

Q&A Fashion & Beauty

Our experts answer your dilemmas...

Our panel of experts



Susan Bradfield
Daniel Sandler make-up artist. To contact Susan, call 07903 880 524 or visit the website at www.susanbmakeup.co.uk



Abigail Neill
Owner of Abigail's Collection Bridalwear. Call 01206 574 575 or visit the website www.abigailscollection.co.uk



Katrina Shortland
Hairdresser, make-up artist and beauty therapist. Visit the website at www.katrinabridalbeauty.co.uk

COLOUR CRISIS

Q I really want my bridesmaids to feel special on my wedding day, so I am paying for them to have their make-up applied professionally. They are wearing the same colour dress, so should they wear matching make-up colours?

A *Susan says:* There are no set rules for bridesmaids' make-up. However, it's important that each bridesmaid wears shades that flatter her rather than making them wear identical colours that might work for one, but make another look washed-out. Take into account their individual skin tone, hair colour and eye colour, as well as the colour of the dress, and choose a palette that will work well with these features.

So that your bridesmaids all complement each other, give them all the same look, such as "smoky eyes", "bold lips" or "natural".



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EXTENDED HELP

Q I have very fine, lank hair and want it to look fuller and thicker for my wedding day. I also want to wear it up and possibly make it look longer. What do you recommend is the best way to achieve this?

A *Katrina says:* Hair extensions are very popular for events such as weddings, proms and other special occasions. A great option to try is real clip-in hair extensions. You could order the clip-in extensions to match your own colour and take them to your stylist (who is hopefully experienced in attaching and cutting clip-in extensions).

Do a trial run a month or two before the wedding. This way you get to see what the style looks like with your extensions before your big day. Alternatively, you can get extensions that last longer - the ones that are bonded into your own hair and permanent ones. Personally, I would recommend the clip-in extensions. I have done many brides with clip-in extensions and you cannot tell the difference between the real hair and the extension. Also, this keeps the cost to a minimum and no damage is caused to your own hair. And you can use it over and over again!

HAPPY SHOPPER

Q I'm having a 2010 wedding but can't wait to start shopping for my dress. Is it too soon to start looking?

A *Abigail says:* It's not too soon; you just have to be aware that retailers will change their in-store samples as new collections are launched. This means that if you do fall in love with a dress your bridal retailer may be unable to guarantee ongoing availability of that particular style until 2010. To be safe just check with your retailer and better still don't start looking until you know that you can commit to a dress. Have fun and enjoy your dress shopping!

Got a question? Write to us at 'Fashion & Beauty Q&A', Your Herts & Beds Wedding, Broseley House, Newlands Drive, Witham, Essex CM8 2UL. Alternatively email your question to editor@countyweddingmagazines.com