva venue beckons with sweeping views & an atmosphere of timeless elegance intertwining with rustic allure. Say "I do" amidst the natural beauty & unparalled hospitality of Hawk's View Golf Club.

> Hawk's View HawksViewGolfClub.com/weddings 7377 Krueger Rd, Lake Geneva, WI | 262-348-9900 f 🖸 🖗 🖌 🕨 in 🚳







- Beautiful Tents in All Sizes
- Large Variety of Tables & Chairs
- Endless Linen & Dish Options
- **Dance Floors & Staging**
- Bars & Catering Equipment
- Specialty Lighting & Décor
- Portable Restrooms
- 🕹 So Much More!



Serving All of Northeast Illinois & Southeast Wisconsin





weddings can be arranged."

Both ample indoor and outdoor space is available, making the venue an option any time of the year.

A favorite activity for bachelorette parties and bridal showers is to hold a wine tasting out in the vineyards. A long table to fit the number of guests is set up between two rows of the vines, offering some privacy while still being outdoors. Green grapevines – and depending on the timing, potentially ripe grapes – can add to the ambience.

Bachelorette parties often include a wine tasting and the sharing of a charcuterie board or a picnic platter. As charcuterie boards have become more popular, various sizes and kinds have been added to the menu at Staller. A variety of meats, cheeses, olives, nuts, dried fruits, a special olive blend and fig preserves, as well as freshly baked French baguette bread are available, with the cheese chosen by the customer from many local cheeses.

If being outside in the vineyard is not where you want to be, there are several other options from indoors in the sunroom to the gazebo or in the newer Barrel Cellar Room. The sunroom is bright and cheerful as is the gazebo.

The Barrel Room has a very different vibe. Located on the lower level, it is a true wine cellar. With large wooden barrels and racks of wine, it's a bit darker and more intimate.

The Cellar Experience is a special event for two people. Visit the website to learn more about the Cellar Experience. Because it is a true wine cellar and the temperature is true cellar temp between 55 and 60 degrees, so guests should dress appropriately.

In addition to the intimate Cellar Experience, the cellar can be used for other events, holding up to 40 guests comfortably. As with other venues, reservations for special parties need to be made as far in advance as possible.

"We do hold weddings at Staller's Estate Winery," said Wendy. "We have had couples schedule their wedding ceremony out in the vineyard and then move to the Cellar for their reception."

She explained that Staller does not provide food for weddings, but couples can use a caterer of their choice.

Products honored

In addition to the award-winning wines the couple has produced, Staller also creates vodka, cognac, brandy and a liqueur that tastes similar to Grand Marnier.

Last year they entered their brandy into the Finger Lakes International Competition.

"It was awarded the 2024 Gold medal and was also awarded best of class," Wendy explained. "We sell the brandy bottled and we have also bottled our



BRIDAL GUIDE - SPRING 2025

Wisconsin Old Fashioned, made with our brandy. It is available in our gift shop and also is on our cocktail menu."

It's not just private parties that gather at the winery. On any given day, you may find friends getting together for a short afternoon visit and enjoying a small table outside in the vineyards or under the pergola, while they enjoy a glass of wine, or a tasting accompanied with an item from the food menu.

"Private tastings can also be scheduled on most days," Wendy said. "You can pair your wine tasting with chocolate flights, cheese wheels or a picnic platter."

The chocolate flight pairs a different chocolate with each wine sample. Wendy shares her knowledge of wines during the private tastings, making it not just a pleasant social event but a learning opportunity as well.

Staller Estate also serves a variety of cocktails created with liquor from their own distillery. Among the options are Wisconsin Old Fashioned, traditional Old Fashioned, New York Sour, Bloody Mary, Lavender Lemon Drop, Pomegranate Tonic and Cranberry Sour.

Staller offers flatbreads on Fridays and Sundays. The menu lists these options for flatbreads: 3 Cheese, Meat Lovers, Morchella or Maple Bourbon Dessert.

Special offerings

There is a seasonal menu available at Staller, which features any variety of drinks such as the Purple Dragon Fruit Mojito. And of course there are nonalcoholic offerings available for those who prefer them.

"All the syrups used in these cocktails are created by hand on site," Wendy explained. "We also offer cocktail classes on a monthly basis."

Call and register for a class, learn all about creating perfect and unique cocktails and become the cocktail expert for your next family or friends gathering.

"Another new event that has been added is our Bingo games," Wendy said. "We have been holding them about every other month, on Saturday or Sunday afternoons. Check the website for dates."

Some upcoming events include the following:

• Paint & Sip, May 3 from noon to 2 p.m. – Come paint May flowers. Art teacher, Jennifer, will walk you through the image step-by-step or paint whatever you like! All supplies are included plus a beverage.

• Mother's Day Wine & Dine, May 11, from noon to 2 p.m. – Bring your mothers and join us for our delicious Wine & Dine! This exquisite five-course meal will be paired with our delectable wines. Treat your mother to an unforgettable dining experience.

• May Cocktail Class, May 23, from 6 to 8 p.m. – Ready to elevate your

s of wine, in item scheduled bu can pair e flights, r." lifferent le. Wendy during ot just rning ariety of om their ins are tional Old oody Mary, ranate Tonic



hosting game? Join us in mastering the art of crafting three refreshing cocktails! Perfect for impressing guests or savoring your own mixology skills. Let's shake, stir, and sip our way into the season together.

Note that all classes require reservations, which can be done through the website.

Staller Estate Winery is at W8896



above: The barrel cellar can host a variety of events from baby and bridal showers to special birthday celebrations. It can hold up to 40 guests comfortably. at left: Wendy Staller displays a bottle of the brandy that was awarded a gold medal and the Best in Class award at the 2024 Finger Lakes International Competition. Staller Estate offers a variety of cocktails including an Old Fashioned made with the award winning brandy (above.) SANDRA LANDEN MACHAJ Spring Bridal

County Road A, Delavan. For more information call 608-883-2100 or visit www.stallerestate.com. Questions can be emailed to wendy@stallerestate.com or send a message through the Facebook page.

Current hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Summer hours – June through August – the winery will open daily from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Today's hottest wedding dress trends

Among the items on a wedding planning checklist, choosing a wedding gown often is a top priority. While certain wedding dress trends withstand the test of time, others have shorter shelf lives.

Though no one knows what the future holds for wedding gown trends, these are some that may be notable as brides walk down the aisle in the months ahead.

Floral appliqués and 3D accents

Florals are nothing new on wedding dresses, but they're being elevated this year with new interpretations. Floral embellishments give texture and help brides make a statement.

Appliqués may be on sheer panels that serve as a top layer of the dress or grouped together to form rosettes or additional threedimensional floral details. Florals were on display at the Fall 2024 New York Bridal Fashion Week.

Coquette is everywhere

Flirty and feminine is the name of the wedding dress game, as many gowns showcase feminine details like corseted tops, bows and soft colors, say the experts with Martha Stewart.

Hyper-feminine looks may not be for everyone, but this style merits consideration for the bride who wants to appear romantic and approachable.

Mini dress

Although one of the first pictures to come to mind when one envisions a wedding dress may be a floor-length gown, mini dresses continue to make bold statements on bridal runways and in magazines.

The abbreviated hemlines can be flirty and fun, and are featured on various types of dresses, including fitted, strapless, flowing, and even puffed styles.

Jacquard and other opulent materials

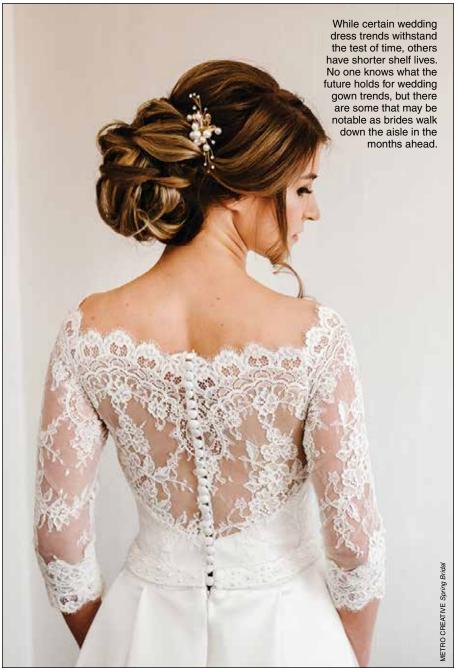
Lace long has been a bridal dress staple, but designers are branching out into other fabrics that lend luxury and opulence to dresses.

Texture can make a wedding dress a unique visual during ceremonies and the after-party and may help a bride feel like royalty.

Pearls and more pearls

Pearl necklaces and other jewelry has long gone hand-in-hand with weddings, but brides-to-be can now find pearls turning up just about anywhere.

Pearls are embroidered onto dresses, veils, sleeves, and headpieces, and even can be used on wedding cakes to mirror a pearl aesthetic used elsewhere.



Bows

Along with pearls, a growing number of designers are opting for bows in their wedding dress designs.

They may be subtle, such as stitched onto the bodice of the dress, or more overthe-top, like a huge bow at the waist or near the train bustle, according to One Fab Day.

Shimmer and sparkle

A little bling (or a lot) never goes out of style. In recent years, many brides have embraced even more shimmer and sparkle as silver takes center stage in dress designs. Silver thread embroidery or even mirrortype embellishments will ensure all eyes are on the bride when she makes her entrance.

Overskirts

Many brides want a dramatically shaped dress for the ceremony, only to pare down a bit for the reception. The style experts at Vogue note an overskirt provides the flexibility to easily remove layers of fabric to unveil a more fitted silhouette.

Wedding dress styles continue to evolve, and this year's trends merit modern brides' attention.



JERGREE

1973

OLF CLU

N6246 Hwy. 12/67, Elkhorn, WI 53121 • (262) 741-6200 • EvergreenGolf.com

The Evergreen Room • Outdoor Patio

The Pub Bar • Evergreen Golf Club Evergreen features exclusive wedding & banguet facilities for up to 250, an outdoor ceremony site with waterfall

backdrop and a wedding coordinator to

assist you every step of the way.

Let your wedding day stand out with

elegant country club service, while being able to customize every detail .. within your budget



A wedding is a magical and memorable day for a couple and their family members and friends. Months or even years of planning may go into making a wedding day special.

For some, an outdoor wedding and celebration amid the beauty of nature is the ultimate setting in which to tie the knot. When Mother Nature is your decorator, the setting can be hard to match. Perhaps that's why 62% of couples opted for outdoor nuptials in a recent year, according to The Knot Real Weddings Survey.

However, there may be some extra work involved when exchanging vows outdoors, hosting a reception outside, or both. That work includes having a contingency plan in place if the weather does not cooperate.

Here's what couples should know about having a backup plan for their outdoor weddings.

• Identify a second location. Couples who book outdoor receptions at catering halls can inquire how they handle inclement weather. Many will have a clause built into the agreement to move the party indoors in the event of bad weather. Others may enable the wedding to move to a different space for an added fee. Smaller, less formal weddings taking place at other locations may require a bit of ingenuity when looking for a backup space. Perhaps a friend has a large house where everyone can gather, or an employer may have a warehouse, loft, or even a barn that can be transformed into unique venues at the last minute.

• Choose outdoor spaces with covered areas. The wish might be to have blue skies overhead, but it's impossible to control the weather. So it's a safer bet to select outdoor spaces that offer a measure of weather protection, such as a pavilion in a park or a covered deck at a beachside locale.

These types of sites offer a little security without detracting from the ambiance.

• Look into a tent rental. A tent is a great investment because it keeps everyone out of the elements rain or shine. Even on a lovely summer day, the blazing sun can make being outdoors uncomfortable. A tent is the solution.

Couples should coordinate with a wedding planner or the venue itself to be sure that a tent is allowed on the grounds.

• Think about event insurance. Special event insurance may protect against financial loss in the event that severe weather throws a wrench into outdoor wedding plans.

Poor weather may make moving around the venue treacherous and might force a postponement. Liability and cancellation protection in an insurance policy helps couples avoid financial hardship.

• Hire a wedding planner. The Knot suggests hiring a wedding planner or coordinator who can pivot to Plan B in the event of bad weather.

This can also help take some of the stress off of the couple and others in the wedding party so they can enjoy the day.

• Plan wardrobe and hair and makeup accordingly. Brides and bridesmaids can choose fabrics for dresses that will be comfortable and not become blown around or see-through due to rain and wind.

The wedding party can ask hair stylists to create a wedding hairstyle that is somewhat weatherproof.

Experienced makeup artists likely know some tricks to keep makeup looking flawless even when the weather isn't.

Outdoor weddings can be beautiful events, but it is important to have a backup plan in place in case weather doesn't cooperate.

(METRO CREATIVE)

Outdoor weddings can be beautiful events, but it is a good idea to have a backup plan in place in case weather doesn't cooperate.

METRO CREATIVE Spring Bridal

Write wedding vows with relative ease

The exchange of vows is an integral part of many wedding ceremonies. Vows are promises made to one another that serve as the basis of the marriage commitment.

Historians say some of the oldest traditional wedding vows can be traced back to manuals of the medieval church in England.

There are no formal wedding vows in the Christian Bible, but those who profess this faith typically incorporate the teachings of

Jesus Christ into their vows. Many couples prefer to exchange their own vows rather than share standard verses. This

is particularly true for couples who will be having ceremonies customized to their own beliefs and relationship histories.

Writing vows enables the soonto-be betrothed to be creative, personal and speak from the heart. However, when faced with writing sentiments that will be expressed in front of others, nerves can set in.

> These tips can help couples draft vows more easily. • Identify who this person is to you – put a label on your relationship. Is he or she a friend, partner in



CATERING FOR ALL OCCASIONS

Rehearsal Dinners - Great Catering Menu

Private space up to 80 people or up to 60 people in bar area (if available) Full Off Site Catering to your home, Chuck's Lakeshore Inn, The Riviera, Lake Geneva Cruise Line, Horticultural Hall and many other local venues.

> Late Night Pizza and Wedding Day Lunch Delivery Incredible Lake Views

> > 262.248.2525 GINOSEASTLAKEGENEVA.COM

300 Wrigley Drive • 100 Yards East of Riviera Docks, Lake Geneva, WI 53147

Couples who are writing their own vows should realize they do not have to rival the words of the most profound authors or learned scholars. METRO CREATIVE Spring Bridal

crime, confidante, or all of the above?

• Be sure to say, "I love you" in the vows – Many couples get so hung up on language that they may forget these most basic words at the heart of the wedding.

• Gush about all of the reasons for that love – Offer personal stories, anecdotes or something that will illustrate to the crowd why you want to spend your life with this person.

• Look to the future – Think about how you want to spend the years ahead. Paint a picture of what you envision your lives will look like, whether that includes children, traveling the globe, or other ideas.

• Make promises to one another – Vows are essentially promises, so come up with some you agree to abide by. These can include similar sentiments to ones that are shared in traditional weddings, or clever and humorous promises, such as to do the dishes, or pick up clothes from the bedroom floor.

• Include stories that point out your collective strengths and weaknesses – Don't forget to mention instances when things were tough and how you overcame them, and how you can use these lessons in your future as a married couple.

Couples who are writing their own vows should realize they do not have to rival the words of the most profound authors or learned scholars. They should be honest and simple and express the sentiments that mean the most to them as they embark on this new journey.

(METRO CREATIVE)

Wedding Flowers

Created especially for you. Let our experienced designers make your day special!!

Fresh Flower Bouquets Silk Bouquets ~ Reception Flowers

Floral Villa 208 S. Wisconsin St. , Whitewater, WI 53190 (262) 473-6444



It's important that couples discuss requests with photographer in advance

Couples who hire a professional photographer to capture their weddings may end up with anywhere from 400 to 600 images, with some photographers promising even more.

Although it is likely that a wide array of shots will be taken, couples who do not want to leave things up to chance should sit down with their photo professionals and discuss the key shots they want to capture.

Once the big day has passed, there will be no opportunity to go back and arrange missed shots.

This list of must-have photos can ensure that the wedding album has all the shots most couples desire.

Before the ceremony

• Wedding day outfits hanging in the wardrobe or placed over a chair

- Wedding invitation surrounded by bouquets
 - Wedding rings side by side
- Outfit accessories, such as shoes, jewelry, a veil, and cuff links

• Bride and bridesmaids getting hair and makeup done

• Groom and groomsmen laughing and

having fun

• Bride getting zipped up into her dress

At the ceremony

- Guests entering the ceremony site
- Ushers escorting guests to their seats

• Close-ups of the couple separately waiting to see their soon-to-be spouse

• Cute kids participating in the ceremony coming down the aisle

• Parents of the couple coming down the aisle or seated prominently awaiting the start of the ceremony

• Shots of all members of the wedding party

• Guests of honor, such as grandparents • Partner coming down the aisle and the partner's reaction

- Exchange of rings
- Exchange of
 First kiss

• A wide shot of the guests at the ceremony

• Signing the marriage certificate

• The processional with the newly hitched couple beaming

• Couple in the backseat of the limo/ vehicle

Portraits

• Couple with bridesmaids and groomsmen

- Bride and maid/matron of honor
- Groom and best man

• Couple with each set of parents and siblings

Couple with close family members

At the reception

- Couple's first entrance
- Special signage, decorations or photos of the scenery
 - Wedding cake details
 - Toasts and speeches from key people
 - First dance as a couple

• Father and daughter, mother and son – or other special dances, if applicable

- Couple mingling with guests
- Guests dancing and having fun

• Shots of the musicians or any special entertainers

- The cake cutting
- The couple's grand exit and wave goodbye

These are some of the customary images that couples will most likely want to request. Photographers, for the most part, cover most of these shots without prompting, but couples should be sure to point out any special photographs they'd like captured throughout the day in advance.

(METRO CREATIVE)

Although it is likely that a wide array of shots will be taken, couples who do not want to leave things up to chance should sit down with their photo professionals and discuss the key shots they want to capture.

METRO CREATIVE Spring Bridal



Brides garner the bulk of guests' attention on a couple's wedding day, but grooms also can use fashion to make a statement.

Grooms must make decisions on their wedding style, too

All eyes tend to gravitate toward brides during a wedding ceremony. That's for good reason, as brides typically spend a significant amount of time searching for the perfect dress and tending to additional parts of their wedding day look.

But grooms also try to look their best on their wedding day, and they must make various style choices as well.

Classic tux or something less traditional?

Black tuxedos call to mind many things, including the fictitious British spy James Bond and, of course, traditional weddings. The classic black tuxedo with black tie can set an especially formal tone for a wedding, and grooms must decide if they prefer this classic look or something less traditional.

Outdoor wedding ceremonies might encourage grooms to look for something stylish but less formal than a black tuxedo. In such instances, a white tuxedo can be ideal, particularly if the wedding is in spring or summer.

Fine-tune with tailoring

Grooms accustomed to buying suits off the rack may feel they can take the same approach on their wedding day. However, wedding day photos will serve as a visual record of the big day for decades to come, so working with a tailor to ensure the tux or suit fits perfectly is the way to go. A well-fitting suit may prove more comfortable throughout the day, and tailoring ensures grooms look their best.

Timing and texture

Grooms can experiment with various textures and materials as they seek a wedding day tuxedo that suits their demeanors.

A velvet tuxedo jacket can set a sophisticated and unique tone, though such attire is arguably most suited to indoor ceremonies during colder months.

The same goes for corduroy and tweed, as these materials tend to be a little warmer.

Linen and seersucker tuxes and suits also can shed light on a groom's personality, and these might be best suited to warm weather weddings outdoors.

Accessories

A tuxedo ensemble is not complete without a tux and pocket square. Matching the color of the tie and the pocket square is a classic look.

Grooms whose brides are wearing a dress with some color can choose a tie and pocket square combination that matches the color in her dress.

Socks can provide another way for grooms to make a statement without drawing attention away from their brides.

Brides garner the bulk of guests' attention on a couple's wedding day. But grooms also can use fashion to make a statement during their weddings. (METRO CREATIVE)

Say 'I do' to bridal jewelry trends

The fashion-conscious understand that the right jewelry can serve as the finishing touch to any look. Therefore, during weddings, when all eyes are on the happy couple, bridal jewelry can be especially important.

Those who want to stand apart can look to these trends for their weddings.

Maximum appeal

After several years in which the mantra "less is more" has dominated, brides are now embracing the glam factor with their jewelry.

Bold choices, sparkly items and statement pieces are favorites among modern couples, says Verstolo Fine Jewelry. Fading into the background has given way to bold earrings, bracelets and necklaces this year.

Floral jewelry

Riding on the coattails of the growing popularity of floral elements on wedding dresses, floral jewelry is big right now as well. Many designers are giving a nod to natural inspiration in their creations, and these pieces add a touch of grace and femininity to bridal style.

In addition to floral jewelry made from metals and precious stones, some brides are opting for rosette floral ties made from ribbon or soft jersey fabric that are worn choker-style around the neck.

Pearls

Pearls are the latest old-is-new craze in the bridal world and even in everyday attire right now, according to The Knot.

Brides can wear pearls on their ears, wrists and neck, and pearls also are right at home on a bridal headband. Cultured pearls are a more affordable option than natural pearls and can look just as beautiful.

Touches of color

Jewelry can be a way for the bride and others to showcase some color at the wedding. Why not make that "something blue" a vibrant pair of blue sapphire or blue topaz earrings?

Couples also may want to opt for wedding bands with a pop of blue or another color rather than a plain band or a colorless gemstone, advise the style experts at Vogue.

Diamond cuff bracelets

Cuff bracelets have been a staple on fashion runways for some time, and they're increasingly spilling into wedding fashion.

Diamond cuff bracelets are popular among brides and mothers of the newlyweds and can be thoughtful gifts for these special ladies. Jewelry is a personalized choice and should match the style of the dress or other attire.

Grooms and groomsmen also may want to make jewelry choices, although they typically are more subdued than those for the ladies. Sparkling cufflinks or a gemstone tie tack are understated choices that can add a pop of style on the wedding day.

stop in and see our Smart Home Showroom

NOW CARRYING (%) COUNTERTOP APPLIANCES





17 S. Washington, Elkhorn (262) 723-3477 www.lylestv.com • Online Parts & Service

The Appliance Store with So Much More



VOTED 2024

BRAND

DEALER OF THE YEAR GREATER MIDWEST REGION

Since 1956



From the smallest detail, to the grandest event, effortless beauty starts here. Now hooking Bridal Parties for 2025 & 2026 Bridal Bliss by Rau: Your Dream Day, Perfected

tild

Say "I do" to flawless beauty with Bridal Bliss by Rau! Whether you envision a classic, elegant look or something uniquely you, our expert team is here to make your bridal dreams come true. We offer luxurious in-salon experiences or convenient on-location services for both intimate gatherings and grand celebrations. From hair to makeup, we ensure you look and feel stunning every step of the way.

Book now and let us add a touch of magic to your special day!

Email all Bridal inquiries to info@rausalon.net

Now offering on-site bridal hair and makeup!



316 N. Lake Ave., Twin Lakes, WI • 262-877-2188 • www.rausalon.com • Instagram: @bridalbliss_byrau