



Don't pull your hair out trying to find a stylist

Plan ahead when it comes to wedding-day hairstyles

By Christopher Arnold
For the Emerald

It's a Saturday morning. A local hair stylist receives a call from a young woman asking to make an appointment for that afternoon. She explains that she has a wedding to attend. Also, she's the bride. Procrastination — what an ugly thing.

"You should be thinking about your hair as soon as you know what type of gown you're wearing," said Sandy Metteer, a stylist at the downtown London Hair Studio and Day Spa. "We design

the hair around the dress."

"I've had brides call the day of their wedding," Metteer said. After 30 years in the business, she's dealt with her share of stressed-out brides.

It's important to check out salons early on, she added. Knowing a stylist you're comfortable with can relieve a lot of last-minute stress.

Edna Ornelas is preparing for a May 19th wedding with fiancé Randy Bruntz. She made arrangements for her hair nearly six months in advance.

"It's very important to me," Ornelas said. "I'll be wearing my hair piled up, with lots of curls and a tiara."

This is just one of a wide array of styles to choose from.

Michael Primrose, a photographer who specializes in weddings, has photographed a variety of gowns and hairstyles.

"I recently worked with a bride who chose a 16th-century style gown," he said. "It's that kind of variety that makes every wedding different. There's so much room for personal taste, each bride can find a style unique to her."

Hairstyles are largely dependent on the gown. According to Metteer, the more elaborate the dress, the larger and fuller the hairstyle. A simpler dress works best with a smoother, sleeker style. Recent trends suggest brides prefer this

simpler approach.

"It's not like it was thirty years ago," Metteer said. "Brides seem to like quicker ways to put their hair up, pony tails or barrel curls, instead of starting from scratch with shampoo and rollers."

A wedding style rarely takes longer than an hour to achieve and prices can start at \$35. Yet some brides want the luxury of having their stylists at the ceremony. Having a stylist travel, even to a local wedding, can cost at least \$45 per hour.

Metteer has traveled to several ceremonies. "It's fun to be with the bride at her wedding," she said. "We usually make a party of it, get everything perfect, maybe start on

the champagne. Afterwards, if it looks like it'll be fun, I'll stay and party with everyone."

Ultimately, planning ahead is the key to looking great on your wedding day. Sleek or full hair, simple or extravagant headpiece, nothing is more important than knowing how you want to look.

Brides often visit the salon in advance for a manicure, a skin treatment, a massage, or a practice up-do. It's great to know that things are taken care of, Metteer said.

"I see so many young brides stressed out on their wedding day when it should be a day to enjoy. You shouldn't be running around town wearing a veil and blue jeans."

Personal touches take weddings to innovative levels

More and more, couples are personalizing their weddings rather than simply going by the book

By Kendall Larsen
For the Emerald

From having ponies as bridesmaids to playing the MGM theme as recessional music, today's weddings are all about personality. Individualization has become a trend in marriage ceremonies, and it seems that even the most traditional weddings can portray a couple's character.

Tracy Evans, who works at an outdoor wedding facility, has seen more and more couples adding a touch of unique flavor to

their special days. But, Evans said, "the good old traditional is still popular."

Birdseed and rice are out; bubbles and sparklers are in. Many brides are choosing to create handmade, eclectic scrapbooks of their weddings rather than just putting their photos in a traditional album. Others make their own paper for programs or invitations, or make bridal favors such as fragrant soaps, Evans said.

Creativity can go in many directions. One bride even made the program paper and embedded it with flower seeds so her guests could "plant her program" in their yards.

While some choose the handi-craft route for personalization,

others opt to return to their roots. Karyn Smith, a self-employed wedding coordinator in Tigard, said she has seen a number of couples include their cultural traditions in their weddings. Adding the heritage of one's ancestors, whether Polynesian, Asian or African, has become very popular, Smith said.

Some personalization can start with the minister. Stephanie Goertzen, a wedding coordinator for the Gray Gables Estate in Milwaukie, had a couple who planned with the minister before the wedding. Each of them wrote a "Top-10" list of why they loved each other, and the minister incorporated these into his entire delivery.

"It was all about them, instead of just a dry service," Goertzen said.

The father's traditional escorting of the bride doesn't have to be the only role family members play in a wedding. Evans witnessed a wedding in which the bride walked down the aisle empty-handed. Her family waited at the altar, every member holding one flower. Each of them then kissed her and handed her the flower, completing her bouquet.

For the more extravagant and romantic wedding, the bride can make her entrance more noticeable by riding in on a horse adorned in flowers. Or, for a racy twist, she could zoom to her

groom on a motorcycle.

Lorraine Hubbard, who works at the Broetie House in Milwaukie, said that she's seen many people include their dogs, horses and even cars in their ceremonies.

Another idea to consider is holding the wedding at the bride's, groom's or a family member's home. This cuts costs and, although it takes extra effort, can be more private and meaningful than a standard church wedding.

Whatever couples choose to do with their weddings is their, and only their, decision.

"What I encourage people to do is pick the things they like," Smith said. "Everything is proper if you like it."

Creative Endeavor Photography

Denis & Cynthia Overlandmiller

In Studio or On Site

34 Oakway Center
Eugene, OR 97401
(541)345-2750

&
Fine Portraiture
Artistic Weddings

The BONMARCHÉ BON gift

Going to a wedding this year?
View the registries and purchase
gifts for the lucky couple at
www.bonmarcheweddingchannel.com
or, call toll free at 1.800.638.9656

for life, for you