



Always the bridesmaid? You CAN wear dresses again

(NewsUSA) — “And you’ll be able to wear it again!” is a phrase often used around bridesmaids’ dresses. Because a ridiculously expensive lime-green taffeta shepherdess gown is appropriate for almost any occasion, and the Peter Pan collar is poised to make a comeback any century now.

If you’re one of the many women who has piles of Pepto-Bismol-colored ruffles stuffed in the back of her closet, never fear — you will be able to wear that dress again.



Host an old bridesmaids’ dress party, and the good times may even blot out the embarrassment of having had to wear that dress in the first place.

Where to start? The concept is simple — invite all of your girlfriends over, and tell them to wear their most hideous bridesmaid dress. Not only will you get to rewear the bridesmaids’ dresses of weddings past, you’ll also get to laugh at some of the more hideous outfits.

Note: if you were a bridesmaid at a friend’s wedding, either don’t invite her or try not to wear the dress she chose, even if it does include a tutu and puffed sleeves.

Adding an inexpensive spin to classic elegance is the way to go. Skip the chips and dip in favor of a fruit-and-cheese platter. For a refreshing twist on champagne, the traditional wedding libation, pick up a few bottles of a fruit-flavored sparkling wine.

For entertainment, ask each woman to tell the story behind her bridesmaid dress. You can also hold a vote to find out, for once and for all, which one of you had to endure the wearing the worst bridesmaid dress.

Trends and tips for 2010

By JENNIFER GOLDBERG
Jewish News of Greater Phoenix

Brides, be honest: It’s all about the dress. That white gown is the thing girls dream about long before the wedding.

So what happens when you’ve got million-dollar taste on a modest budget?

Michelle Nye, assistant manager of Priscilla of Boston in Scottsdale, AZ, a full-service bridal salon, says, “We always say the most important thing is the dress and the photographers. Especially if they find a dress that’s a little more,” brides tend to find a way to get the gown of their dreams.

Lisa Daversa, owner of Destiny’s Bride, a Scottsdale bridal salon that carries designers like Monique Lhuillier and Carolina Herrera, says, “It truly depends on how important the gown is to her. Some girls love flowers and spend their money there, some love dresses and spend it there. Brides are trimming their budgets in areas that are not important to them so that they can keep the things that mean the most.”

If money is an issue, Daversa recommends trying to buy the sample you tried on.

“Many stores will discount their floor samples based on how badly the store needs to rid themselves of the sample or if the condition of the gown is not perfect,” she says. “You may have a smudge of dirt but save thousands on your gown, and many of the sample gowns can clean up really well or can be tailored to mask a slight blemish it may have.”

Another option is to start with a price range and work from there. Some chains have gowns starting at \$299, and designer dresses from \$550.

Here are some of the hot trends for 2010:

- Two dresses: Can’t choose between two looks? Many brides are selecting more than one gown. “Everybody is loving having two dresses,” Nye says, “like a ballgown for the ceremony and something short, fun and trendy for the reception.”

- One-shoulder dresses: This elegant silhouette is eye-catching and dramatic.

- Retro looks: Classic-looking dresses, always a smart choice, are a big trend this season. Look for tea-length gowns, bows, tulle skirts and more.

- Sleek silhouettes: Simple, sexy gowns provide a beautiful background for great accessories, says Nye. “Accessories are very in right now: headbands, great necklaces, earrings.”

- Romantic details: “Light delicate ruffles, soft romantic fabrics and silk flowers” are all trends for this year, says Daversa.

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