

CORRECT ATTIRE for THE BRIDEGROOM

Mere man's appearance of secondary importance, except that his clothes must conform with wedding tradition



Formal clothes are equally correct for the bridegroom either at the formal or informal wedding ceremony

CONSIDER the bridegroom. He is of minor importance, of course! Even his clothes are of importance only in so far as they are in keeping with the tone which his bride sets for the wedding procession.

Actually, his wardrobe is quite definitely prescribed for him by tradition. The slightest deviation from traditional standards is regarded as a departure from taste. Of course, there are the two types of weddings, the formal and the informal, and while the clothes and their accessories for the formal wedding are equally correct for the informal wedding, the reverse by no means follows.

In the final analysis it is the brides costume which dictates whatever the bridegroom shall wear. If the bride wears ivory satin and heirloom lace or tulle—in other words if her trousseau is of an elaborate order—and if the wedding party is likewise a pretentious one, then the men of the procession, the groom, his best man and the ushers, will be compelled to follow the most formal dictates of traditional wedding fashion.

There are varying degrees of formality, of course. There is the ultra-formal wedding of which we heard the other day, when the bride and her maids appeared in medieval costume. This gave the bridegroom and his own attendants full and ample scope for most picturesque costume display, with their richly colored and richly textured brocade and satin breeches of the medieval period. After all, however, for our day dressing a wedding in this character smacks too thoroughly of the theatrical. The wedding of correct taste will more nearly follow conservative tradition—whether it be a wedding of six and eight attendants, or the simple service concerning alone the contracting pair.

The formal day wedding—that is, the ceremony which takes place prior to six o'clock in the evening—compels the cutaway coat for the bridegroom. The cutaway or morning coat which is quite *de rigueur* may be made of black or oxford cheviot. The younger men show a preference for the oxford or iron gray toned cheviot. This coat will have one button and should not be braided.

Tradition allows some differences in the matter of the waistcoat. It may be single or double-breasted and it may be either of the same color and material as the coat or of contrasting material. If a colored waistcoat is worn, it should be of white

linen or pique or a gray or beige-colored cloth. Gray and fawn is usually the choice of older men; the young men of correct fashion preferring the white waistcoat. There is this much to be said for the light waistcoat, that it seems more in harmony with the gala-air attaching to the June wedding. Surely the young bridegroom is entitled at least to this touch of brightness on such a day of days.

The correct complementing trousers for the cutaway coat should be made of worsted in gray and black, or black and white stripes. There is among the younger element, especially abroad, a tendency to choose cashmere in a plain shade of gray, or in a black and white check pattern—a pattern which is so small that at a slight distance it gives the appearance of being a solid color. The light airy coolness of the cloth commends it for summer weddings, but it would seem that the worsted trousers are infinitely more practical.

In the selection of the correct tie, proper usage permits of but slight latitude. The pearl gray tie is absolutely correct, although some few bridegrooms choose black and white which after all is in quite good taste. Three types of neck ties are permissible. The ascot, the four-in-hand and the bow tie. Until quite recently we had come to regard the ascot as a tie which belonged to the early school. However, Lord Willingdon has sponsored the ascot upon formal occasions at Rideau Hall since becoming Canada's Governor General, and the result is that the ascot has sprung into new favor in our own Dominion. It is worn with a wing collar. The bow tie has won a new popularity, it also is worn with the wing collar. The well dressed Parisian is wearing black and white striped bow ties.

The wearing of spats with the wedding outfit is more or less a question of personal preference. Some people are under the impression that spats must, as a matter of form, be worn with a cutaway. This does not follow, however, although spats are entirely correct, but not as

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The topper, with medium brim, gray suede or white doeskin gloves, and a smart cane are necessary complements to the bridegroom's costume. Courtesy Fairweather's, Limited, Toronto



For his going away outfit the bridegroom may choose the pearl gray soft felt hat, gray or chamois gloves, a rough mixture top coat in light shades and a light cane. Courtesy, Fairweather's, Ltd., Toronto