

HOT

Our experts advise on how to hit the spot without hitting a nerve

TOPIC:

Wedding politics

Meet the experts



Emma Thompson
Wedding planner



Florie Struthers
Boutique manager



Mamad
Mossadegh
Photographer



Thomas Bower
Caterer



Val Mattinson
Wedding planner

Girls, girls, girls

Q I have three bridesmaids who all have very different styles and body shapes. Are there any dresses that will suit everyone?

A *Florie says:* There are certainly styles to suit all and with new season collections from our designers – Alfred Angelo, Ebony Rose and Dessy – out twice a year there's plenty of choice for everyone. A lot of brides however, are deciding to mix it up by choosing a different dress to flatter each maid's figure, and either keeping them all in the same shade or opting for different complimentary tones to suit everyone's skin and hair colour. In our boutique, the Dessy and Eliza & Ethan multiwrap gowns are very popular, with girls being able to choose which way to wear their dress – V-neck, halterneck, one-shoulder, cap sleeve the possibilities are endless and the price is excellent too.



Alfred Angelo

ARE YOU SITTING COMFORTABLY?

Q My parents divorced when I was little and aren't on talking terms. My mum has remarried but my dad's still single and my husband-to-be's parents are happily wed. I want everyone at the top table during our wedding breakfast but I don't know where to place them – help!

A *Val says:* In the traditional long top table layout, the couple usually sit in the middle with the bride's parents on either side then the groom's parents with the best man and chief bridesmaid. However, there's no need to feel bound by tradition, consider alternative arrangements to ensure both you and the members of your wedding party feel comfortable with the seating plan. If you want everyone seated at the top table, include mum's husband and perhaps place him next to your her. Alternatively, think about having a round table, which some people find more informal.

You could even dispense with a formal top table altogether and ask your mum, dad and your husband-to-be's parents each to host a table. That way they each have the opportunity to play a key role while avoiding any awkwardness there may be in them sitting together.



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