

# Bride's Family, Groom Share Wedding Costs

By VIVIAN WILSON

From the first wedding announcement to the final thank you note, the preparation for the marriage ceremony includes a variety of decisions.

The question of who pays for what is basic and important to the final "I do," if good personal relations are to be maintained between the bride and groom and their families.

The costs of the wedding depend upon the type of ceremony—formal or informal, large or small, with or without reception. While the bride and her family are responsible for the major financial obligations, some expenses are covered by the groom and his family.

### Bride's Family's Expenses

The expenses of the bride's family include the wedding invitations, enclosure cards and announcements; the engagement and wedding photographs; the bride's wedding dress and personal trousseau; fees for the use of the church; floral and other decorations; music; and tip to church sexton;

Bridal dinner; bridesmaids' luncheon (optional), housing of out-of-town attendants and special guests; transportation of the bridal party to and from the church; the wedding breakfast or reception; the wedding gifts to the bride from all members of the immediate family.

The bride's expenses are the groom's wedding ring, if it's a double-ring ceremony; small gifts for her attendants; wedding gift for the groom (optional); her medical examination; personal stationery and calling cards and her luggage.

### Groom's Responsibilities

The engagement and wedding rings head the list of the financial responsibilities of the bridegroom. He also pays for his wedding clothes; the marriage license; the bride's bouquet and going-away corsage; the bridesmaids' bouquets, boutonnieres for the men, and corsages for both mothers and grandmothers (the bride's family may correctly pay for all but the bride's flowers if they wish.

Gifts for the bride, best man and ushers; accommodations for his out-of-town guests; the car,

if it's necessary to hire one, in which he and the bride leave the reception; the clergyman's fee and all honeymoon arrangements and expenses.

Joint responsibilities of the bridal couple include shopping for household necessities if they are setting up housekeeping soon after marriage. Though the bride's family traditionally supplies the basics in a household trousseau, it is the groom who is responsi-

ble for providing the home itself, and equipping it with all the major furnishings.

The bridal attendants are responsible for their wedding clothes, and their transportation, if any, to and from the town where the wedding is being held. They also take care of any financial obligations in entertaining they do for the engaged couple, and the wedding presents they give to the bride and groom.



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