

Something Old, Something New

Who decides what your wedding day should be? Martha Stewart? Emily Post? I know a woman whose wedding cake was a family recipe called "Dump Cake" that involved dumping a box of cake mix into a bowl, then dumping a can of fruit cocktail into the mix, and whipping it all up into their reception table centerpiece. Another woman's wedding allowed a scarlet colored dress for her, and a gold turban for her groom. Outside of family and cultural traditions, maybe your own tastes just run more hip and sassy than the staid white scene: I have a cousin who wore purple for her wedding, just because she wanted to. Martha and Emily would not approve.

With as much industry pressure as there is on the prescribed "perfect" wedding day, might be high time for couples out there to rise up in wedded revolt. A celebration of this nature is about more than puffs of white tulle and tiers of butter-cream frosted cakes. There is, after all, the energy it will take to build and maintain a strong, sturdy marriage – *after* the wedding. When you think about that, it kind of makes you want to take the wedding a little less seriously and keep the focus on fun.

We hope you find some useful tips here for your celebration. If you want an all-veggie reception, go for it. If it's your second wedding (or fourth) make it as wonderful as your first – actually, make it *more* wonderful – new love after loss or breakup is one of the most beautiful things there is.

Who decides what your wedding day should be? You do. *EW* joins you in a toast to wedded bliss and long-lasting unions. – *Bobbie Willis*



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