

*iStyleYourEvent*

Style of Wedding: Classic (i.e. Traditional, Timeless, Elegant, Refined & Tasteful)

Color Theme: Celadon & White

# WEDDING PARTY ROLES

# ROLES OF THE MAID OF HONOUR

Traditionally, before the wedding, the maid of honour:

- ✘ Is the best friend or Sister of the Bride, chosen by the bride to be by her side as emotional support throughout the wedding planning process.
- ✘ Helps the bride with all the minute details, from addressing envelopes to making wedding favours.
- ✘ Helps the bride to choose the bridal party's attire and helps to arrange gown fittings before and on the day of the wedding
- ✘ Acts as the bridesmaid coordinator. Duties may range from coordinating gown fittings, to ensuring that everyone has their hair and makeup planned, to offering travel instructions for bridesmaids that are coming from out of town. Most importantly, the maid of honour acts as the bridge in relationships, helping all the gals get along with one another even during the most stressful times. This includes maintaining a positive, focused, and supportive outlook throughout the planning process.
- ✘ Be available for dress fittings and for the wedding rehearsal
- ✘ Pays for her own gown and transportation to the wedding if coming from out of town
- ✘ Helps to let guests subtly know about the bridal registry
- ✘ Attends all pre-wedding parties
- ✘ Hosts a bridal shower with the bridesmaids or assists in hosting a shower for the Bride.
- ✘ May give a gift with the bridesmaids along with a personal gift for the married couple

# MAID OF HONOUR – WEDDING DAY

**At the ceremony, the maid of honour typically:**

- × Helps to get the bride dressed and ready**
- × Continues to be the moral support for the bride and bridesmaids**
- × Ensure bridesmaids look graceful and elegant**
- × Helps bride to arrange her veil and gown before the procession down the aisle**
- × Precedes the bride down the aisle**
- × Holds the groom's wedding ring until it is time for the rings to be exchanged**
- × Holds bride's bouquet (and gloves, if applicable)**
- × Acts as witness for the signing of the marriage certificate**
- × At the reception, the maid of honour:**
  - × Helps with hosting duties, socializing with guests**
  - × Stands in the receiving line to greet guests**
  - × Is announced with the best man by the MC, to the guests before the newlyweds are announce**
  - × Helps the bride to bustle her gown and change into her outfits**
  - × Takes care of the bride's wedding gown and accessories**
  - × Makes a toast (can be done with bridesmaids)**
  - × Dances with the best man**
  - × Stays until the end of the reception to help bride as needed**

# ROLES OF BRIDESMAIDS

- ✘ **Traditionally, before the wedding, the bridesmaid:**
- ✘ Is part of the emotional support team for the bride
- ✘ Helps bride with pre-wedding tasks, such as addressing invitations, making wedding favours, and running other such errands
- ✘ Helps shop for and may choose the bridesmaid dress
- ✘ Attends all pre-wedding parties
- ✘ Collaborates with maid of honour to plan and host bridal shower or bachelorette party
- ✘ Subtly let guests know where the engaged couple has registered
- ✘ Pays for her own bridesmaids gown and accessories
- ✘ Ensures she is available for gown fittings and rehearsals
- ✘ Contributes to a gift from all the bridesmaids to the bride and may also give a separate gift to the married couple
- ✘ Pays for own transportation to the wedding city if she is coming from out of town
- ✘ Conducts herself in a positive and constructive manner throughout the wedding planning process even in the most stressful times

# BRIDESMAIDS – ON THE WEDDING DAY

## **On the day of the wedding, the bridesmaid:**

- ✘ Continues to be emotional support for the bride
- ✘ Helps to make bride look her best!
- ✘ Walks down the aisle ahead of the bride
- ✘ Help to look after the flower girl and ring bearer, if applicable
- ✘ **At the wedding reception, the bridesmaid:**
- ✘ Helps with hosting duties, socializing with guests
- ✘ Stands in the receiving line
- ✘ Is announced at the reception, to all the guests, before the newly married couple
- ✘ Dances with groomsman
- ✘ If the bride has chosen to have only one bridesmaid and no maid of honour, the bridesmaid takes care of the bride's gown and accessories while she is on honeymoon
- ✘ Stays until the end of the reception, helping as needed

# ROLES OF THE BEST MAN

The best man, the supportive role played by the groom's most trusted friend, whether it be his brother, father, cousin, son, or closest female friend (and therefore, an honour attendant), is a title that comes with many responsibilities before the wedding day.

## **Typically, before the wedding day, the best man:**

- ✘ Is the main support and confidant of the groom, which may include pep talks and errand running for the groom
- ✘ Is in charge of planning and hosting the pre-wedding party for the groom, often in collaboration with the groomsmen. Plan the bachelor party to take place several days before the ceremony so that the groom can be well rested for his wedding day
- ✘ Oversees the groomsmen and ushers. Duties here may involve finding accommodations for out of town ushers, to ensuring that all the men have their tuxedos ready for the wedding day
- ✘ Pays for his own rental tuxedo
- ✘ Acts as referee for the men, maintaining a positive and constructive outlook throughout the wedding planning process
- ✘ Organizes the men's gift to the groom and usually will also give a separate gift to the married couple
- ✘ Pays for his own transportation to the wedding city if he is coming from out of town
- ✘ Attends the wedding rehearsal

# BEST MAN – WEDDING DAY

## **On the day of the wedding, the best man:**

- ✘ Helps the groom to get dressed and look dashing
- ✘ Takes the groom to the ceremony, ensuring that he gets there on time
- ✘ Ensures the groom has the marriage license
- ✘ Makes sure the fee for the officiant is ready in an envelope. The best man will give this to the officiant following the ceremony
- ✘ Continues to oversee the groomsmen and ushers. The best man ensures that all the men have punctually arrived to the ceremony, looking dapper and polished
- ✘ Holds the bride's ring until the ring exchange ceremony
- ✘ Acts as witness and signs the marriage certificate
- ✘ Drives the married couple to reception if there is no limo or chauffeur

# BEST MAN – CONTD.

## **At the reception, the best man typically:**

Stands in the receiving line or circulates to greet guests

- ✘ Continues to support groom as required
- ✘ Is announced with the maid of honour to the reception guests before the newlyweds
- ✘ Acts as referee ensuring that only tasteful activities take place at the reception
- ✘ Offers first toast to newlyweds, which is heartfelt and true
- ✘ Dances at the reception with the maid of honour
- ✘ Helps groom change and get ready for the honeymoon
- ✘ Stays until the end of the reception, helping as needed

## **After the reception, the best man:**

Ensures the groom has all honeymoon documents, tickets, passports, etc.

- ✘ Ensures that monetary gifts at the reception are deposited at the bank
- ✘ Helps to return groom's rental tuxedo while he is on honeymoon

# ROLES OF THE GROOMSMEN

Act as emotional support, along with the bestman, for the groom

- ✘ Helps the groom as needed
- ✘ Attend all pre-wedding parties and may help host the bachelor party
- ✘ Pay for his own wedding tuxedo or suit
- ✘ Maintain a positive and constructive outlook throughout the wedding planning process
- ✘ Contributes to the men's gift to the groom and may also give a separate gift to the married couple
- ✘ Pays for his own transportation to the wedding city if he is coming from out of town
- ✘ Attends the wedding rehearsal

# GROOMSMEN – WEDDING DAY

**Typically, on the day of the wedding, the groomsmen:**

- ✘ Ensure that they arrive punctually at the ceremony, looking polished and dashing
- ✘ Continue to be an emotional support for the groom
- ✘ Help as needed, from assisting guests to running errands
- ✘ Will often facilitate the ushers in seating guests
- ✘ Unroll and properly place the aisle runner, if applicable
- ✘ Foresee and prevent potential wedding day mishaps from occurring **At the reception, the groomsmen typically:**
- ✘ Mingle and socialize with guests
- ✘ Continue to monitor events, preventing potential mishaps from occurring at the reception (e.g. watch how much the groom drinks!)
- ✘ Are announced to all the reception guests before the married couple
- ✘ Dance with the bridesmaids at the reception

# USHERS OR GROOMSMEN

- ✘ The groomsman often stays with and supports the groom while the usher's chief role is to facilitate the seating and flow of guests at the ceremony and reception sites. Ushers arrive approximately 45 minutes before the ceremony begins while the groomsmen have often been up and busy since the crack of dawn! Keeping this in mind, the groomsmen and ushers will often share and overlap in their duties.
- ✘ The general rule of thumb is to have 1 usher for every 50 guests to maintain a smooth flow of traffic. While it is perfectly acceptable to have more ushers than this guideline dictates, you also don't want the number of ushers to overwhelm your guests.
- ✘ How many ushers will you have at your wedding? In the event that you have more than one usher, you may want to consider designating one to be the head usher. This lead usher will coordinate the proceedings with your team of ushers. He/she will ensure that everyone knows where guests should be seated and help to maintain the flow of guests.