

Marriage - So You've Decided  
(5 Lesson Series)  
Agent Information & Handout Material

Lesson I ... Marriage - So You've Decided Introduction

Script - for changing slides

Brief Bibliography On Weddings

(Equipment Needed) - Tape Recorder; Slide Projector and Screen

... Marriage Role Expectation

Teaching Outline for Agents

Background Paper for Agents

Agent Guide to Group Discussion of Marriage Role Expectations  
(Handout Information)

- . Marriage Role Expectation Inventory for Male and Female
- . HE 142 Planning Your Family
- . Bibliography on Early Marriage

Lesson II... Planning Your Wedding

Teaching Outline for Agents

Discussion Guide To Use With or Without Transparencies  
(Handout Information)

- . Timetable For A Beautiful Wedding
- . Requirements For Marriage In Noerh Carolina
- . Wedding Cost
- . HE 57 Money Matters
- . HE 98 A Guide to Budgeting For The Young Couple

(Equipment Needed) - Overhead Projector/Screen

Wedding Festivities

"Wedding Festivities" Script

(Handout Information)

- . Bridal Showers
- . Wedding Reception
- . Recipes for Wedding Reception/Bridal Showers
- . Stocking The Kitchen The Very First Time

(Equipment Needed) - Slide Projector/Screen

Lesson III ... Your Wedding Attire

"Your Wedding Attire" Script

... Clothes For Your Trousseau

"Clothes For Your Trousseau" Script

(Equipment Needed) - Slide Projector/Screen

Lesson IV ... Where To Live After The Honeymoon  
(An Apartment)

"An Apartment" Script

(Handout Information)

- . Checklist For Selecting an Apartment

... Where To Live After The Honeymoon  
(A Mobile Home)

"A Mobile Home" Script

(Handout Information)

- . Checklist For Selecting A Mobile Home

(Equipment Needed) - Slide Projector/Screen

Lesson V ... Furnishing Your First Home

"Selecting Quality Furniture"  
(Transparency Script)

(Handout Information)

- . HE 75 Furnishing Your Home: Begin With A Plan
- . HE 76 Furnishing Your First Home
- . HE 78 Furnishing Your Home: Buying Case Goods
- . HE 79 Furnishing Your Home: Periods and Styles
- . HE 80 Furnishing Your Home: Arranging Furniture
- . HE 81 Furnishing Your Home: Buying Upholstered Furniture

(Equipment Needed) - Overhead Projector/Screen

... For Your Dining Pleasure - Choose Tableware For Your New Lifestyle

For Your Dining Pleasure - Choose Tableware For Your New Lifestyle  
Background Information

"Selecting Tableware" Script

(Handout Information)

- . HE 99 Designed For Dining

(Equipment Needed) - Slide Projector  
Cassette Tape Recorder



... Visual

- Were the visuals an asset to the program?
- Were there any visuals that you think need changing. Cite examples.
- List any special or creative ideas that you developed to teach the lesson.

... Resource Person

- Name resource person(s) that you used.
- How did you use resource person?
- How effective were resource persons?

... General Comments

- Agent reaction concerning lesson.

- If you were presenting the lesson over again, is there any thing that you would have done differently? Cite examples.

... Audience

- What method(s) did you use to reach the young adult audience?

- Which methods were most successful?

Brief BIBLIOGRAPHY on Weddings

Bryant, Flora, Wedding Etiquette. New York:  
Cowles Book Company, 1970

Hopkins, Ginny, The Bride's Book of Showers.  
New York: Grosset and Dunlap, 1971.

McCall's Magazine Editors, Wedding Etiquette.  
New York: Saturday Review Press, 1972.

Post, Elizabeth L., Wedding Etiquette.  
New York: Funk and Wagnalls, 1970.

Rolston, Betty and The Bride's Magazine Editors, The Bride's Guide For Young  
Marrieds. New York: Grosset and Dunlap, 1972.

Stein, Barney, Wedding Photography.  
Philadelphia: Chilton Book Company, 1968.

The Bride's Magazine Editors, The Bride's Book of Etiquette.  
New York: Grosset and Dunlap, 1967. (paper back book, 1968.)

Wilson, Barbara, Wedding Etiquette.  
New York: Hawthorn Books, 1970.

Vanderbilt, Amy, Etiquette, New York:  
Doubleday, Revised edition 1972.

Vogue Editors, Vogue's Book of Etiquette.  
New York: Simon and Schuster, 1969.

MARRIAGE - SO YOU'VE DECIDED

Video

SLIDE

COUPLE SHOWING RING

SLIDE

WEDDING INVITATION

SLIDE

GROOM IN TUXEDO

Audio

So you are getting married! And you want to have the loveliest and most meaningful wedding possible. You can have an ultra formal wedding...a mod contemporary wedding...or a wedding somewhere between these extremes. But whichever style you select, remember that thoughtful planning... not total cost...makes a wedding beautiful.

This year you and 96-thousand other North Carolinians will speak the marriage vows. Hopefully, this legal committment will mark the start of a lifetime filled with happy and fulfilling experiences that will enrich your lives.

Regardless of your age or who your parents are, you'll be facing decisions about your new life that every couple must face.

Some decisions will concern pre-nuptial activities...others will concern the actual wedding ceremony. And other decisions will influence how you will function as husband and wife.

Video

SLIDE  
TRADITIONAL DRESS

Audio

Basically there are two general types of weddings: the traditional and the contemporary.

The traditional ceremony is usually the one that comes to mind when we hear the word "wedding." And it's still popular with couples marrying for the first time. In fact, in 1972 80 percent of those getting married, selected the traditional ceremony.

SLIDE  
CONTEMPORARY DRESS

Of course, many of today's young people like to do their own thing. And so they turn to a contemporary wedding ceremony... They will personalize the wedding vows... use secular readings and music...and try to make their wedding have a deep personal meaning for them.

SLIDE  
CHURCH CEREMONY

Now we're not trying to make your wedding plans for you. Choosing the type of wedding is a personal concern for the bride, the groom, and the bride's family. Of course, the groom's family should also be included in the pre-wedding plans.

SLIDE  
MARRIAGE - So You've  
DECIDED

Our educational series MARRIAGE - SO YOU'VE DECIDED will help you review some of the most pressing decisions you will make in the immediate future.

Video

*SLIDE*

Audio

Finances will be the center of attention for you both in the weeks and years to come. It is the height of folly to spend more money on a wedding than you can afford. Since the prospective bride and her family must bear the cost of the ceremony, you'll have some questions about the wedding cost.

*SLIDE*

And after the ceremony is just a memory, you'll be facing some hard tasks with family finances. So we've prepared a lesson about "Planning and Paying for the Wedding." And we'll talk about the family bank book, too. Whose money is it? Who pays the bills? And who decides how to spend our money?

*SLIDE*

*BRIDE & MAID IN GARDEN*

Generally, the single most important wedding expense is the bride's wedding gown. Her gown sets the mood for the total wedding. Our lesson about "Your Wedding Attire" will help you learn about the different wedding styles. What style is appropriate for a very formal wedding? What should we wear in a contemporary wedding? And do you have to buy your wedding gown?

Video

SLIDE  
GROOM AND CAKE

Audio

Now when two people get married, two sets of value systems and two different people are united. Since you each have certain ideas about your marital relationship, we've devoted one lesson to the "Marriage Role Expectations."

We'll try to help you prepare for marriage and family living. What do you expect from marriage will be the underlying concern for this lesson.

A wedding means excitement for the bride and groom and everyone around them. Entertainment and bridal showers are a traditional part of pre-nuptial activities. To help you with questions in this area, we have a lesson about "Bridal showers and wedding reception."

Have you ever thought about how much punch will a punch cup hold? Or how do you cut a tiered cake? We have the answers along with some recipes to use at your reception, if you like.

SLIDE  
RECEPTION

SLIDE  
WEDDING CAKE

Video

Audio

SLIDE  
KITCHEN ITEMS

If you haven't already done so, pretty soon you'll be selecting your china, silver, and crystal patterns. This is a lot of fun, but it's also a perplexing task.

One of our lessons is filled with information about "Choosing Tableware for Your New Life Style." We'll explain the various types of china, flatware, and crystal. You'll use these tips before making your final decision.

SLIDE  
MARRIED COUPLE IN CLOTHES

In addition to incurring a big debt with the actual wedding gown, clothing in the wedding trousseau represents another big investment. Both common sense and will power are necessary to buy a trousseau that is a happy balance between sentiment and practicality.

Our lesson on "Your Trousseau" offers some suggestions on how to get a functional trousseau for the anticipated life styles of the bride and groom.

Video

*SLIDE*  
*COUPLE IN MODERN HOME*

Audio

Have you considered where you will live after the ceremony? Most young couples choose apartments or mobile homes for that first home. The lesson on "Where to Live After the Honeymoon" gives you a checklist for your future home. This information will help you learn what to look for in an apartment or mobile home.

*SLIDE*  
*COUPLE SITTING ON FLOOR*

Buying furniture involves important decisions for young couples. These decisions are economic as well as aesthetic. Some of your furniture concerns include: how to plan furniture purchases, how to select furniture, and how to know quality furniture. All of these concerns will be answered in the lesson entitled, "Furnishing Your First Home."

*SLIDE*  
*PURCHASING A BED*

These topics are the major ones we think future newlyweds will be interested in. Our objective is to help you get your marriage off to a successful start on a realistic foundation...

TEACHING OUTLINE FOR AGENTS  
ON  
MARRIAGE ROLE EXPECTATIONS

Concept:

The major area of life for which young couples are most poorly prepared is marriage and family living. The evidence is overwhelming that most couples go into marriage with quite an inadequate understanding of the roles of husband and wife.

Teaching Objectives:

To encourage and help the couple make a careful evaluation of themselves, of each other and of their relationship. To sharpen the perception of the couple to the realities of marriage. David Mace, an eminent authority on marriage and Family Life states "...the best way to enable a couple to move toward a successful relationship in the future is to help them to achieve a successful relationship here and now."

Use of Materials:

Special interest series, specifically the wedding series, "Marriage, So You've Decided."

Teaching Aids:

1. Background paper, Marriage Role Expectations
2. Marriage Role Expectation Inventory, Form F (Female)
3. Marriage Role Expectation Inventory, Form M (Male)
4. Agent Guide to Group Discussion of Marriage Role Expectations

Instructions to Agent:

Introduce the program with your own introduction or perhaps the quote from Jessamyn West's book, "A Matter of Time."

There are forms for both male (Form M), and female (Form F). \* Instructions for completion are on each form, but you might want to re-emphasize there are no right or wrong answers; each person is entitled to his opinion. In answering the questions, ask them to do so as quickly as possible, since their first response is most likely to represent their true feelings.

After completion of forms, let the individual couples compare their "agreements" first, then take a look at differences or "disagreements." If you only have an hour for this program, you will only have time for a brief discussion. A better session time is 1½ hours (45 minutes for introduction, completion of forms, and couple comparison of forms; 45 minutes for discussion) or, you might want to schedule two 1 hour sessions for this part of your wedding series. Use the leader guide or your adaptation for the group discussion.

Follow-up Idea:

Invite a minister whom you know to be interested in marriage preparation for a discussion or dialogue session with the group. Let the group decide on his topic or let it be free form (whatever is on their minds).

---

\*The source of the Marriage Role Expectation Inventory was inadvertently left off the Forms. The reference is:

----Dr. Marie S. Dunn, "Marriage Role Expectation Inventory", Journal of Marriage and the Family, Volume 22, Number 2, May, 1960.

Prepared by: Faye Haywood  
Specialist  
Family Relations

BIBLIOGRAPHY ON EARLY MARRIAGE

- \*McGinnis, Tom, Your First Year of Marriage. Garden City, New York: Doubleday & Company, 1967. \$4.95.
- \*Bach, George and Peter Wyden, The Intimate Enemy, How To Fight Fair In Love and Marriage. New York: Avon Publishers, 1970. \$1.25. (Also available in hard cover from William Morrow Company)
- Fromme, Allan, Sex and Marriage. New York: Barnes & Noble, Inc., 1970. \$1.75. (Also available in hard cover as The Psychologist Looks At Sex and Marriage from Prentice-Hall, Inc.)
- Lobsenz, Norman and Clark Blackburn, How To Stay Married, An Approach To Sex, Money and Emotions In Marriage. New York: Cowles Book Company, Inc., 1968. \$4.95.
- Bossard, James H. S. and Eleanor Stoker Boll, The Girl That You Marry. Philadelphia: Macrae Smith Company, 1960. \$3.75.
- Boll, Eleanor Stoker, The Man That You Marry. Philadelphia: Macrae Smith Company, 1963. \$3.75.
- Tournier, Paul, To Understand Each Other. Richmond, Virginia: John Knox Press, Translated 1967. \$2.50.
- Shedd, Charlie, Letters To Philip: On How To Treat A Woman. Old Tappan, New Jersey: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1968. \$.75.
- Shedd, Charlie, Letters to Karen: On Keeping Love In Marriage. New York: Avon Books, 1968. \$.75.
- \*Fromm, Erich, The Art of Loving. New York: Bantam Books, 1963. \$.75.
- \*Mace, David R., Getting Ready For Marriage. Nashville and New York: Abingdon Press, 1972. \$3.75.

\*available for loan from Family Relations Department

# MARRIAGE ROLE EXPECTATION INVENTORY

## Form M

What do you expect of marriage? This inventory of marriage role expectations will help you and your fiancée to understand what each of you expect in marriage! If each partner can have a better understanding of mutual role expectations before marriage, then you have a head start on one important adjustment newlyweds have to make. There are no right or wrong answers.

Encircle the symbol that represents your opinion of each statement.  
PLEASE ANSWER EVERY QUESTION.

### Key

SA -- Strongly agree

A -- Agree

U -- Undecided

D -- Disagree

SD -- Strongly disagree

IN MY MARRIAGE I EXPECT:

- SA A U D SD 1. that if there is a difference of opinion, I will decide where to live.
- SA A U D SD 2. that my wife's opinion will carry as much weight as mine in money matters.
- SA A U D SD 3. to help my wife with the housework.
- SA A U D SD 4. that it would be undesirable for my wife to be better educated than I.
- SA A U D SD 5. that if we marry before going to college, my wife and I will do our best to go on to earn college degrees.
- SA A U D SD 6. my wife to combine motherhood and a career if that proves possible.
- SA A U D SD 7. to be the "boss" who says what is to be done and what is not to be done.
- SA A U D SD 8. that my wife will be as well informed as I concerning the family's financial status and business affairs.
- SA A U D SD 9. to leave the care of the children entirely up to my wife when they are babies.
- SA A U D SD 10. to be as interested in spending time with the girls as with the boys in our family.
- SA A U D SD 11. that if my wife prefers a career to having children we will have the right to make that choice.
- SA A U D SD 12. that for the most successful family living my wife and I will need more than a high school education.
- SA A U D SD 13. it will be more important for my wife to be a good cook and housekeeper than for her to be an attractive, interesting companion.

- SA A U D SD 14. that being married will not keep me from going to college.
- SA A U D SD 15. that the "family schedule" such as when meals will be served, and when television can be turned on, will be determined by my wishes and working hours.
- SA A U D SD 16. that my wife and I will share responsibility for housework if both of us work outside the home.
- SA A U D SD 17. that keeping the yard, making repairs, and doing outside chores will be the responsibility of whoever has the time and wishes to do them.
- SA A U D SD 18. if as a husband I am a good worker, respectable and faithful to my family, other personal characteristics are of considerably less importance.
- SA A U D SD 19. that it will be more important that my wife has a good family background than that she has a compatible personality and gets along well with people.
- SA A U D SD 20. that I will decide almost all money matters.
- SA A U D SD 21. that my wife and I shall have equal privileges in such things as going out at night.
- SA A U D SD 22. that my major responsibility to our children will be to make a good living, provide a home, and make them mind.
- SA A U D SD 23. that since doing things like laundry, cleaning, and child care are "woman's work", I will feel no responsibility for them.
- SA A U D SD 24. week-ends to be a period of rest for me, so I will not be expected to assist with cooking and housekeeping.
- SA A U D SD 25. that if I help with the housework, my wife will help with outside chores such as keeping the yard, painting or repairing the house.
- SA A U D SD 26. that my wife and I will have equal voice in decisions affecting the family as a whole.
- SA A U D SD 27. that after marriage my wife will forget an education and make a home for me.
- SA A U D SD 28. that my wife will love and respect me regardless of the kind of work that I do.
- SA A U D SD 29. my wife to work outside the home if she enjoys working more than staying at home.
- SA A U D SD 30. that both my wife and I will concern ourselves with the social and emotional development of our children.
- SA A U D SD 31. it will be just as important that I am congenial, love and enjoy my family as that I earn a good living.

- SA A U D SD 32. that it will be equally important that my wife is affectionate and understanding as that she is thrifty and skillful in housekeeping.
- SA A U D SD 33. that it will be my responsibility and privilege to choose where we will go and what we will do when we go out.
- SA A U D SD 34. to manage my time so I can show a genuine interest in what our children do.
- SA A U D SD 35. that my wife will let me tell her how to vote.
- SA A U D SD 36. that my wife and I will take an active interest together in what's going on in our community.
- SA A U D SD 37. that if my wife can cook, sew, keep house, and care for children, any other kind of education for her is unnecessary.
- SA A U D SD 38. that having compatible personalities will be considerably less important to us than such characteristics as being religious, honest, and hard working.
- SA A U D SD 39. it will be only natural that I will be the one concerned about politics and what is going on in the world.
- SA A U D SD 40. my wife to accept the fact that I will devote most of my time to getting ahead and becoming a success.
- SA A U D SD 41. that being married should cause little or no change in my social or recreational activities.
- SA A U D SD 42. that my wife will generally prefer talking about something like clothes, places to go, and "women's interests" to talking about complicated international and economic affairs.
- SA A U D SD 43. that my wife's activities outside the home will be largely confined to those associated with the church.
- SA A U D SD 44. my wife to stay at home to care for the children and me instead of using time attending club meetings and entertainment outside the home.
- SA A U D SD 45. that an education is important for my wife whether or not she works outside the home.
- SA A U D SD 46. that my wife will keep herself informed and active in the work of the community.
- SA A U D SD 47. that since I must earn the living, I can't be expected to take time to "play" with the children.
- SA A U D SD 48. that it is my wife's job rather than mine to set a good example and see that the family goes to church.
- SA A U D SD 49. it will be more important that as a husband I am ambitious and a good provider than that I am kind, understanding, and get along well with people.

- SA A U D SD 50. it will be equally as important for my wife to find time to enjoy our children as to do things like bathing, dressing, and feeding them.
- SA A U D SD 51. my wife to fit her life to mine.
- SA A U D SD 52. that managing and planning for spending money will be a joint proposition between my wife and me.
- SA A U D SD 53. to manage my time so that I will be able to share in the care of the children.
- SA A U D SD 54. that having guests in our home will not prevent my lending a hand with serving meals or keeping the house orderly.
- SA A U D SD 55. that we will permit the children to share, according to their abilities, with the parents in making family decisions.
- SA A U D SD 56. to help wash or dry dishes.
- SA A U D SD 57. entire responsibility for earning the family living.
- SA A U D SD 58. that staying at home with the children will be my wife's duty rather than mine.
- SA A U D SD 59. that an education for me will be as important in making me a more cultured person as in helping me to earn a living.
- SA A U D SD 60. to feel equally as responsible for the children after work and on holidays as my wife does.
- SA A U D SD 61. to make most of the decisions concerning the children such as where they will go and what they may do.
- SA A U D SD 62. that it will be exclusively my wife's duty to do the cooking and keeping the house in order.
- SA A U D SD 63. that I will forget about an education after I am married and support my wife.
- SA A U D SD 64. that my wife and I will share household tasks according to individual interests and abilities rather than according to "woman's work" and "man's work".
- SA A U D SD 65. as far as education is concerned, that it is unimportant for my wife or me if both of us are ambitious and hard working.
- SA A U D SD 66. to earn a good living if I expect love and respect from my family.
- SA A U D SD 67. whether or not my wife works will depend upon what we as a couple think is best for our own happiness.
- SA A U D SD 68. that if my wife is not going to work outside the home, there is no reason for getting a college education.

- SA A U D SD 69. as our children grow up the boys will be more my responsibility while the girls are my wife's.
- SA A U D SD 70. that my wife and I will feel equally responsible for looking after the welfare of our children.
- SA A U D SD 71. that my wife will take full responsibility for care and training of our children so that I can devote my time to my work.

Prepared by: Faye B. Haywood  
Family Relations Specialist

# MARRIAGE ROLE EXPECTATION INVENTORY

## Form F

What do you expect of marriage? This inventory of marriage role expectations will help you and your fiance to understand what each of you expect in marriage! If each partner can have a better understanding of mutual role expectations before marriage, then you have a head start on one important adjustment newlyweds have to make. There are no right or wrong answers.

Encircle the symbol that represents your opinion of each statement.  
PLEASE ANSWER EVERY QUESTION.

### Key

SA -- Strongly agree

A -- Agree

U -- Undecided

D -- Disagree

SD -- Strongly disagree

IN MY MARRIAGE I EXPECT:

- SA A U D SD 1. that if there is a difference of opinion, my husband will decide where to live.
- SA A U D SD 2. that my opinion will carry as much weight as my husband's in money matters.
- SA A U D SD 3. my husband to help with the housework.
- SA A U D SD 4. that it would be undesirable for me to be better educated than my husband.
- SA A U D SD 5. that if we marry before going to college, my husband and I will do our best to go on to earn college degrees.
- SA A U D SD 6. to combine motherhood, and a career if that proves possible.
- SA A U D SD 7. my husband to be the "boss" who says what is to be done and what is not to be done.
- SA A U D SD 8. that I will be as well informed as my husband concerning the family's financial status, and business affairs.
- SA A U D SD 9. my husband to leave the care of the children entirely up to me when they are babies.
- SA A U D SD 10. my husband to be as interested in spending time with the girls as with the boys in our family.
- SA A U D SD 11. that if I prefer a career to having children, we will have the right to make that choice.
- SA A U D SD 12. that for the most successful family living my husband and I will need more than a high school education.
- SA A U D SD 13. it will be more important for me to be a good cook and housekeeper than for me to be an attractive, interesting companion.

- SA A U D SD 14. that being married will not keep my husband from going to college.
- SA A U D SD 15. that the family "schedule" such as when meals are served and when the television can be turned on will be determined by my husband's wishes and working hours.
- SA A U D SD 16. that my husband and I will share responsibility for work if both of us work outside the home.
- SA A U D SD 17. that keeping the yard, making repairs, and doing outside chores will be the responsibility of whoever has the time and wishes to do them.
- SA A U D SD 18. if my husband is a good worker, respectable and faithful to his family, other personal characteristics are of considerably less importance.
- SA A U D SD 19. it will be more important that as a wife I have a good family background than that I have a compatible personality and get along well with people.
- SA A U D SD 20. that almost all money matters will be decided by my husband.
- SA A U D SD 21. that my husband and I shall have equal privileges in such things as going out at night.
- SA A U D SD 22. that my husband's major responsibility to our children will be to make a good living, provide a home and make them mind.
- SA A U D SD 23. that since doing things like laundry, cleaning, and child care are "woman's work", my husband will feel no responsibility for them.
- SA A U D SD 24. week-ends to be a period of rest for my husband, so he will not be expected to assist with cooking and housekeeping.
- SA A U D SD 25. that if my husband helps with the housework, I will help with outside chores such as keeping the yard, painting or repairing the house.
- SA A U D SD 26. that my husband and I will have equal voice in decisions affecting the family as a whole.
- SA A U D SD 27. that after marriage I will forget an education and make a home for my husband.
- SA A U D SD 28. that I will love and respect my husband regardless of the kind of work he does.
- SA A U D SD 29. to work outside the home if I enjoy working more than staying at home.
- SA A U D SD 30. that both my husband and I will concern ourselves with the social and emotional development of our children.
- SA A U D SD 31. it will be just as important for my husband to be congenial, love and enjoy his family as to earn a good living.

- SA A U D SD 32. that it will be equally as important that as a wife I am affectionate and understanding as that I am thrifty and skillful in housekeeping.
- SA A U D SD 33. that it will be my husband's responsibility and privilege to choose where we will go and what we will do when we go out.
- SA A U D SD 34. to manage my time so that I can show a genuine interest in what our children do.
- SA A U D SD 35. that I will let my husband tell me how to vote.
- SA A U D SD 36. that my husband and I will take an active interest together in what's going on in our community.
- SA A U D SD 37. that if I can cook, sew, keep house, and care for children any other kind of education for me is unnecessary.
- SA A U D SD 38. that having compatible personalities will be considerably less important to us than such characteristics as being religious, honest, and hard working.
- SA A U D SD 39. it will be only natural that my husband will be the one concerned about politics and what is going on in the world.
- SA A U D SD 40. to accept the fact that my husband will devote most of his time to getting ahead and becoming a success.
- SA A U D SD 41. that being married should cause little or no change in my husband's social or recreational activities.
- SA A U D SD 42. that I will generally prefer talking about something like clothes, places to go, and "women's interests" to talking about complicated international and economic affairs.
- SA A U D SD 43. that my activities outside the home will be largely confined to those associated with the church.
- SA A U D SD 44. to stay at home to care for my husband and children instead of using time attending club meetings, and entertainment outside the home.
- SA A U D SD 45. that an education is important for me whether or not I work outside the home.
- SA A U D SD 46. that I will keep myself informed and active in the work of the community.
- SA A U D SD 47. that since my husband must earn a living, he can't be expected to take time to "play" with the children.
- SA A U D SD 48. that it is my job rather than my husband's to set a good example and see that my family goes to church.
- SA A U D SD 49. it will be more important that my husband is ambitious and a good provider than that he is kind, understanding and get along well with people.

- SA A U D SD 50. it will be equally as important to find time to enjoy our children as to do things like bathing, dressing, and feeding them.
- SA A U D SD 51. to fit my life to my husband's.
- SA A U D SD 52. that managing and planning for spending money will be a joint proposition between my husband and me.
- SA A U D SD 53. my husband to manage his time so that he will be able to share in the care of the children.
- SA A U D SD 54. that having guests in our home will not prevent my husband's lending a hand with serving meals or keeping the house orderly.
- SA A U D SD 55. that we will permit the children to share, according to their abilities, with the parents in making family decisions.
- SA A U D SD 56. my husband to help wash or dry dishes.
- SA A U D SD 57. my husband to be entirely responsible for earning the living for our family.
- SA A U D SD 58. that staying at home with the children will be my duty rather than my husband's.
- SA A U D SD 59. that an education for my husband will be as important in making him a more cultured person as in helping him to earn a living.
- SA A U D SD 60. my husband to feel equally as responsible for the children after work and on holidays as I do.
- SA A U D SD 61. my husband to make most of the decisions concerning the children such as where they will go and what they may do.
- SA A U D SD 62. that it will be exclusively my duty to do the cooking and keeping the house in order.
- SA A U D SD 63. that my husband will forget about an education after he is married and support his wife.
- SA A U D SD 64. that my husband and I will share household tasks according to individual interests and abilities rather than according to 'woman's work' and 'man's work.'
- SA A U D SD 65. as far as education is concerned, that it is unimportant for either my husband or me if both of us are ambitious and hard working.
- SA A U D SD 66. my husband to earn a good living if he expects love and respect from his family.
- SA A U D SD 67. whether or not I work will depend on what we as a couple think is best for our own happiness.
- SA A U D SD 68. that if I am not going to work outside the home, there is no reason for my getting a college education.

- SA A U D SD 69. as our children grow up the boys will be more my husband's responsibility while the girls will be mine.
- SA A U D SD 70. that my husband and I will feel equally responsible for looking after the welfare of our children.
- SA A U D SD 71. that I will take full responsibility for care and training of our children so that my husband can devote his time to his work.

Prepared by: Faye B. Haywood  
Family Relations Specialist

PLANNING YOUR WEDDING

Concept

Young couples frequently dream of an elaborate wedding that their parents cannot afford, or have no knowledge of the time, effort, and money that may be required for the type of wedding they expect. They may be disappointed or frustrated if they are unable to have the type of wedding expected, or if some portion of the attire, ceremony or festivities is not provided, or is not available at the appropriate time.

Teaching Objective

To help prospective brides and grooms to look at the dimensions of the type of wedding they may desire, to learn about alternative choices in time, place and activities involved, and to see how they might realistically plan for a ceremony in keeping with their spending limits, the time available and family tastes.

Teaching Aids

Transparency set and discussion guide

Handout materials for program participants:

"Timetable for a Beautiful Wedding"

"Requirements for Marriage in North Carolina"

"Wedding Costs"

### Learning Activities

If this lesson is taught as the second one in a series, assignments should be made for individuals in the class to do some local checking on costs and requirements for a wedding, between the first and second lesson. Assignments might include:

- . Basic costs for medical examination at doctor's office.
- . Legal requirements and amount of fees for license, at Register of Deeds office, in county courthouse.
- . Costs for different types of invitations for wedding from several printers.
- . Costs for various services of florists.
- . Wedding cakes from bakery, and other catered food items that might be used for reception.
- . Range of costs for wedding gowns and clothing for attendants, and rental fees for garments.
- . Conferences might be held with several ministers to determine their requirements for couples whose ceremonies they will conduct.

At the second meeting of the group, these reports will be given by the class members. As time permits, encourage discussion and the development of a time schedule for a wedding.

Agent presenting the lesson may need to be aware of these facts in case students do not bring forth their assignments.

Transparencies may be used to guide the discussion. If a machine is not available, the discussion guide may still be used to organize the discussion around the central points to provide an opportunity for the participants to report on their assignments. Distribution materials may be given at the close of the meeting.

PLANNING YOUR WEDDING

Visual

Discussion points

DECISIONS

Everything you do in life that is important involves many decisions. The most important decision you may make is that of being married. When you are sure that you are right in this decision, and that you have found the right person to share your life, you will begin a process that needs careful planning and will involve many further decisions. You need to ask yourself some questions and with your intended spouse, make some basic decisions:

WHEN?

When will you be married? You will need to consider:

- . Time convenient for both of you in regard to work, travel, etc.
- . Convenience for all family members who will be involved.
- . Enough time to carry out special plans you want, regarding guests, flowers, reception, and use of facilities.
- . Local customs may be considered.

TYPE OF SERVICE?

What type of service do you want?

- . Consider church or faith of bride and groom.
- . Size of wedding might depend upon costs involved.

- . Recommendations of minister of church where ceremony might take place.
- . Personal tastes.

#### WHERE?

Where will you be married? This may depend upon:

- . The type of service you decide to have.
- . Convenience in travel for all members of the wedding party.
- . Availability of church, home, or garden
- . What costs are involved?
- . Will you need to provide a map for guests?

#### WHO WILL BE IN THE WEDDING PARTY?

Your selection of participants in the wedding party should be in keeping with your personal tastes and the type of service you will have. In general, the more people in the service the greater the total costs will be, and the more details will be involved in planning and carrying through the wedding ceremony. To minimize the costs, consider the basic roles to be performed in the service.

#### WHAT WILL BE THE COST OF THE WEDDING?

General costs include:

- . Legal fees and gratuity to presiding official or minister.
- . Use of buildings for ceremony and reception may require rental fees.
- . Clothing for participants
- . Food for festivities

- . Flowers seem to be essential!
- . Transportation may be needed to some events.
- . Gifts for attendants and others.

#### STEPS IN PLANNING

A systematic plan for the wedding will prevent headaches, frustration and disappointment.

Think in terms of:

- . A timetable that allows for ordering the necessary items, such as invitations, flowers, food, and clothing, and for time schedules of participants.
- . Carrying out the necessary legal requirements for physical examinations and waiting periods, if necessary.
- . Financial planning, consistent with ability to pay. Try to have all items paid for before the wedding, so that the debt-free couple may have a greater chance for happiness!!

-----

Information about local costs, customs and conditions may be presented after this presentation, or it may be interspersed with this suggested dialogue.

REQUIREMENTS FOR MARRIAGE IN NORTH CAROLINA

Ages

Both parties must be at least 18 years of age or have written consent of both parents signed before a notary public. In the event either party is under 21, they should present their birth certificate as proof of age. The form below is used in Wake County for applicants under the age of 18.

---

To the Register of Deeds for..... County, .....,N. C.  
Post Office

This is to certify that you have our consent to issue license for the marriage of our daughter/son

....., of ..... County, N.C.

to ....., of ..... County, N.C.

Her/his age is ..... years.

Given under our/my hand(s) and seal(s) this ..... day of ....., 19.....

Father..... (Seal)

Mother ..... (Seal)

Signed/acknowledge before me this ..... day of ....., 19.....

....., Notary Public

For ..... County,

SEAL State of.....

My commission expires.....

---

Blood tests and physical examinations

Both parties must have a blood test and physical examination. The blood test may come from any approved laboratory as long as the original of the laboratory report is presented to the Register of Deeds' office on application for the marriage license. A report signed by the doctor taking the blood is



## Getting the License

There is no waiting period before or after the license is issued. A couple may purchase the license and be married immediately or wait as long as 60 days. However, the license must be purchased in the county in which the marriage is to be performed.

The license costs five dollars and may be purchased in the county office of the Register of Deeds. These offices are usually open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The form below indicates the information necessary for obtaining the license:

### WORK SHEET FOR PREPARATION OF MARRIAGE LICENSE FORM

Form VS-84  
1/70

LICENSE NUMBER		COUNTY		GROOM-NAME		FIRST		MIDDLE		LAST	
1.		COUNTY		CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION		INSIDE CITY LIMITS (Specify Yes Or No)		2d.			
2a.		2b.		2c.		DATE OF BIRTH (Month, Day, Year)		4a.		AGE	
2e.		3.		4b.							
5a.		5b.		5c.							
6a.		6b.		6c.							
7.		8.		9a.		9b.		10.		11b.	
11a.		12b.		12c.		12d.					
12a.		12b.		12c.		12d.					
12e.		13.		14a.		14b.					
15a.		15b.		15c.							
16a.		16b.		16c.							
17.		18.		19a.		19b.		20.			

(Forms and information for preparing these instructions were obtained from the Wake County Register of Deeds.)

Prepared by: Justine Rozier, Home Management Specialist

## TIMETABLE FOR A BEAUTIFUL WEDDING

Although the bride and groom may be impatient for the state of wedded bliss, time and planning are important for a perfect wedding. The larger the wedding party and the more formal the ceremony, the more time and attention to details will be necessary. Planning for some weddings may begin some months or a year in advance but it is possible to have a small wedding with printed invitations, a reception and other festivities, in as short a time as six weeks. The type of wedding desired, family resources for financing the wedding, and numerous personal tastes and interests will determine the amount of time to spend in preparing for a wedding. It is desirable to have at least three months to plan a conventional church wedding, such as many young couples in North Carolina usually anticipate.

When a couple has decided to wed the first and most important decisions are usually these:

- . The time and place of the wedding, and the type of wedding, formal or informal, traditional or contemporary.
- . Consult with the clergyman who will perform the ceremony, and arrange details regarding the service and schedule for use of facilities.
- . Determine the number of guests to be invited to the wedding and reception, consulting with the bridegroom's family. Compile accurate list with correct addresses.
- . Make arrangements for reception as to time and place, foods and their service, music and flowers.
- . Choose wedding attendants. Bride should choose gown and plan what the bridesmaids will wear.

- . Make some provision for family and friends to know your wishes about gifts. China, crystal and silver patterns may be selected and your choices listed with a local dealer. A close friend may be trusted to convey this type of information without embarrassment.
- . Make plans for your new home; decide on the location and furnishings you will need.
- . The couple should discuss their need for family planning. A conference with your doctor should be set up as soon as possible to discuss alternatives. Make appointments for having physical examinations and blood tests within 30 days before wedding date.

Two months before the wedding, if possible:

- . Order your invitations, announcements and other personal stationery.
- . Begin buying the clothing needed for your trousseau.
- . Set a date for the wedding rehearsal and arrange for the rehearsal supper.

One month before the wedding:

- . Address and mail invitations.
- . Check up on outfits for bridal party, and have fittings on wedding gown.
- . Arrange for sitting with photographer for wedding portrait.
- . Rings for both bride and groom should be purchased, if both are to be used, at this time. Also, buy gifts for attendants and bridegroom, and make plans for an occasion to present gifts to attendants.
- . Now is the time for parties and showers, while the bride may still have time for purchasing needed lingerie, linens and household furnishings.

- . Bridegroom should order boutonnieres and flowers for the wedding party and for the two mothers.
- . Bride consults with caterer about reception menu and cake; discusses decorations for church and reception with the florist.
- . Arrange for accommodations for out-of-town guests.

One week before the wedding:

- . Send wedding announcement to the local newspapers, including glossy print of wedding portrait.
- . Check on arrival of gowns, trousseau items.
- . Make a beauty shop appointment for wedding hair-do.
- . Have luncheon or other festive party for bridesmaids.
- . Arrange for family and friends to see the gifts received.
- . Pack uncrushables when there is free time; make wise use of last days' free time to check details.

The day before:

- . Tell someone your honeymoon itinerary, and arrange for someone to check your new home while you are gone.
- . Bride goes to hairdresser's early in the day, packing of luggage is completed.
- . Couple participate in wedding rehearsal and dinner; visit with families.
- . Go to bed early to be well rested for the big day.

## WEDDING COSTS

According to the leading authorities on American social customs, all expenses of a wedding should be paid for by the bride's parents. Usually, the parents will want to provide the finest wedding they can afford. The wedding will be a happy, festive occasion to which they will want to invite many friends and relatives of the bride and groom.

Expenditure for a wedding may be a large budget item, requiring some withdrawal of savings or extensive use of credit. However, the costs of a wedding should be in keeping with the general scale of living of the family. As soon as possible after wedding plans begin, the couple and the parents should discuss the type of wedding desired and estimate the total expenditure. Memories of the wedding will be happier for all concerned if the expenses do not leave an extended lingering debt. Parents of several children need to consider the precedence set by the wedding of the first child.

Most books and magazines which provide information and instructions for planning weddings describe in detail the more formal and expensive weddings. Frequently, the bride and her family want a "very nice wedding" but something a little less costly. Certain of the wedding features as described in the manuals may not be appropriate or customary in the local community, especially in some rural areas. The legal requirements for marriage are few; the rest of the event is a matter of religious customs and personal tastes.

So that the wedding may consistently be carried out on a unified scale, some estimate of total costs should be made before deciding on the specific

details of the wedding before committing any funds for expenditure. Brides-to-be who are employed frequently ease the burden on their parents by paying for portions of the wedding themselves. Some buy their own wedding gown and housekeeping items for the first home.

Contemporary weddings in which the bride does not wear a traditional or expensive wedding dress, who uses native flowers instead of florist services, and foregoes a formal reception served and provided by a catering service, may be much less expensive than a traditional formal service. However, the type of service and celebration does not always dictate the cost.

#### Who Pays What?

The lists below indicate how expenses may be allocated, traditionally, between the bride and groom and their families. Customs may vary in your locality so this is only a guide.

##### The Bride or Her Family

1. Her trousseau
2. Wedding ring for her bridegroom
3. Wedding gift for her groom (optional)
4. Presents for her attendants
5. Accommodations for her attendants
6. Personal stationery and calling cards
7. Her medical examination
8. If she is financially independent, the bride may assume any other of her family's traditional responsibilities.

##### The Bridegroom

1. Bride's engagement and wedding rings
2. The marriage license
3. Gift for the bride
4. His medical examination
5. Bride's bouquet and going-away corsage
6. Boutonnieres for men of wedding party
7. Flowers for the two mothers
8. Gloves, ascots or ties for the men in the wedding party
9. Gifts for his ushers and best man
10. Accommodations for his best man and ushers
11. Fee for the clergyman
12. The wedding trip
13. Flowers to the bride's mother after the wedding accompanied by a warm, thank-you note.

The Bride's Family

1. Wedding invitations and enclosure cards
2. Announcements
3. Engagement and wedding photographs
4. Rental for church, if required
5. Fees for the organist, soloist and sexton
6. Aisle carpet
7. Flowers for church
8. Bridesmaids' bouquets and flower headdress
9. Gratuity for traffic policemen
10. Transportation for bridal party from house to church and to the reception.
11. Bridesmaids' luncheon
12. Entire cost of the reception

The Bridegroom's Family

1. Clothes they wear to the wedding
2. Any traveling expenses and hotel bills
3. Wedding gift for the bride and bridegroom
4. The dinner preceding or following the wedding rehearsal can be given by either the bride or bridegroom's family.

## SELECTING QUALITY FURNITURE

- 1 What is quality? How can I be sure I'm getting quality when I buy furniture?
- 2 Two ways to assure yourself that you are getting quality furniture is to:
  - 1) Patronize a reliable furniture dealer who will stand behind the furniture he sells along with the manufacturer.
  - 2) Know something yourself about what to look for in quality furniture. Be able to ask intelligent questions, recognize quality when you see it and know when a bargain is a bargain! To learn this, do a lot of looking before you buy.
- 4 In planning furniture purchases consider your needs, your furnishings plan and your budget.
  - 1) What basic pieces do you need? For most couples, the basics include a bed, chest of drawers, sofa, dining table and chairs.
  - 2) You may want to work out a three-to-five-year buying plan which provides for the purchase of some furnishings each year. This will help you view needed furniture and other household items as they relate to other possible expenditures. Also, such a plan gives you an opportunity to think about the complete interior of your apartment or house rather than individual items. It will guide you in buying what you really need. So, a good plan is to buy the essential pieces first and then add other items.
  - 3) Certainly the amount of money you have will determine your choice of furniture. One good rule to remember is for the largest share to go for those pieces that will receive hard usage over a long period of time. Spend lesser amounts on accessory furnishings such as lamps and lamp, coffee and end tables.
- 5 In selecting furniture, consideration should be given to five basic features: design, use, comfort, price, construction and care.
- 6 The design of your furniture will be determined somewhat by your style preferences. That is, do you prefer contemporary, French or Early American? Choose a style that fits in with your way of life and your house. It should be one which you can live with and like over a long period of time. This does not mean you must furnish the apartment or house in one period.

One trend today is to combine furniture pieces of different styles and periods. Extensive knowledge of period furniture is not essential in combining pieces of different periods, but the use of common sense is important. You should be aware of lines, design and feel.

- 7 There are a few guides which apply to any style. It should be simple. Remember, simplicity is the clue to elegance. It should employ the principles of good design, which are good balance, proportion, scale and harmony. The design should be suited to the object's use.

The decoration of the furniture should enhance the object and be suited to the use of the object. Beware of too much decoration!

#### Use

- 8 The first test of a piece of furniture is utility. Before buying, consider these points. Color: Is the item usable in terms of color? Size: Medium-size, light-scaled furniture fits in more rooms and houses than do heavy, bulky pieces. Style: Avoid furniture fads you may tire of soon. Consider future uses that can be made of the piece. A small chest might be used now for a night table and later for a lamp table in the living room.

#### Comfort

- 9 Comfort means more to most people than any other characteristic. You want to be able to sit and relax and enjoy your home.

Points to consider in comfort of chairs and sofas are the seat, back and arm rest. Feet should rest on the floor. The seat depth should give good back support. The seat should reach to the back of the person's knees when seated. It should be wide enough to allow easy movement. The seat should slant slightly to the back and be lower in the back. But severe slopes are hard to get out of.

The back should be angled and slanted for comfort. Straight backs are less-comfortable. Chairs with deep seats require backs with more slant. A slight curve to the back will fit the shape of the person's back and be more comfortable.

Arm rests should be high enough to support arms without raising the shoulder. Arm rests may not be desirable if they restrict activity.

How does one determine comfort? Sit on it. Lie on it. Check desks and tables for correct height by seating yourself in the chair that will be used with the piece.

#### Price

- 10 Just remember you will be spending a sizable amount of your income for furnishing the home. Learn to make sound furnishing selections in order to get the best buy for the price you can afford. Pay as much as you can afford, for in the furniture business, you generally get what you pay for.

### Construction

- 11 But now, let's get technical and talk about construction. First, it might be best to define some terms related to construction.

Veneers - Veneer is wood constructed by laminating or bonding thin sheets of wood to a wood core. The majority of today's furniture is made from veneer.

Veneer is stronger than wood of the same thickness. It is resistant to warping, checking and swelling because of cross plying. Veneering allows for the use of a more expensive wood on the face than if solid wood was used. Striking grain and figure effects are possible with veneers. Veneers can be shaped into simple and complex curves.

Genuine - When the name of a wood is used, all exposed parts must be made of that wood. If, for example, the term 'mahogany' or 'genuine mahogany' is used, all exposed parts of the piece must be of mahogany. Both solid and veneer can be used on exposed parts on furniture described as genuine - usually solid wood for the frame and veneer for the surface.

Solid - When 'solid' is used with the name of a wood, all exposed parts must be of solid lumber of that type.

Finish - Finish is the final appearance of the wood surface of furniture. It usually refers to the color of the surface. A label that reads 'walnut finish' means that the wood has been finished to look like walnut.

Imitations - When simulations of a wood grain, pattern or figure are applied by any process to another material, immediate disclosure of this fact must be made. Hardboard or masonite photographically printed to resemble walnut must be described as 'walnut grained hardboard.'

Woods - There are two basic types of woods used in furniture. Hardwoods are from leaf-bearing trees such as walnut, mahogany, pecan, maple, birch, cherry, teak and rosewood. Soft woods are from cone-bearing trees, or evergreens, such as pine, redwood, cedar and cypress.

Which is better? It depends on what it is used for. But usually the frame or inside parts will be of pine, a soft wood, and the face or exposed parts of one of the hardwoods.

- 12 One way to determine quality construction is by the type of joints used, or how pieces are put together. Mortise and tenon, doweled, corner blocks and dovetailed are some of the best.

Mortise and tenon joints have a cavity (mortise) in one piece of wood into which a projecting piece (tenon) fits. This type of joint is usually the strongest.

Doweled joints have wooden pegs (dowels) inserted into the holes of the adjoining piece of wood.

Dovetailed have several tongues on the end of one piece designed to fit the grooves on the other. Such is used in most good drawers.

Corner blocks should be notched and screwed into place. These should be found wherever rigidity is important such as in chairs and table legs.

- 13 The drawers are an ideal place to check quality in case goods. They can easily be examined and are usually a pretty good indication of overall quality. All four corners should have interlocking dovetail joints. Hardwood should be used for the drawer construction. The entire inner surface of the drawer should be smoothly sanded and coated with harmonizing finish. In the best quality of furniture, small corner blocks are used on the underneath side to give extra strength.

- 14 Drawers should form a flush surface with the drawer opening and fit neatly. Exact fit is necessary for beauty and ease in use.

A test for a well-constructed and well-fitted drawer is to see if it will open evenly. Try opening the drawer by pulling on only one side or one end. It should glide in either case. For smooth fit and easy use, a drawer may have a center guide strip of hardwood, metal or plastic. Some have plastic rollers on each side. The center strip should be smooth, straight and well attached.

Look for dust panels between the drawers as another indication of quality, and a stop to prevent the drawer from coming all the way out.

Doors also should fit smoothly and open easily. They should have good hinges to prevent sagging. Some of the same points mentioned about drawers apply to doors as well.

- 15 Attractive drawer and door pulls add quality. Check to see that they are firmly attached. Do they fit easily into your hand and allow you to open the drawers and doors easily? Metal pulls should be resistant to tarnish. The surface of poor ones may be so thinly coated with metal that it quickly peels off.

- 16 The frame of a piece of case goods should be strong and sturdy. Tip or rock the article and observe possible weaknesses in structure. The legs should be sturdy and level. Move the piece to a different spot on the floor. Metal or plastic glides or rubber tips on legs are seen on some quality pieces, or self-leveling swivel casters. Turn it up and look on the underside. It should be finished to prevent swelling or shrinking. What type of material was used on the bottom and back? In expensive pieces the back may be of the same wood as the sides and sanded and completely finished. In most instances, you will find hard-board or three-ply veneer back panels. It should be fitted and screwed into back posts. In lower priced pieces, it may be nailed on.

### Finishes

- 17 A finish is put on wood to seal the surface, to make cleaning easier and to bring out depth and luster. Learn to judge the finish by viewing both low-priced and expensive furniture. Compare sheen, smoothness and

color. Inspect finishes in a good light and look at them from different angles. Avoid a hard shine. Question a cloudy, opaque, painted look. You might also rub the surface with the finger until it is warm. If the coating becomes sticky, this shows a poor finish.

- 18 There are many types of finishes available today. Some are decorative and some are protective. Colored, antiqued and distressed finishes are popular decorative finishes on much wood furniture today.

Protective finishes: One of the big developments in wood furniture is the super-finishes that provide a plastic encasement of the wood. The manufacturer of wood furniture had to develop some type of finish which would compare with the resistance and toughness of the plastic-topped tables.

Polyesters, epoxies and urethanes rate highest in chemical resistance, abrasion resistance and film hardness. They require no special care such as waxing, oiling or staining.

#### Upholstered Furniture

- 19 Upholstered furniture is a blind product. That is, it has many hidden inner characteristics. Ask dealers to show you illustrations of how the furniture is made. Ask about kind and quality of inner materials. Ask questions and make comparisons.

There are five important parts of upholstered furniture to consider: frame, seat, back and base construction, cushioning material and fabric.

The frame should be made of dried hardwood, free of knots and imperfections which may cause warping and twisting. All the points mentioned for case goods apply to joining. Usually screws to attach frame member will make a piece of furniture sturdier. If the frame is made of metal, it too should be securely joined. The only way to tell is to move it around, shade it, tilt it, twist it and lift it to see if it swags or warps.

- 20 The base is that part that serves as the platform of the cushioning materials and is sometimes called webbing or spring supports. It must be good enough in quality to support springs, cushions and you. Spring supports are usually a fabric (jute) webbing, but they may be of steel or rubber. Steel bands are less resilient than jute or rubber, but they are secure and rigid. Whatever the materials, it should be tightly stretched and securely tacked to the frame.

Springs add resilience and prevent sagging. They should be made of tempered carbon steel and placed closely together. There are two basic types of springs: arched, serpentine or "S" and the coil. (The "S" type spring construction is used most frequently today with webbing.) It is used where minimum of bulk is desired. They are attached directly to the frame and linked together with tiny coiled springs (helicals).

Coil springs are generally attached to webbing or steel bands. In quality furniture springs are tied several times with twine. Eightway ties per spring show good quality. Too few ties cause uncomfortable hollows to develop between springs.

A layer of burlap, cotton felt or rubberized sisal should be placed over the springs to separate them from the padding.

Be sure to see if there is a muslin dust cover on the underside of the chair.

- 21 Labeling laws assure that the exact fiber content of the filling be stated. There are several types of materials used in cushions. Some of these are:

Polyurethane foam, which is durable, lightweight, resilient and wears well. It is non-allergenic and mildew-, fungus- and moth-resistant. Wrapping with a Dacron fluff batting gives an extra luxurious feel.

Latex foam rubber, which offers basically the same characteristics as synthetic foam, has slightly better resiliency and durability but is more expensive.

Down is very expensive. It is found in cushions on fine and expensive furniture. Down is light, elastic and does not mat.

Man-made (polyester, acrylic) fiber fills are used as complete filling or wrapping for other filling. They are resilient and resist insects, mildew, drycleaning solvents and alcohol.

Cotton, moss, kapok, sisal and rubberized animal hair are not of as good quality as the others. They are not as durable. They will mat, pulverize and deteriorate.

- 22 The outer covering on upholstered furniture is one of the few places where you can actually see quality. There is an endless variety of fabrics, colors, textures and styles available in upholstery fabric. The fabric should be tightly woven to assure longer wear and prevent picking and pulling of threads. Fabrics are graded as to quality by manufacturers. The grade will be indicated on the sample. Usually low grades begin with "A" and move up the alphabet. Check with the furniture dealer to be sure, as each company has its own system.
- 23 Most all fabrics today should have some type of spot- and stain-resistant finish. Some common ones are Selan and Sylmer, which are silicone finishes that protect fabrics against water-borne stains. They also give an increased resistance to wear. Scotchgard stain repeller repels oily as well as water-borne stains. It prevents stains from penetrating unless they are rubbed into the fabric. Most treated fabrics will carry a label telling about the finish and care procedures.

Also, the fiber content of the fabric will determine how resistant it is to stains. Most of the man-made fibers such as Olefin are more resistant to stains than the natural fibers such as cotton and wool. Learn the characteristics and expectations of the various fibers.

- 24 Since most of the important construction details in upholstered furniture are hidden, look for outside features that indicate quality.
- 25 To insure that the honeymoon will never end, buy a good quality mattress. A quality mattress will give firm support, promote comfortable rest and contribute to good health.
- 26 Your first consideration might be size. Each person needs about 38 inches of bed width and a length about 9 inches longer than he is. Mattresses are available in twin, full (or double), queen, king and super-king widths and in long and regular lengths. Choose the size that best suits your individual sleeping needs.
- 27 The two most common mattress types you can buy are innerspring and foam. The innerspring mattress is composed of a coil spring unit covered on both sides, usually with a sisal pad. This acts as insulation and keeps the padding from working down into the coils. The next layer is a thick layer of felted cotton which further cushions. The final layer is the ticking used to cover all the materials. The finished innerspring mattress is 6-1/2 to 8 inches thick.

Another type of spring construction in the innerspring mattress features coils individually wrapped in cloth pockets. These cloth pockets are tied or sewn together. The coils in this type of innerspring mattress are smaller and with lighter weight wire than the non-wrapped type.

Whether a mattress is soft, medium or firm is determined by the number of coils, the gauge of coils and the type and amount of upholstery. A common misunderstanding is that the more coils the better the mattress.

- 28 The second mattress type is foam. The two types of foam are latex foam and urethane foam. Both are lightweight, non-allergenic and mildew- and mold-proof. The firmness is determined by density. There are no innersprings. Foam mattresses are available in 4-1/2 to 6-inch thickness. The thinner unit may be just as good as the thicker one, depending upon its density and the spring foundation underneath it.

Latex foam mattresses are molded with small hollow core spaces in addition to the natural pores, or air cells, of the latex. Urethane mattress cores are cut from large blocks of foam instead of being molded.

- 29 Springs are the foundation for the mattress. The bedsprings provide one-third or more of the total resilience. The most commonly used is the boxspring. Boxsprings have steel spring-wire coils mounted to a wood frame base. The best ones have coils tied to one another and to their base and border, and they have a slat supporting each row of springs. The springs are covered with padding and ticking to provide a smooth base to support and protect the mattress.

Most bedding experts strongly recommend that mattress and springs be purchased at the same time. In the coil-on-coil units there are the same number of coils in both boxsprings and mattress. Other springs are specially engineered for the foam mattress.

- 30 When you shop for bedding check items as follows:

- 1) Check ticking for closeness of weave.
- 2) Check for pre-built or reinforced borders that will stand erect and neat and not sag or break down from sitting on the edge of the bed.
- 3) Look for taped edges on bottom and top edges of the mattress. The roll edge is used on less expensive mattresses.
- 4) Lie down on the mattress before making your selection.
- 5) Ask questions. Ask the salesman to explain hidden construction. Ask about the design of coils in innerspring mattresses and the way they are connected. Ask about the difference between materials and workmanship and comfort detail among the various price lines.
- 6) Check the label to make sure all new materials have been used.

- 31 When you buy bedding, spend most of your money to buy good springs and mattress. You can use an inexpensive frame to mount them on until you can afford a headboard like you want. It is not necessary to have a headboard. You can use pictures, a swag of fabric, wallpaper, bolsters, pillows, etc., in the place of a headboard.

- 32 In conclusion, remember that before you buy furniture or bedding, be sure you deal with a reliable store and a reliable salesman. Feel free to ask questions, test the product and read the labels and guarantees.

Is the grain of the fabric straight on the piece of furniture? That is, do crosswise threads run parallel to the bottom edge of the frame?

Pay careful attention to the hems and pleats. They should hang straight.

Check the back and for even patterns. Fabric patterns, large or small, should be well centered for an attractive appearance.

Cording or welting should be smooth and straight as well as firmly sewn with matching thread.

Fabric should fit tightly over all areas with no puckering or wrinkles. The curves and corners should be smooth.

Cushions should fit snugly into seat corners and adjoining cushions. Reversible cushions are best to distribute wear. Remember, the zipper was not put there to remove the cover for cleaning; it was used because it enables the manufacturer to upholster with more ease.

## WHERE TO LIVE AFTER THE HONEYMOON

### A Mobile Home

Looking for a place to live after the honeymoon? Short on cash and long on dreams? Well, if you don't have lots of furniture, or you're not too keen on paying apartment rent, and you're not too keen about living with the in-laws, there is another choice--a mobile home.

A mobile home offers a young couple the advantage of your own home complete with furnishings. And when you're looking for a mobile home, you find there are many models on the sales lot with a variety of features in any decor.

- 1  
mobile home  
sales lot

Be a smart mobile home buyer. Look beyond the "flashiness" of units on the sales lot. Remember you've got to live in this home, not just walk through it.
- 2  
good exterior  
design

First impressions are important so look at the exterior design. Architectural decorations should be in proportion to the mobile home. A simple design, free of gaudy moldings and trims, is best. The color of the unit should be pleasing to the eye.
- 3  
Good color  
coordination

If more than one color is used, these should coordinate rather than create a choppy appearance by breaking up the space poorly. Avoid dark colors and flashy color combinations that attract attention. These will grow tiring later, fade with weathering and depreciate the unit before its time.
- 4  
good window  
design

Window size and placement should give rhythm and harmony to the exterior design. Windows that are approximately the same size and placed the same height along the mobile home will create a

neat, uncluttered look on the exterior. Slot-size windows detract from the exterior design. They do not allow for viewing from the interior either.

- 5  
MHMA seal
- Buy from a manufacturer who is a member of the Mobile Home Manufacturers Association. This will give you more assurance of quality and reliability. Look for the MHMA seal usually placed on the exterior of the unit near the front entrance.
- 6  
living area
- Now let's go inside. Look for tasteful design in interior decoration. Walls cluttered with meaningless pictures and cute light brackets, imitation ceiling beams, brick panels and draperies with lavish tie-backs and decoration add little to the design. Instead they make a room look smaller and create a busy, cluttered look.
- 7  
couple sitting on sofa
- Sit on the furniture and look under it to see how it is made. Furniture with heavy, bulky appearance is not always strong and may not withstand hard wear. The total cost of the home will reflect the quality of the furniture. The less expensive mobile homes will have poorer quality furnishings.
- 8  
floor plan of kitchen
- In the kitchen look at the amount and location of counter space. You will need a work space for mixing and a space for washing and draining dishes. There should be at least 12 inches of counter space on each side of the range. There should be 18 inches of counter space on the latch side of the refrigerator.
- 9  
kitchen cabinets
- Look behind the cabinet doors. Look at the cabinet workmanship, check the shelf spacing (some bottom shelves of base cabinets

are the floor), check door and drawer pulls. Be sure they are "screw" types and not glued to the doors. Good cabinet doors have spring-loaded hinges or Alnico magnets in the closures. Nylon guides on drawers will assure ease of operation.

- 10  
floor plan
- An outside door in or near the kitchen will eliminate steps in taking out trash and bringing in groceries.
- 11  
kitchen lighting
- A light in the range hood and over the sink, as well as general lighting in the kitchen, are recommended for work.
- 12  
person at refrigerator
- Check the appliances. Look for familiar brand names that you know you can get serviced in your area. If you select a built-in oven, the oven door should be three inches below your elbow when standing naturally. Ovens placed at eye level are not as convenient as they look.
- 13  
person checking pipes
- Check the pipes under the sink. A double or single bowl should have 1-1/2 inch pipe.
- 14  
tub
- The bathroom should be convenient to the bedroom areas and to the living area. In the bathroom look at the placement of fixtures. If the tub is porcelain enamel, check the installation for tight fit. A combination tub and shower will be more versatile than a shower stall alone.
- 15  
person checking pipes
- Look at the pipes in the bathroom. The standard size 1-1/4 inch drain pipe should be used for the lavatory.
- 16  
bathroom window
- A bathroom window really has little use. It is usually too small for good viewing and for letting in daylight. Also its

small size detracts from the exterior design. A window over the bathtub is especially useless. If it has any leaks, condensation and other problems can occur. Good lighting--overhead and at the lavatory--will be more beneficial than a window.

17  
floor plan

The bedroom should be located in the section of the unit which will be furthest away from outside traffic noise.

Sometimes bedrooms are located at both ends of the unit. This is convenient when the room is used as a study, sewing room or to provide space for overnight guests. However, this location may prove to be a disadvantage when your family grows to include a baby.

18  
closet

Check the amount of closet space. There should be at least three feet per person. Do the closet doors open easily? Look at the tracks if they slide or fold. A track at the top and bottom is best. Closets for hanging should be at least 24 inches deep. Storage space for linens near the bathroom should be 18 inches deep. Sliding or folding closet doors allow more access to the closet area than hinge-hung doors. They also require less space for operation and hinge-hung doors must have swing space in the room.

19  
bed

Check the size of the bed in the second bedroom. It may not be a standard size. Manufacturers sometime use a three-quarter bed that is 43" x 48" wide (in between single and double size).

20  
person sitting  
on bed

Lie on the bed to check it's firmness and support. Pick up the mattress and check the box springs.

- 21  
floor plan
- Now that you've viewed each room, check on the quality of materials and construction. Walls between rooms are usually 2-inch framing members with 1/8 inch - 1/4 inch luan paneling on each side. This type of wall system offers little noise control. Hardboard paneling is used in a few interiors. It has more noise control than the luan paneling. If hardboard paneling is not available, look for closet or storage walls and bathrooms between sleeping area and living areas to minimize noise.
- 22  
room with light walls
- Interior walls are usually of prefinished wood paneling or simulated wood panels. This means there is a vinyl film on the surface. They are available in a variety of colors. Compare the effect of light and dark paneling in a room. Light walls reflect more light and make rooms seem larger; whereas, dark walls absorb more light making rooms seem smaller.
- 23  
person pressing on wall
- Check the rigidity of the construction. Press with your hand on the wall panels to determine if the studs are 16-inch on center or 24 inch. Studs 16 inches apart are better. Press the wall around the stud. If it is a 2 by 4 inch stud, the wall will have more rigidity.
- 24  
person jumping on floor
- Jump up and down on the floor and check the rigidity of the floor construction. Floor joists should be 2 by 6 and/or 2 by 8. Cross supports of 2 by 2 and 2 by 3 placed 16 inches on center should be used. Any larger span and a deflection under load stresses will be noticeable as well as cause squeaking of boards.

- 25  
resilient  
flooring
- The resilient flooring in a mobile home is a vinyl coated material. It will wear well if properly maintained.
- 26  
person ruffling  
carpet
- Carpeting in a mobile home is usually a nylon fiber. Nylon has good wear and stain resistant qualities. However, nylon carpeting tends to give too much of a "shiny" appearance. Ruffle the pile of the carpet to check the density or closeness of the tufts. This is especially important to check in shag carpeting. Also check the installation of the carpet to be sure it is tight and has no wrinkles.
- 27  
floor plan
- Window space in the unit should be at least 10 percent of the total area of the interior with at least 5 percent free to open.
- 28  
floor plan
- There should be two exterior doors in the mobile home. For greater safety in case of fire they should be located near each end of the unit.
- 29  
interior door
- Check the space around doors to see how they fit. Often doors are cut short to give an inch or two of space beneath the door to improve ventilation of the heating system. The doors, however, should operate smoothly without large gaps.
- 30  
fuse box
- A 150 or 200 amp service is needed for an "all electric" mobile home. The fuse box should be located in an inconspicuous place to be as inconspicuous as possible.
- 31  
persons measuring  
distance to out-  
lets
- There should be double electrical outlets a minimum of 12 feet apart in each room.

32  
floor plan

The furnace will be more efficient if it is centrally located in the mobile home. Common types of heating are forced hot air systems using gas or oil for fuel. Gun-type burners are safer than the pot-type. The mobile home should be fully insulated for comfort and economy. This means there should be insulation in the floors, walls and ceiling. Not counting the mortgage payments and park space rental, the heating bill is the biggest annual expense of a mobile home.

33  
floor plan

The water heater also should be placed near the kitchen where the most water is used. The water heater should be no less than 40 gallons quick recovery to supply enough hot water for the home.

Your first home is important. If your first home is going to be a mobile home, be a smart shopper. Knowing what to look for when purchasing a mobile home will make mobile home living more enjoyable for the two of you.

\* \* \* \* \*

## BRIDAL SHOWERS

The bridal shower is a nice tradition associated with the gala entertainment prior to a wedding. The purpose of the bridal shower is to "shower" the bride with gifts. Showers are seldom very big parties ( a mere acquaintance can scarcely be expected to provide a gift); this is truly a party of friends. It is the responsibility of the bride to see to it that her friends and relatives do not become burdened with invitations to showers in her honor. Likewise it is very poor taste for members of the immediate family to issue invitations to a shower. Several friends may want to combine and give a group shower or two instead of many individual showers.

The setting for a shower can be almost anything--a luncheon, a dinner, an afternoon tea, an evening party or even a morning coffee. The shower is sometimes specified as a linen shower, a kitchen shower or a lingerie shower. Have you considered a savings stamp shower, to which guests would bring a book of savings stamps thus allowing the bride to choose her own gifts? Another novel idea is a canned food shower to help stock the bride's new kitchen. Recently friends of the groom have been getting into the act by throwing bar showers and garden showers to which guests bring bar supplies or such yard-keeping equipment as hedge clippers, rake, garden hose, etc. for the groom.

The hostess (or hostesses) often ask the bride or her mother to assist her in making out the guest list as shower guests should be at least invited to the wedding if not the reception.

The hostess will greet her guests at the door, take the present, which each brings, and put it with the others to be opened by the guest of honor at a designated time, usually before refreshments are served. At a "floating shower," guests "float" in and out throughout the party usually handing their gift to the guest of honor when they arrive. Buffet service is usually easier on the hostess if people will be eating and leaving at different times. Party games are the custom in many communities at showers. If you are attending your first shower in a community, it would be wise to check with someone concerning the local customs such as one we've heard of in which the "winner" in the party game turns her prize over to the guest of honor.

Refreshments for a bridal shower should be in keeping with the time of day as well as the time, money, energy and equipment the hostess has to work with. The general rule to follow in this calorie-conscious age is "light and simple." Here are a few suggestions:

Morning Coffee

Coffee cake	Nut breads
Coffee	Spiced cider

Luncheon

Melon balls	
Chicken salad on a bed of lettuce	
Broccoli spears	Summer squash
Hot rolls	
Peppermint Ice Cream in	Meringue Shells
Coffee	Tea

Afternoon Tea

Assorted tea sandwiches  
Cheese straws\*  
Mints\* and nuts  
Petit fours\*  
Tea\* or coffee

Dinner

Cold sliced turkey and ham  
Casserole of creamed asparagus\*  
Tomato wedges      Olives  
Stuffed celery      Carrot sticks  
Hot biscuits  
Strawberry ice cream with shredded coconut\*  
Coffee

Evening

Bridesmaid cake\* and nuts  
Coffee

\*A recipe sheet with starred items is available

## WEDDING RECEPTION

Plans for the wedding reception begin with answer to certain questions:

### How many?

Will everyone invited to the wedding also be invited to the reception or just the bridal party and family?

### Where?

Can the reception be held at the bride's home, in the garden, the church fellowship hall, club house, hotel ballroom?

### What time of day?

As the reception follows the wedding ceremony immediately or within a few hours, it seems wise to consider that guests will be hungrier around mealtime hours. The time of day determines the type of food. If the reception is held any time--

Before two - plan a luncheon or brunch menu

Two to six - refreshments like those served at tea are in order

Six to eight -time for a dinner menu or cocktail hors d'oeuvre-type goodies

After eight - refreshments similar to those served from two to six

### What to serve?

The main difference between wedding refreshments and refreshments for other occasions is that a wedding or bride's cake is cut by the bride and served. Small boxes of wedding cake or groom's cake (dark fruit cake) may be given as a remembrance or

a piece of the cake taken home in a napkin or box to "dream on." All that is necessary, no matter how formal the affair, is a beverage and cake--either small cakes or the bride's cake. The menu can be extended to whatever degree the budget and other resources will allow. Let the time of day govern what type foods to include.

How to serve?

Will it be buffet, plates filled in the kitchen and passed, a sit down meal?

Who will cater?

Professionals? Any size and style reception can be catered. It is, of course, the easiest and most expensive way as the caterer supplies all the food, tables, chairs, napery, china and glass, as well as the necessary waiters. If the reception is to be a sit-down affair, the services of the professional caterer and his staff will be a necessity. As a rule, you guarantee a certain number of covers and then pay a set price per person served based on the menu you select. For less than \$2 per person, you can usually select cake, nuts, mints and plain punch. For a steak dinner with champagne, you could expect to pay \$12 or more per person. Remember to ask that any leftover food be packaged for the bride's mother to take home. Since this food has already been paid for, don't make the mistake of leaving it for the caterer.

The hostess or friends? The bride's mother and friends may choose to cater the reception. Careful planning is the key to success. Many things can be made ahead of time and frozen--even the wedding cake! First, select the menu and list all equipment necessary for serving it--from dish towels to nut spoons. Then make assignments to all involved. Keep in mind that some may have to miss the ceremony in order to attend to last minute details of the reception.

Sometimes the work is split up between home and caterer: Caterer for the cake, the supply of glasses, punch cups, punch bowl or whatever; home or friends for the sandwiches, candies, nuts and other refreshments. The jewelry store at which the bride registers her patterns is sometimes willing to lend candelabra, punch bowl, coffee service, etc.

#### Questions Often Asked About

##### Wedding Receptions

1. How much punch does a punch cup hold? That depends upon the size of the cup! Usually  $1/2$  to  $3/4$  cup of liquid. If ice or fruit will be dipped into each cup, count on less. Most punch recipes are for 50 or 100, divide or multiply the quantity for the number of guests you expect. Count on seconds for about half the guests, especially if the punch is spiked or if dancing will take place at the reception.
2. What's the receiving line line-up? Traditional receiving lines consist of the bridal party minus the best man and

ushers. The mother of the bride and mother of the groom are not actually a part of the receiving line. They stand just inside the door of the room in which the receiving line is formed to greet the guests. Often they stand so near the bride and groom that they are considered part of the receiving line. In this case the order is: Mother of the bride, mother of the groom, bride, groom, maid of honor, bridesmaids.

The bride is always on the groom's right. Fathers of the bride and groom may stand in line next to their respective wives or circulate among the guests, as do the ushers. If very young children are in the wedding, they usually do not stand in the receiving line as it is too long and tiring an ordeal for little folks.

3. How are trinkets put in the wedding cake and what do they mean? Sometimes good luck wedding charms are placed in the wedding cake for the bridal party. They can be baked in (if so, be sure they are the type that do not melt) or pushed through the bottom of the baked cake at short intervals. Be sure the sections are marked (with decorations or toothpicks) and that those to receive charms are forewarned so as to prevent an accident. The bridesmaids find a ten-cent piece for riches, a gold ring for "first to be married," a thimble for "old maid" etc. On the ushers' side, a

button for "old bachelor" and a pair of dice is a symbol of luck. Special charms for this purpose can be purchased at party shops or your caterer will have them with a list of their meanings. Charms are placed in the cake and served as illustrated.



Bridesmaids

Ushers

↑  
Piece for the bridal couple (no charm)

4. What kind of cake is a wedding cake? Traditionally, black fruit cake was used. It is, of course, rather expensive. Most brides now choose pound cake or silver cake, which is made with the egg whites alone and is light and airy. Sometimes the top layer is a fruit cake which is kept for the first anniversary. As the icing is usually white with decorations of white or pastel colors, the cake can be whatever the bride chooses. One we know had devil's food cake under the white icing!

5. How does one cut a tiered cake? The object of the game is to cut it in uniform slices throughout, and at each stage to have the cake remain as sightly as possible.

The slicing starts at the bottom layer. Holding the knife with the blade pointing vertically down, cut all the way around the first layer at the edge of the second layer. Now slice this detached "collar" of cake into half-inch pieces. Follow the same procedure with the second layer: A circular vertical cut first, then the slicing of this "collar." When pieces from the second layer have been served, return to the bottom layer and make a circular vertical cut, just as before to form a "collar" which is then sliced and served. The top layer is now either removed and saved or sliced and served. Then the remainder of the second and bottom layer is cut.

The average number of portions that various sized layers will yield are as follows:

- 14 inch layer will yield approximately 40 servings
- 12 inch layer will yield approximately 30 servings
- 10 inch layer will yield approximately 20 servings
- 9 inch layer will yield approximately 16 servings
- 8 inch layer will yield approximately 12 servings

## THE WEDDING RECEPTION

### Formal

The most elaborate of all wedding receptions is a sit-down meal, called a wedding breakfast if it follows a morning wedding or wedding supper if the wedding takes place in the evening.

Such a reception usually is held in a hotel ballroom or reception hall since few homes are large enough to accommodate such an affair.

When the guests arrive, an open bar awaits them or punch is served as they mingle. The receiving line may be formed at this time or later.

At the appropriate time, the wedding party goes to the bride's table and the parents' table and guests take a place at smaller unmarked tables. As the champagne appears, the best man proposes the first toast to the bride, with other toasts following as the guests are inspired to offer them.

The meal, usually three courses, is then served by waiters and waitresses. When the wedding repast is served buffet and there is no way of seating guests, even at small tables, the soup course is usually omitted and the collation limited to two courses. Even when the guests are served buffet, the bridal and parent tables may be waited upon.

The bridal table is decorated with the bride's cake. Only members of the wedding party--the maid of honor to the right of the groom, the best man to the right of the bride--are expected to sit at the bride's table. The bride is always seated at the groom's left.

Placement of guests at the parents' table is as follows: Father of the groom to right of bride's mother, who is the table's hostess. Opposite the bride's mother sits the bride's father with the groom's mother to his right. Other guests at this table may include the grandparents and the clergyman and his wife. Very distinguished guests are seated at this table, but essentially it is for the parents and their close friends. The parents' table is larger than the guest tables and is the same except for place cards.

At the end of the meal, the bride rises and with her all the gentlemen at the table, cut the cake. The bride cuts only the first slice, with the groom's help, and she and the groom share it. Some designated friend then cuts and apportions the rest of the cake for service to guests.

It is now time for the dancing to begin with the groom having the first dance with his bride.

#### Semi-formal

The "tea type" reception is appropriate for the most formal or informal wedding. All that is necessary, no matter how formal the affair, is punch and cake--either small cakes or the bride's cake. The menu can be extended, of course, to the degree your budget will allow.

It is most ungracious to have guests wait for an extended time for the receiving line to form. If there must be a wait, while pictures are taken, or whatever, guests should at least be

allowed into the reception room. A host and hostess may be assigned the duty of inviting guests into the reception room and seeing that everyone mingles around rather than waiting in a line. It is quite proper for guests to be served punch or champagne or even to start serving themselves from the buffet before the bride arrives. The wedding cake should not be cut, however, until the bride and groom have arrived to do it. Usually they cut the cake after they have received the guests.

Arrange food, plates, silver and napkins on a long table draped with your most elegant cloth (reaching the floor, if possible). It is a good idea to have small covered tables (card tables do nicely) scattered about the room for guests to sit and visit with friends if they like. Thought should be given to a place for guests to put their plates when they have finished. A few friends or waiters can be assigned the task of circulating through the crowd to collect used dishes and return them to the kitchen. Or a table can be placed in the background for the purpose with someone assigned to keep it from piling up. It is often embarrassing for the guest who has finished his refreshments and is ready to depart to find no place other than the buffet table to deposit his used dishes.

The bride's cake and delicate flowers supply the main decoration for the table. Candles may be used after 4 p.m. or when the room is dark and requires artificial light. The bride's cake may be placed in the center of the table or at one

end to balance the punch bowl or coffee service. If more room is needed on the main table, the cake (or beverage) is sometimes placed on a smaller side table.

#### Contemporary

The reception following a "do your own thing" wedding would follow the whims and fantasy of the bridal couple. A clam bake might follow a wedding on the beach where the bridal party and guests were dressed in jeans. Another modern day bride may wish to have harvest tables loaded with organic foods in the midst of a field of flowers as the setting for her reception. We heard of one bride who, still in her wedding gown, prepared and served a complete meal for the wedding party and guests at the couple's new home. Another wedding took place on a golf course with the bridal party arriving in flower bedecked golf carts. One bridal couple who disliked the formality of the receiving line, chose to remain at the wedding cake and serve it to each guest. This eliminated the stiff, formal receiving line, but still gave each guest an opportunity to chat with the couple and offer best wishes.

#### Sample Menus for Wedding Receptions

##### An Early Wedding Breakfast - sit down or buffet

A Toast to the Bride	
Baked Eggs in Cheese Sauce	on Crispy Ham*
Toast	Butter Balls
Strawberries in Golden Nectar*	
Wedding Cake	Coffee

A Noon Wedding Breakfast - breakfast in name only; both  
hour and menu indicate luncheon

A Toast to the Bride  
Breast of Chicken Saute\*  
Broccoli Spears      Almond Rice\*  
Garden Salad  
Wedding Cake  
Ice Cream              Coffee

Refreshments for Afternoon or Evening

(Nice to serve from the kitchen)

Coconut Ice Cream Balls\*  
Wedding Cake  
Tea                      Wine Champagne (punch)

(Buffet)

Sauterne Punch\*  
Tiny Ham Biscuits  
Assorted Sandwich Tray  
Wedding Crescents\*  
Frosted Grapes  
Wedding Cake

(Cold Buffet)

Sliced Turkey and Ham Platter  
Stuffed Fruit Salad Tray\*  
Olives   Salted Nuts   Celery Curls  
Cheese Filled Biscuits\*  
Wedding Cake  
Bowknots of Orange Rind  
Coffee

(Sit down Supper)

A Toast to the Bride  
Sea Food Supreme\*  
Spinach Timbales\*  
Broiled Tomatoes  
Hot Rolls  
Wedding Cake  
Orange Snow with Strawberries\*  
Coffee

\*Recipes for starred items are available

RECIPES FOR WEDDING RECEPTIONS,  
BRIDAL SHOWERS, ETC.

Baked Eggs in Cheese Sauce on Crispy Ham

5 cups milk	4½ tsp. prepared mustard
2½ lbs. process American cheddar cheese, grated	4 dozen eggs

For sauce, scald milk in top of double boiler over direct heat; add cheese. Cook over boiling water, stirring occasionally until cheese is melted, about 10 to 15 minutes. Stir in mustard. Heat oven to 325° F. (moderate). With 1/2 sauce, cover bottom of two baking pans; 15" x 10" x 2½". Cool slightly; carefully break eggs, arranging side by side, on sauce; cover with rest of sauce. Stagger pans on two shelves in oven, making sure one is not directly over the other. Bake at 325° F. for 30 to 40 minutes depending on how well done you like eggs. Makes 25 generous servings.

Crispy Ham

Buy 8½ lbs. ready-to-eat cooked shank end of ham (bone in). Slice thin; saute in skillets until heated and crisp around edges. Turn saute. Remove to pan; keep warm while sauteing rest of ham. Combine ½ cup vinegar, 1/4 cup water, and 2 tsp. granulated sugar. Add some to drippings in each pan; pour over ham. Makes 25 servings.

Strawberries in Golden Nectar

4 qts. strawberries	½ cup sherry
½ cup grated orange rind	2 cups orange juice or 1 No. 2 can whole-fruit apricot nectar, chilled
2 tsp. cinnamon	
About ½ cup granulated sugar	

Wash strawberries; remove hulls, leaving a few for garnish. Combine rind, cinnamon and sugar, depending on sweetness of berries; add to berries. Let stand at room temperature for 1 to 2 hours. To serve, arrange berries in sherbet glasses; in small pitcher, combine orange juice, sherry and juice drained from berries; pour over berries. Makes 25 servings.

Petit Fours

Bake your favorite white cake recipe or cake mix in a sheet pan (13 x 9½ x 2"). Cut the cooled cake in 1½" squares or in diamonds. Line up on rack with cookie sheet below. Spoon icing evenly over cakes. Icing should run down so that all four sides as well as the top have a nice glaze. Two coats of icing are sometimes needed to make a pretty glaze.

For icing, cook 3 cups sugar,  $\frac{1}{4}$  tsp. cream of tartar,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cups hot water to thin syrup (226°). Cook to lukewarm (110°). Add 1 tsp. vanilla, gradually add sifted confectioner's sugar (about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cups) till icing is of consistency to pour. Tint icing with a few drops food coloring, if desired.

### Tea

Whatever the blend or brand of tea you like, the formula is the same: tea leaves are steeped (allowed to stand) in boiling hot water. Tea should never be boiled.

If your party is small, you may prefer the convenience of tea bags. But for a larger party, its more economical, when you make tea the traditional way.

Here's how: Scald a glass or earthenware teapot (never make tea in metal), then put in one teaspoon of tea for each cup you plan to make plus one extra teaspoonful "for the pot." Now pour in freshly boiling water. Put the top back on the teapot and let the mixture sit for a few minutes--not more than five. Strain the tea into another scalded pot and serve.

If you'll be serving more than your teapot can hold, you'll want to make a tea concentrate. For 30 to 35 cup servings; bring six cups of cold water to a boil, remove from heat and dump in a quarter of a pound of tea. Stir till all the leaves are immersed, then cover and let brew for five minutes. Now strain into a pitcher. To serve, pour about one-fourth cup of the concentrate into a teacup and fill with piping hot water. Or put the same proportions into a teapot. For iced tea, add five quarts of cold water to the concentrate, and serve in ice-filled glasses.

### Casserole of Creamed Asparagus

6 pkgs. (10 oz. each) quick frozen asparagus cuts	$1\frac{1}{2}$ tbsp. salt
3 cups canned sliced mushrooms	$\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. pepper
$\frac{3}{4}$ cup butter	2 tsp. grated onion
$\frac{3}{4}$ cup flour	12 hard-cooked eggs, chopped
6 cups ( $1\frac{1}{2}$ qts.) milk	

Place frozen asparagus in 2 cups salted water. Bring to a boil and cook 8 to 10 minutes or until just tender. Drain and set aside.

Saute the mushrooms in butter in a 2-quart saucepan until lightly browned. Set aside half the mushrooms. Remove saucepan from heat and mix in flour. Add milk gradually, stirring until smooth. Cook and stir over medium heat until thickened. Add salt, pepper and



Remove breasts to platter. Stir cream into mushroom mixture and reheat. Pour sauce over chicken breasts and sprinkle with parsley. Makes 24 servings, two pieces each.

#### Almond Rice

8 cups packaged precooked rice	8 cups (2 qts.) boiling water
2 teaspoons salt	3 cups toasted slivered blanched almonds

Add rice and salt to boiling water in a large kettle. Mix just to moisten all rice. Cover and remove from heat. Let stand 5 minutes. Mix in toasted almonds. Makes 24 servings.

#### Coconut Ice Cream Balls

Green food coloring	Red food coloring
3 pkgs. or cans shredded coconut	6 pints vanilla ice cream

Tint 1 pkg coconut light green, with about one drop green coloring, distributing by mixing with fork. Tint 1 pkg. delicate pink, with red coloring. Leave 3rd pkg. as is. With ice cream scoop or soup spoon, form ice cream into balls ( $\frac{1}{4}$  pint each); roll some in pink, some in green; some in white coconut. Place each on a dessert plate. Makes 24 servings.

#### Spinach Timbales

12 packages (10 oz. each) quick frozen chopped spinach	6 cups water
$\frac{1}{4}$ cup grated onion	$\frac{3}{4}$ cup butter
2 teaspoons salt	6 eggs, beaten
	3 tablespoons lemon juice

Place the frozen blocks of spinach with the onion and salt in water in a large saucepan. Cover and bring to a boil over high heat; then reduce heat and cook gently 1 to 2 minutes. Remove from heat. Drain well. Stir in butter, eggs, and lemon juice.

Spoon into two 3-quart greased molds or ring molds. Bake in a moderate oven (350° F) for 45 to 55 minutes or until tops are set. Unmold onto hot platters. Makes about 25 servings.

#### Orange Snow with Strawberries

4 packages orange-flavored gelatin	2 cups cold water
4 cups hot water	$\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt
2 cans (6 oz. each) quick-frozen orange juice, thawed	4 egg whites
	3 cups sweetened sliced strawberries

Dissolve gelatin in hot water. Add thawed concentrate, cold water, and salt. Chill until slightly thickened. Then place bowl in ice water, add egg whites, and whip with egg beater until fluffy and thick. Pour into two 2½ quart molds or two 13 x 9 inch pans. Chill until firm. Unmold or cut in squares. Top with strawberries. Makes 24 servings.

#### Cheese Straws

1 lb. aged cheese, grated	1 stick butter
2 cups flour	1 tsp. salt
1/8 tsp. cayenne pepper	

Mix well. Roll and cut in strips or press through cookie press. Bake at 425° F until golden brown.

#### Cheese Filled Biscuits

12 cups sifted all-purpose flour (3 lbs.)	2¼ cups shortening
6 tblsp. double-acting baking powder	About 1 qt. milk
5 tsp. salt	3 5-oz. jars or 4 4-oz. pkgs. cheese spread

Sift together first 3 ingredients. Heat oven to 450° F. (hot). Cut in shortening until fine as corn meal. Add enough milk to make soft dough. Turn onto lightly floured board; knead gently 8 times. Return ½ to bowl. Roll rest out ½" thick. Cut into 2" rounds. Place on ungreased cookie sheet 3/8" apart (about 30 fit on 1 sheet). Repeat until dough is used. Bake one batch at time in 450° F. oven for 12 minutes or until golden. While you bake second batch, split biscuits; fill with cheese. Makes 75.

#### Sea Food Supreme

3 pounds raw scallops-- about 5 cups	2 teas. Worcestershire sauce
4 cups boiling salted water	2 tblsp. lemon juice
1 cup butter	5 drops Tabasco sauce
2¼ cups flour	2 cups light cream
3 cups milk	3 lbs. shrimp, cooked, shelled, and deveined - about 5 cups
1½ tblsp. salt	4 pkgs (6 oz. each) cooked crab meat - about 4 cups
¼ teas. pepper	½ cup grated Parmesan cheese
1 teas. paprika	2/3 cup bread crumbs
½ teas. celery salt	
2 quarts raw oysters	

Place scallops in boiling salted water, cover and cook over low heat for 10 minutes. Drain. Melt butter in a heavy 8 quart saucepan.

Combine flour and milk and blend until smooth. Gradually add flour mixture to melted butter, stirring constantly. Add salt, pepper, paprika, and celery salt. Cook until thickened, stirring constantly. Drain oysters, reserving liquid. Add oyster liquid, Worcestershire sauce, lemon juice, Tabasco sauce, and light cream. Blend. Continue to cook over low heat, stirring occasionally, until mixture bubbles. Add oysters, scallops, shrimp and crab meat. Cook until edges of oysters curl--about 5 minutes. Pour mixture into large serving casseroles. Combine cheese and bread crumbs, and sprinkle over top of sea food. Brown in broiler 1 to 2 minutes. Makes 24 servings.

### Sauterne Punch

1 cup granulated sugar	4 large (4/5 qt.) bottles
1 cup water	sauterne, chilled
1/3 cup lemon juice	4 cups, halved, sugared straw-
6 thin strips lemon peel	berries or peaches
$\frac{1}{2}$ " x $\frac{1}{2}$ "	Mint
Block of ice	

Dissolve sugar in water; then chill. Add lemon juice and peel. Chill in refrigerator. At serving time, place ice in punch bowl; pour sauterne over it. Add berries; garnish with 2" sprigs of mint. Makes about 4 quarts or 25 servings.

### Wedding Crescents

2 cups butter or fortified	3½ cups sifted all-purpose flour
margerine (1 lb.)	1 cup finely chopped nuts
1 cup sifted confectioners'	1 teas. vanilla flavoring
sugar	

A day or two before: Work butter with back of spoon until fluffy and creamy; add confectioners' sugar gradually, while continuing to work with spoon. Add flour, nuts and vanilla; mix well. Cover and chill 2 hrs. Heat oven to 350° F. (moderate). Shape dough into small rolls about size of your little finger; shape into crescents. Bake on ungreased cookie sheet in 350° F. oven 15 minutes. When cold, sprinkle with confectioners' sugar. Store tightly covered. Makes 8 dozen cookies.

### Stuffed Fruit Salad Tray

Peach halves: Combine 1 cup (8 oz.) cottage cheese, 1 teas. grated orange rind, 2 tblsp. cream, 1/8 tsp. sugar and 1/8 teas. salt. Use to fill 2 No. 2 ½ cans drained, chilled peach halves.

Pear halves: Drain 2 no. 2 ½ cans chilled pear halves. Brush cut side with ½ cup French dressing; sprinkle with ¼ teas. nutmeg. Using 1 can jellied cranberry sauce, place spoonfuls, rounded side up in each half.

Pineapple slices: Combine 1/4 cup mayonnaise, 1/2 cup milk, 1 tablesp. lemon juice, 3/4 teasp. salt, 1/4 teasp. sugar, 2 teasp. prepared mustard. Toss with 5 cups finely shredded cabbage and 1/3 cup minced parsley, and 2 tablesp. minced onion. Drain 3 No. 2 cans chilled pineapple slices; top with slaw.

On a large tray: Place row of pineapple along short edges, pear halves down center, peach halves between. Makes 24 servings-- about 3 pieces each.

Pulled Mints

2 cups sugar	1/2 stick butter or margerine
1/2 cup hot water	2 drops peppermint oil

Put sugar, water and butter in a 1-quart saucepan. Using a candy thermometer, bring to 260°. Do not stir. Mixture will be boiling rapidly near the top of the pan. While mixture is boiling, prepare a marble slab by greasing generously with butter. Also grease hands and remove rings from fingers (pulling will be much easier if two people help.) Have long sheets of waxed paper and scissors (2 pair) handy.

As soon as mixture reaches 260° pour onto greased marble. When bubbles top, add peppermint oil and food coloring if desired. Slide candy around on the marble slab to cool. As soon as candy can be picked up, divide in half (if two people will pull) and begin pulling. Pull until it becomes difficult. The longer you can pull, the creamier the mints will be. Pull the candy into one long twisted rope and 1/2 inch thick and lay on waxed paper. Cut rope into 1/2 inch pieces. When candy is cool (about 30 minutes) put in air tight container (layering with waxed paper to prevent sticking together). Allow to stand (mellow) overnight. Mints will keep this way for two to four weeks.

## A CAKE CUTTING

It is the custom in some communities for a "cake cutting" to be held after the wedding rehearsal, usually the evening preceding the wedding day. The cake cutting is actually a small reception with only the wedding party and very close friends invited (usually by phone). The bride and groom often give remembrances to their attendants at this occasion.

Refreshments are simple, consisting of the wedding cake, punch or champagne and perhaps nuts and mints. The bride and groom cut the first slice of cake and then someone else, a special aunt perhaps, takes over the serving of the cake to all the guests. When the cake cutting ceremony takes place at the "cake cutting," there is no wedding cake at the reception. Petit fours are usually served instead. The cake cutting sometimes takes the place of the reception altogether. In such a case, the couple may wish to receive their guests in the church vestibule after the ceremony.

Several economic factors have helped make the cake cutting a popular event. First, it eliminates the need for a rehearsal dinner which would be more costly. It also eliminates the need for the bride and groom to entertain their attendants at separate parties. Also it means you can use a smaller and less costly wedding cake because fewer would be served at this event than at a reception.

It is permissible for the groom's parents to host the cake cutting just as it is for them to host a rehearsal dinner.

STOCKING THE KITCHEN--  
THE VERY FIRST TIME

That first trip to the grocery store for the bride who has never had the responsibility of shopping for and preparing food on a routine basis can be a terrifying experience. The honeymoon may end abruptly the day the couple arrive at their new apartment with its empty shelves and the husband decides "it's time for supper!"

Hopefully our new bride will have had an opportunity to stock her new kitchen with a few essentials before the honeymoon. Even better, she may have arranged with a friend or relative to have all the makings for the first cozy dinner-for-two awaiting at the new home.

Nevertheless, at some point in time, that first trip to the grocery store must be made. With a carefully prepared list in hand and a flexible attitude toward making menu changes in the case of an unexpected "special," Mrs. Newbride should find this new adventure a pleasant experience.

A first step is to list all the staples she will need--not forgetting paper and laundry products which are usually purchased at the supermarket too. It's a good idea to buy small packages the first time around until one establishes a pattern of usage. Even if the gallon jar of mustard is cheaper, she may find she still has it on the fifth anniversary! Staples would include the following:

Flour  
Sugar  
Salt

Pepper  
Coffee  
Tea  
Shortening, oil  
Catsup, mustard, mayonnaise, salad dressings, pickles, etc.  
Spices and flavorings--like vanilla, cocoa, steak sauce  
Such things as grits or cornmeal may also be staples if  
they'll be used often.

Non-food staples

Hand soap  
Laundry detergent  
Dishwashing detergent  
Paper towels  
Paper napkins  
Toilet paper  
Toothpaste  
Scouring powder  
Cleaning agents and polishes  
Floor and furniture polish  
Waxed paper  
Plastic wrap  
Aluminum foil  
Mops and sponges  
Plastic bags for garbage, sandwiches etc.

Remember you will probably never have to purchase all of these items at the same time again so don't be too upset at this long list. Also some of the items may not be needed at first or ever.

What perishable items you may need to purchase will depend, of course, on what menus you select to prepare. It is best to write down menus in detail until you get the hang of it. But generally you will need:

Dairy Products (adults need two servings a day from this group)

Milk - whole, skim, dry or evaporated  
Cheeses  
Butter or margarine  
Ice cream (if you have a freezer)

Breads and Cereals -(Count on four or more servings a day from this group)

Loaf bread  
Rolls and biscuits  
Crackers  
Dry cereal  
Cooked cereal  
Rice  
Macaroni, spaghetti, etc.

Fruits and Vegetables (Four or more servings a day from this group)

Fresh ones in season  
Canned, frozen and dried  
Fruit juices, citrus fruits  
Remember to include some dark green and deep yellow vegetables

Meats and Meat Alternates

Beef  
Pork  
Lamb  
Veal  
Poultry  
Fish  
Eggs  
Ready to serve meats (like bologna, salami, etc.)  
Peanut butter and nuts  
Dried beans and peas

Extras such as jelly, syrup, beer, wine, soft drinks etc.

It's also a nice idea to have an "emergency shelf" of convenience foods for special occasions or when you're in a pinch between shopping trips. Such items as:

Pudding mix  
Canned meats  
Soup (some like mushroom or cheese make great sauces)  
Cake mix  
Gelatin  
Bouillon cubes  
Pancake mix

The most important step to insuring that the first trip to the grocery store will be a rewarding new experience is to

PLAN AHEAD. Begin by:

Making a list of staples and supplies.

Then plan menus you and your husband will enjoy around the basic four food groups (meat, fruits and vegetables, bread and cereals and milk).

If possible, shop when the store isn't crowded. Take your time and ask questions. Pleasant shopping!

Prepared by:

Carroll M. Beckham  
Food and Nutrition Assistant

## <sup>1</sup>Wedding Festivities

Part of the fun and excitement of a wedding are the parties and festivities both before and on the wedding day. Friends and relatives will begin asking, "What can we do?" as soon as the engagement is announced.

The wise bride will want to plan carefully in order to allow her friends the pleasure of being personally involved with her wedding, but not let their exuberance<sup>2,3,4,5</sup>, become a tiresome burden of morning, noon and nightly parties.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>7</sup>The wedding reception is one event the bride and her mother will want to think about soon after the wedding date has been set. The same steps would be followed in planning a wedding reception as in planning any important party.

Begin by answering these questions:

### <sup>8</sup>How many?

Will everyone invited to the wedding also be invited to the reception or just the bridal party and family?

### <sup>9</sup>Where?

Can the reception be held at the bride's home, in the garden, the church fellowship hall, club house, hotel ballroom?

### <sup>10</sup>What time of day?

As the reception follows the wedding ceremony immediately or within a few hours, it seems wise to consider that guests will be hungrier around mealtime hours. The time of day determines the type of food. If the reception is held any time---

- Before two - <sup>11</sup>plan a luncheon or brunch menu
- Two to six - <sup>12</sup>refreshments like those served at tea are  
in order
- Six to eight - <sup>13</sup>time for a dinner menu or cocktail hors  
d'oeuvre-type goodies
- After eight - <sup>14</sup> refreshments similar to those served from  
two to six

<sup>15</sup>What to serve?

The main difference between wedding refreshments and refreshments for other occasions is that a <sup>16</sup>wedding or bride's cake is cut and served. Small boxes of wedding cake or groom's cake (dark fruit cake) may be given as a remembrance to guests.

<sup>17</sup>What type reception will you have? A formal, semiformal or contemporary?

The most elaborate of all wedding receptions is a sit-down meal, <sup>18</sup> called a wedding breakfast if it follows a morning wedding, or wedding supper if the wedding takes place in the evening.

Such a reception usually is held in a hotel ballroom or reception hall since few homes are large enough to accommodate such an affair. The meal, usually three courses, is served by waiters and waitresses. Even when the guests are served buffet, the bridal and parent tables may be waited upon.

The "tea type" reception<sup>19</sup> is appropriate for the most formal or informal wedding. All that is necessary, no matter how formal the affair, is punch and cake--either small cakes or the bride's

cake. The menu can be extended, of course, to the degree your budget will allow.

<sup>20</sup>Arrange food, plates, silver and napkins on a long table draped with your most elegant cloth (reaching the floor, if possible). It is a good idea to have small covered tables (card tables do nicely) scattered about the room for guests to sit and visit with friends if they like. Thought should be given to a place for guests to put their plates when they have finished. A few friends or waiters can be assigned the task of circulating through the crowd to collect used dishes and return them to the kitchen. Or a table can be placed in the background for the purpose with someone assigned to keep it from piling up. It is often embarrassing for the guest who has finished his refreshments and is ready to depart to find no place other than the buffet table to deposit his used dishes.

<sup>21</sup>The bride's cake and delicate flowers supply the main decoration for the head table. Candles may be used after 4 p.m. or when the room is dark and requires artificial light. The bride's cake may be placed in the center of the table or at one end to balance the punch bowl or coffee service. If more room is needed on the main table, the cake (or beverage) is sometimes placed on a smaller side table.

The reception following a "do your own thing" wedding <sup>22,23</sup> would follow the whims and fantasy of the bridal couple. A clam bake might follow a wedding on the beach where the bridal party

and guests were dressed in jeans. <sup>24</sup>Another modern day bride may wish to have harvest tables loaded with organic foods in the midst of a field of flowers as the setting for her reception. We heard of one bride who, still in her wedding gown, prepared and served a complete meal for the wedding party and guests at the couple's new home. Another wedding took place on a golf course with the bridal party arriving in flower bedecked golf carts. One bridal couple who disliked the formality of the receiving line, chose to remain at the wedding cake and serve it to each guest. This eliminated the stiff, formal receiving line, but still gave each guest an opportunity to chat with the couple and offer best wishes.<sup>25</sup> The outdoor reception is also becoming more and more popular for contemporary weddings.

<sup>26</sup>The next question to be answered is how to serve. Will it be buffet, plates filled in the kitchen and passed, or a sit down meal? The type of reception you select may answer this question for you.

<sup>27</sup>The next question is who will cater. Will it be professionals, the hostess and her friends, or a combination of these? Any size and style reception can be catered. It is, of course, the easiest and most expensive way as the caterer supplies all the food, tables, chairs, napery, china and glass, as well as the necessary waiters. If the reception is to be a sit-down affair, the services of the professional caterer and his staff will be a necessity. As a rule, you guarantee a certain number of covers

and then pay a set price per person served, based on the menu you select. For less than \$2 per person, you can usually select cake, nuts, mints and plain punch. For a steak dinner with champagne, you could expect to pay \$12 or more per person. Remember to ask that any leftover food be packaged for the bride's mother to take home. Since this food will already be paid for, don't make the mistake of leaving it for the caterer.

The hostess or friends? The bride's mother and friends may choose to cater the reception. Careful planning is the key to success. Many things can be made ahead of time and frozen--even the wedding cake! First, select the menu and list all equipment necessary for serving it--from dish towels to nut spoons. Then make assignments to all involved. Keep in mind that some may have to miss the ceremony in order to attend to last minute details of the reception.

Sometimes the work is split up between home and caterer: Caterer for the cake, the supply of glasses, punch cups, punch bowl or whatever; home or friends for the sandwiches, candies, nuts and other refreshments. The jewelry store at which the bride registers her patterns is sometimes willing to lend candelabra, punch bowl, coffee service, and similar items.

28. With the answers to these seven questions, you are now well on your way to a beautiful wedding reception.

## YOUR WEDDING ATTIRE

Slide 1  
Bride and Groom in  
Living Area

Slide 2  
Groom, Bride, Bride's Maid

Slide 3  
Bride and Bride's Maid

Slide 4  
Bride and Brides' Maid  
in Colorful Gowns

Slide 5  
Wedding Styles influenced by  
- Number of people involved  
- Time of day  
- Place of wedding

Slide 6  
Bride and Best Man and  
Attendance at Night

Slide 7  
Picture of Ushers

Slide 8  
Picture of Mothers

Every wedding can be in good taste whether you decide to have a formal<sup>1</sup>---semiformal<sup>2</sup>---informal<sup>3</sup>---or contemporary<sup>4</sup> wedding. The style of the wedding, however, is determined by the formality of the bride's dress. Also influencing the wedding style is:<sup>5</sup>

- The number of people involved
- Where the happy event is to take place: in a large church; a chapel; the bride's home; a garden; a hotel; or even on the beach.

The time of day for the wedding is flexible. A morning hour is not usually chosen except for a Catholic Nuptial Mass---which must take place before 12 o'clock. Noon weddings are fashionable, but afternoon weddings are more popular.<sup>6</sup> Night weddings are usually chosen for the more formal affairs. Regions of the country also influence the time of day weddings are held. For instance, because of the south's hot climate, wedding styles other than formal ones occur after 7:00 p.m.

The style of dress for the wedding party is set by the formality of the bride's gown.<sup>7</sup> All ushers should dress alike; each bridesmaid should wear the same style gown; and both mother's dresses should conform in length and formality.<sup>8</sup> Wedding guests dress as they do for any other social event at the same hour and season. There is one exception---guest should not wear either all white or black.

Slide 9  
Selecting Bridesmaid Attire  
Financial status  
Usefulness of dress  
Height and weight  
Suitable dress style

Thoughtful consideration should be given to your brides-  
maides' attire. In selecting their dresses consider  
these points:

- their financial status
- the potential usefulness of the dress after the wedding
- the height and weight of each bridesmaid
- suitable dress style for the majority of the girls

Slide 10  
Bride thinking of  
attendants dress style

Slide 11  
Brides'maid in  
contemporary dresses

Now back to the bride's and groom's attire. What should you wear to a formal; a semiformal; and informal; or contemporary wedding?

Slide 12  
Formal Wedding

The formal wedding is governed by perscribed etiquette rules set forth in all etiquette books. If you choose a formal wedding, you must be prepared to follow the etiquette procedure exactly. You have little leeway in making wedding decisions. This is also the most costly type of wedding to choose.

Slide 13  
Bride in garden

For a formal wedding the bride will wear a full length gown with a train and long veil. Suitable fabrics include satin, peau de soie, velvet, chiffon, tulle, lace, taffeta, musseline de soie, and organdy. Time of the year and place of ceremony affect the choice of fabric.

Slide 14  
Bride wearing  
yellow/white

The preferred color is usually white or ivory. Occassionally soft pastels are used. The veil should blend with

the gown in style, texture, and color. If the wedding gown has short sleeves, long gloves are usually worn. If the wedding dress has long sleeves, the bride has a choice of no gloves or very short ones. Most brides wear white satin or lace slippers with their wedding gown. The height of the heel is a matter of choice. If the bride is wearing a pastel wedding gown, her slippers are usually dyed to match the gown.

Slide 15  
Morning-afternoon  
example of attire

The groom's formal attire will depend upon the hour of the ceremony. For morning or afternoon he should wear a cutaway with gray striped trousers, gray vest (white or natural in summer); wing collar with ascot, and black shoes.

Slide 16  
Evening-tailcoat full-  
dress trousers  
white tie

After seven o'clock in the evening, the groom wears the traditional tailcoat, with full-dress trousers and white tie.

Slide 17  
Semiformal wedding

#### THE SEMIFORMAL WEDDING

For the semiformal wedding, the bride may choose from a number of acceptable dress lengths; waltz length; ballerina length; cocktail length; as well as floor length with train. A short veil is correct with each type. Fabrics may be taffeta; lace; organdy; point d'esprit; velveteen, brocade; matelasse; dotted swiss; or one of the new types of fabrics introduced every year. Shoes should match the gown or harmonize with it in color and texture.

Slide 18  
Bride-bride's maid in  
plaid

The groom's clothing for the semiformal wedding varies according to the area of the country. A dark blue business suit is acceptable for morning or afternoon.

Slide 19  
Bride-Bride'smaid  
quilted fabric

Slide 20  
Bride and groom  
with umbrella

Ceremonies in some localities; oxford-gray coats and striped trousers with white shirt and stiff collar are mandatory in others.<sup>20</sup> The white Palm Beach suit is customary in the South for summer afternoon weddings. A tuxedo is worn for the semiformal evening wedding. Though in some locals, the white dinner jacket may replace the tuxedo during the summer months.

Slide 21  
Informal wedding

THE INFORMAL WEDDING  
<sup>21</sup>  
The informal wedding gives the bride considerably more liberty in choosing her wedding dress. She may choose a range of different lengths from floor length to a short dress; in white or pastel tones;<sup>22</sup> or an afternoon dress or suit. Whether it is an elegant dressmaker suit or a charming afternoon dress, the wedding outfit should be special. Fabrics may range all the way from soft wool crepe to crisp cotton dimity to satin. Color and type of fabric will vary with the season of the year---wedding place--- and design of the wedding outfit. A bridal-type hat; a whimsical arrangement of flowers; feathers or ribbon or even a kerchief can be worn instead of a veil. Veils if worn, must be small and very short.

Slide 23  
Example of groom's  
attire

The groom may wear a dark business suit in gray or blue--- with a white shirt.<sup>23</sup> The Palm Beach suit is often substituted in the summer

Slide 24

THE CONTEMPORARY WEDDING

<sup>24</sup>  
The "funny angle" to weddings started several years ago with weddings atop a flag pole---wedding in balloons--- weddings under water. But what is going on today is not just a joke. In order to give weddings a deeper meaning,

Slide 25  
Bride-groom on  
wedding day

more and more couples are planning their ceremony with a special eye to personal relevance. The resulting ceremony can be a charming meaningful experience for all persons involved.

Rock music, happenings and secular readings are finding a place. <sup>25</sup> This seems like a natural trend, especially as life style become more contemporary. For many, the most impressive thing about today's more free-form wedding styles is not the unfamiliar goings-on themselves---but the enthusiasm the participants so clearly feel about them. Growing numbers of young couples seem to have become aware that in most states the only things legally required for a wedding are a license; a properly authorized official; and witnesses. Everything else, no matter how hallowed by tradition or sentiment, is not really essential; thus, any couple is entirely free to plan their own ceremony. With the contemporary wedding many couples still refer to the etiquette books for guidance---but with this type of wedding, the future bride and groom virtually feel free to do anything they want to do.

Slide 26  
Bride in chair  
Bride/bride's maid on  
lawn

Dress for the contemporary wedding may range from the bride dressing <sup>26</sup> as she would for a semiformal or informal <sup>27</sup> wedding to the modish, non-conformist <sup>28</sup> look. The groom equally feels free to choose any type of clothes that he wishes to wear. Headwear as well as footwear is optional.

#### THE BRIDE'S BOUQUET

Slide 29  
Bride-Bride'smaid  
in red plaid

The silhouette and formality of the bride's dress help <sup>29</sup> determine the shape and type of the bouquet. For a formal

Slide 30  
Bride with bride's  
father

wedding, the bride carries either a bouquet of white flowers or a small prayerbook.

Slide 31  
Victorian dresses

For a very informal wedding and the bride is married in an afternoon dress or suit, a corsage is usually worn. A small bouquet is equally appropriate. The contemporary wedding can have flowers, grain or weeds---if the bride desires.

Slide 32  
Champaign and  
brown dresses

A wide variety of flowers are suitable for the bride's bouquet.<sup>31</sup> But remember, flowers have seasonal limitations. Ivy is always available, but orange blossoms may be hard to find in December. For this reason, it is important to consult your florist early in your wedding planning. He can tell you which flowers will be in season at the time of your wedding and which ones will stay fresh the longest. When you visit your florist, take along an accurate description of your dress<sup>32</sup>---including a sketch and swatch of fabric. You will also need to give him a description and swatches of your bridesmaid's dresses---in order to match or harmonize with yours.

Slide 33  
Example of mother's  
corsage

Color is an important consideration in the choice of corsages for your mothers<sup>33</sup> and your own going-away outfit. As a rule, the bouquets compliment the costumes in style and color. Smaller bouquets are used with shorter gowns; corsages with street clothes. The flower girl carries a basket of rose petals or a small nosegay.

Slide 34  
Groom boutonniers

THE BOUTONNIERES

Traditionally, the groom uses a spray from the bride's bouquet<sup>34</sup>---lily-of-the-valley or any tiny flower that is

Slide 35  
Informal groom with  
best man and usher

in season. The groom's boutonniere should be different from the others.

The best man and father can wear gardenias; the usher  
35  
carnations.

#### WEDDING GOWNS TO MAKE, BUY OR BORROW

Today, the wedding dress is a romantic symbol, and every bride looks forward to the special occasion of its choosing. Wedding dresses can be purchased; made; borrowed; or rented by today's modern generation. The look may be Victorian; traditional; sophisticated; feminine or mod. The material satin; synthetic; corduroy; organza; lace; or a disposable nonwoven. It can be embroidered; jeweled; appliqued; braided or ruffled. Whatever its design, the wedding gown is an all-important individual choice. A choice that needs careful consideration.

#### A GOWN TO MAKE

Most brides-to-be budget their wedding carefully. Those who know how to sew can save money---and still have the kind of bridal gown they want. Piece good fabrics have  
36  
never been so diversified nor so beautiful. and the bride's own personal touch adds a very special significance to her gown.

Girls who do not sew may have mothers, aunts or friends who do---so they too can have a creative voice in the bridal gown design.

Since fabrics and trimming are available by season, it is best to plan the style, pattern and trimmings well in advance. Final alterations can be made the week before the wedding if necessary.

Slide 36  
A gown to make

Slide 37  
Bride at home

Slide 38  
Bridal party in white  
and strawberries

Slide 39

Slide 40

Bride with  
bride'smaid in  
green

Slide 41  
Bridal consultant  
can help

Gown styles are usually traditional but fabric choices have taken a fashion step forward.<sup>37</sup> Man-made fibers have opened a whole new field to the home sewer. Fabric never used in bridal gowns before---such as corduroy, muslin, seersucker, and knits inspire many exciting looks.<sup>38</sup> New fabric blends and textures also spark the creativity of the home sewer.

#### A GOWN TO BUY

Most prospective brides buy their wedding dresses from a local merchant.<sup>39</sup> Since the wedding outfit is the most important a girl will ever buy, it is a good idea to shop early to avoid disappointment.<sup>40</sup> Authorities suggest four to six months before the wedding. Making your selection this early insures:

- . Plenty of time for delivery from manufacturer.
- . Enough time to select another choice if a style has been discontinued or an order mislaid.

A prospective bride should get acquainted with the bridal consultant of a local shop.<sup>41</sup> Expert in all phases of the wedding---she can guide the bride-to-be in:

- . Selecting the appropriate choice of gown to fit the type of wedding she plans.
- . Alerting the bride to possible problems that can occur in planning and coordinating weddings.
- . Answer questions on wedding etiquette.

Many times the bridal consultant will direct the wedding if you purchase the wedding gown and attendants' dresses from the bridal shop.

Slide 42  
Picture of bridal  
magazine

Take the time to preshop for your wedding attire. By doing this you can clearly explain to the sales lady or bridal consultant the type of dress you have in mind. Pres shopping can be done by "just looking" at gowns and by carefully studying bridal magazines.<sup>42</sup> While looking--- the bride-to-be should keep in mind her figure type and the kinds of street fashions that enhance her figure. The styles most becoming to her in street fashions are also the styles that will look best on her as a wedding gown. When shopping for the wedding attire, appropriate underfashions and shoes should be worn. The correct undergarments can make a difference in figure measurements. And, inappropriate shoes will detract from the over-all appearance of the dress.

It is also best to shop alone or with one other person. A group of people---offering diverse opinions---will only confuse the bride-to-be plus distract her from making her own decisions.

After you have decided on your wedding gown, choose your veil and attendants' dresses. You should also set up a fitting date to make final gown alterations. Gown alterations should be made after your body has a chance to adjust to the tensions created from pre-wedding activities and/or contraceptives you are planning to use---if any.

Slide 43  
A Gown on Sale

A GOWN ON SALE

Buying on sale is a good way to get a beautiful gown inexpensively.<sup>43</sup> Sometimes, the only thing that the gown needs is a good cleaning. For other gowns---minor alterations may be required. Before buying a marked-down dress,

the prospective bride should examine it carefully for unrepairable damage and soil that cannot be removed in the cleaning process.

Slide 44  
A Gown To Trim

#### A GOWN TO TRIM

One way to have a beautiful gown may go overlooked ---the inexpensive gown with added trim.<sup>44</sup> By purchasing a simple style, untrimmed dress and then adding the trimming desired, a bride can cut cost.<sup>45</sup> For much of the gown's original cost is due to expensive hand labor.

Slide 45  
Mother trimming a  
Bridal Gown

This method of obtaining a gown has another advantage. The future bride can give her gown an individual touch---one that fits her personality, figure type and kind of wedding.

So, for the price of a basic dress plus carefully chosen trimmings and a few hours with needle and thread, the bride-to-be can have a gown that looks far more elegant than its cost.

Also, don't overlook browsing other department areas such as looking at bridesmaid dresses---evening dresses---and even "at home" wear.

Sometimes you can pick up just the right gown you had in mind. Gowns from these departments are, for the most part, less expensive than gowns from bridal departments.

## A GOWN TO BORROW

Slide 46  
A gown to borrow

To cut cost many close friends and relatives collaborate<sup>46</sup> on wedding dates and dresses. This is especially true if there are two girls, the same size with the same taste in clothing styles. For these brides-to-be to share the same wedding gown means they can each have the benefit of a new gown for half the price.

Slide 47  
Bride adjusting  
veil

Many prospective brides are encouraged to wear family heirlooms. While being economically advantageous, it may not be in keeping with the bride's taste.<sup>47</sup> This is a point to consider when saving a gown for future family weddings. Another consideration about saving the gown for future weddings is the cost of cleaning and storing the gown. On an average, the bride or her family will spend from \$30 to \$50 for cleaning charges. Then there is the problem of storage. You have to store the gown full-length. Fabrics such as satins, velvets and tulle do not lend themselves well to folding. It is also folly to get your hopes up that your "future daughter" will want to wear your gown. "She" may be physically built like your husband. And anyway, your "future daughter" may turn out to be a "son".

Slide 48  
A disposable gown

## A DISPOSABLE GOWN

The disposable wedding gown is becoming more popular.<sup>48</sup>  
The first complete wedding party wearing disposable non-

woven fabric was held in Wisconsin in 1968. The bride's gown cost about \$40; matching bridesmaids' dresses about \$25 each. The bride carried flowers of nonwoven fabric; her trousseau contained nonwoven fashions, including a bathing suit and hostess gown.

The disposable wedding dresses are made predominately of nonwoven rayon with polyethylene which has been chemically treated during the interlocking process. The fabric comes in colors as well as white; the hand (feel) is a cross between organdy and organza. Different weights of nonwovens are also available, ranging from the filmy and transparent to the heavier, opaque type.

#### A GOWN TO RENT

Slide 49  
A gown to rent

Many prospective brides decide to spend their wedding budgets on items for their homes---on trousseau---or honeymoons. In such cases they may prefer to rent a<sup>49</sup> wedding gown rather than buy one.

Gowns must be ordered several months in advance. Rental services that handle bridal gowns can be found in most major cities by looking in the telephone book's Yellow Pages under "Brides".

The cost of renting wedding attire varies; prices can range from \$30 to \$100, depending upon the type of gown. Elaborate gowns with long trains will cost more than simple or floor-length models. Most gowns come with appropriate headpieces which are included in the rental price.

Cleaning the gown is included in the rental price. The rental period may range up to seventy-two hours to allow

time before the ceremony for having professional photos taken.

Alterations are the problem. Since most wedding gowns are made from fabrics that show take-up or let-out seams the gown must fit the bride exactly. Few gowns fit this well unless the prospective bride is a perfect ready-to-wear size.

But regardless of the type of wedding attire or wedding mood you choose formal---semiformal---informal--- or contemporary, the wedding must be a special personalized experience to the bridal couple involved. For in the final analysis this is what a wedding is all about.

## CLOTHES FOR YOUR TROUSSEAU

Slide 1  
Couple getting into  
car

Clothing is one of the major wedding expenses a family incurs when sons and daughters get married.<sup>1</sup> Thus, common sense and will-power are necessary in selecting a trousseau---a trousseau that achieves a happy balance between sentiment and practicality.

From a practical viewpoint, clothing for the first year of marriage should be considered first: clothing for the wedding and honeymoon second. The reverse, however, is more often true.

Newly married couples may be in for a jolting shock when they realize they must "make do" on their existing wardrobes. So---in planning what clothing to buy for your trousseau, keep these suggestions in mind. These suggestions apply equally to the bride and the groom.<sup>2</sup>

Slide 2  
Planning your  
Trousseau

- . Clothing planned for the prenuptial activities and honeymoon should form the basic wardrobe for the first year of marriage.
- . Clothing purchases should supplement the existing wardrobe.
- . Clothing should be purchased with the type of care and maintenance the garments require in mind.
- . The amount of clothing storage space in the couple's future residence should be considered.

Slide 3  
Plan clothes-Prenuptial  
Honeymoon  
Slide 4  
Prenuptial

## PLANNING CLOTHES AROUND PRENUPTIAL ACTIVITIES AND HONEYMOON 3

### Prenuptial Activities

Excluding elopement couples, all prospective brides and

Slide 5  
Bridal Couple entertained

grooms are entertained before marriage. Entertainment is usually in keeping with the social life style of both sets of parents and the prospective bride and groom.<sup>5</sup> Social functions calling for more formal attire tend to cost more money than clothing for less dressier affairs. And---the more entertaining planned---the more clothing needed.

Every couple should plan on having at least one outfit - complete with accessories - to wear for these social events. Some of these social events include dinners for the couple; luncheons for the bride; showers; and the rehearsal party.

Slide 6  
Honeymoon

Honeymoon <sup>6</sup>

Where will you go on your honeymoon---how will you travel---how long will you stay---and what is the season of the year---

All influence the type of clothing you need for the wedding trip.<sup>7</sup> There is a tendency for honeymoons to be short; and this shorter length has simplified the clothing problem. However, the speed and economy of air travel has popularized packaged honeymoon trips to interesting resorts and far-away lands. These types of trips may call for more clothing purchases than you intended.

Slide 8  
Girl in Ski Outfit

Planning a honeymoon that requires special clothing which cannot be used after the honeymoon is questionable.<sup>8</sup>

Slide 9  
Couple going Boating

Remember---clothing taken on the honeymoon should become an intergral part of the couple's wardrobe.<sup>9</sup> It

also makes good sense to incorporate some clothes already on hand in the honeymoon wardrobe.

After deciding on the place for the honeymoon, write for brochures pertaining to the area. These brochures usually give: the available attractions found in the area; and a list of sports and other activities available. You can then decide on the activities of interest to you and plan your honeymoon clothes accordingly.

Slide 10  
Girl with coat on

Don't omit considering the climate of the resort area<sup>10</sup> when planning your honeymoon clothes. Changing from one type of climate to another, makes it necessary to carry along clothing for both seasons. This increases the number of articles necessary.

The amount of time and mode of travel will influence the number and type of clothing to take on the honeymoon. Air travel calls for a more compact wardrobe with versatility being the key. Wrinkle resistance---easy care---and packable garments are requirements.

Slide 11

The going away outfit of both bride and groom are related to where the honeymoon will be. These outfits act as transitional clothing between the wedding and the honeymoon. To be transitional, they must be appropriate for after wedding leave-taking of family and friends---for the trip itself---and for the arrival at the honeymoon resort.<sup>11</sup>

Going away outfits should be of the best quality you can afford; these outfits should become the mainstay of your wardrobe after marriage. There may be exceptions

to this guideline. If you are going to a very informal resort---or driving, you may want to dress informally. But, you still need to obtain one good quality outfit--- including accessories---to become the mainstay of your wardrobe.

Slide 12  
Informal wedding

12

If the wedding is informal, no clothing changes may be necessary after the wedding. The bride's costume may serve a dual role of wedding dress and going-away outfit. Neither would the groom need to change clothes. If, however, the bride's gown is the dressy afternoon type, she will need to change to a less dressy going-away outfit.

Slide 13  
Semiformal wedding

13

If the wedding is semiformal, the bride will need to change from her wedding gown to a going-away dress or suit. The groom again, may not need to change if he has worn a dark business suit.

Slide 14  
Formal wedding

Change of dress for both bride and groom are mandatory following a formal wedding and receptions.<sup>14</sup>

Slide 15  
Plan Clothing Purchases  
Around Clothes on Hand

15

. Planning clothing purchases to supplement the existing wardrobe.

New clothing purchases should be planned around:

- . Clothes that you already have in your wardrobe and
- . Your anticipated married life style.

Each bride and groom should take into marriage a complete basic wardrobe. By basic wardrobe we mean that each person should have enough clothes for all the varied

Slide 16  
Basic Wardrobe

activities in which they participate.

To achieve this basic wardrobe at minimum cost, each bride and groom needs to answer the following questions.

16

- What type of clothing does my occupation(s) require?
- Where will we live?
- What type of social life will we have?
- How will we spend our leisure time?

The answers to these questions are the bases for planning your trousseau. With these answers, you are ready to begin planning your trousseau.

The very first thing you must do is---go through all the clothing you own and decide which clothes will fit into your new way of life. Be practical! Remember, very few people can afford all new wardrobes. And, if you find some clothes stashed away that you have not worn in a two year period, now is the time to get rid of them. These clothes are excess baggage. In addition, "all apparel which is out of style---of improper fit---and in poor condition should be eliminated". \*

Slide 17  
Activity Chart

Next, list the various types of activities you will be doing: gainful employment; church and civic activities; sport activities; housework; entertaining; hobbies. Decide which activities will take up most of your time; second, third, fourth, and etc. Take the clothes on-hand you are planning to keep and list these clothes by the appropriate activities. Some of these clothes may be listed by several activities.

\*Tate, Mildred, and Glisson, Oris, Family Clothing, fifth Printing. John Wiley and Sons, Inc. New York, 1961, p. 136.

Are there any activities which have few or no  
clothes? If so, you should spend your trousseau  
dollar filling up these clothing gaps. A good rule to  
follow is---the activity that consumes most of your time  
will require the most clothes plus the largest portion  
of the trousseau dollar. The second largest time con-  
suming activity will get the next largest portion of  
clothes and money---and so on down the list of activities.  
Each minor activity in which you plan to participate  
should have at least one outfit.

Again, climate is a governing factor in planning a  
basic wardrobe. Here in North Carolina you are usually  
safe to plan for two seasonal changes: spring/summer and  
fall/winter. A well planned trousseau will have a basic  
wardrobe that covers both seasonal changes. Incidentally,  
get in the habit of using this guideline for all your  
future clothing expenditures. It is workable. And, it  
can insure you and your future family of having a basic  
wardrobe at all times.

. Clothing should be purchased with the type of care and  
maintenance the garments require in mind.

You are now just about ready to venture out on your  
trousseau shopping spree. You already know what types  
of clothing you need---you have a good idea of the  
styles and colors that look best on you---but what  
about the fabrics? There are fabrics on the market  
that are exquisite to the touch and eye, but require  
"kid glove" care. These fabrics do not take a lot of

day to day wear.

Each of us has probably formulated how we want fabrics in our clothes to react. For some, wrinkle resistant characteristics are critical to being satisfied with the garment's performance. Other people rate "ease of care" the highest. Durability and comfort also may be buying requirements.

There is no one best fiber for fabrics. Each fiber has advantages and disadvantages. Natural fibers such as wool, cotton, linen and silk are absorbent---thus, more comfortable to wear. Man-made fibers such as nylon, polyester, acrylic and acetate are usually termed "easy-care" fibers that tend to be wrinkle resistant. With special finishes some fibers are made to react in certain ways. The durable press finish (permanent press) are "easy care" since they wrinkle very little. Knit fabrics usually require minimum care. For garment satisfaction, choose the fabrics with characteristics that are most important to you.

Slide 20  
Clothing Dollar

Care and maintenance cost are definite factors to think about before purchasing your trousseau clothing. The clothing care maintenance cost will be a part of your future clothing dollar budget. And, on an average, a couple with or without children allocate approximately <sup>20</sup> ten (10) percent of their disposable income for buying and caring for clothing.

Some fabrics require more expensive maintenance cost. These include leather and suede outfits; most napped fabrics; and loosely woven fabrics. To make sure you know how to care for all articles of clothing, check the garment's permanent care label. The care requirement of the garment may influence your final decision. Always get in the habit of heeding the care instructions given on the labels. The life of the garment as well as your personal satisfaction depends upon it.

. The amount of clothing storage space in the couple's future residence should be a consideration.

Often, a couple is so engrossed in planning all the details for the wedding day and prenuptial activities that little notice is given to the amount of clothing storage space in the future residence. Most couples realize only too late that storage space is the most glaring deficiency in their new residence; two people instead of one will equally share the clothing storage space.

Before purchasing a lot of additional clothes and accessories, check the storage space. You may have to revise your clothing trousseau purchases to get more mileage out of each article. Some of the ways of extending a small wardrobe includes: relying on coordinated clothes to function for a variety of activities. Coordination of clothing includes:

Slide 21  
Check Future Clothing  
Space

Slide 22  
Picture of Closet

Slide 23  
Plan Two Color Scheme

- Planning the wardrobe around one or at most two color schemes for each seasonal change.<sup>23</sup>
- Selecting one or two clothing styles that complement one another; thus, the styles can be worn interchangeably.

Remember, even if the number of articles is cut down you can have a functional as well as attractive wardrobe; a wardrobe that fulfills all your new life style requirements.

## WHERE TO LIVE AFTER THE HONEYMOON

### An Apartment

Where will you live after the honeymoon? Are you anticipating renting an apartment? If so, then you will need to be aware of the choices available in your area and the advantages and disadvantages of each apartment you view.

- 1            Before you go apartment hunting, use the local sources available to you to provide you with apartment information. The classified ads of the local newspapers are the most obvious source. These ads include names, various features offered, location and usually the amount of rent.
  
- 2            Real estate agencies, located in the yellow pages of the telephone directory, can also provide you with apartment information. With a real estate agent you have the advantage of communicating to him your wants and needs in an apartment and the rent you can afford to pay. He can give you names of apartments which meet your specifications and thus save you time in telephone calls and visits.
  
- 3            In larger cities an "Apartment Finder" booklet is available at many local businesses. This booklet contains a list of all apartment complexes, their location, features and rent.
  
- 4            Ask friends and co-workers about apartments they would consider. They can generally recommend apartment complexes and neighborhoods that would best suit your needs and wants. This source is

especially valuable if you are planning to live in a new town and you are not familiar with the location and types of apartments available there.

5 Perhaps you are interested in an apartment in a house. Friends and co-workers again may be able to help you. You might ride around in the area of town you would like to live. You might see some "For Rent" signs for apartments that are not advertised in the classified ads of the newspapers.

6 While you are sorting out the list of apartment possibilities, decide on the features the two of you consider a "must"; such as, the number of bedrooms, distance to work and shopping areas, appliances to be furnished, etc. Then list features you would like to have in an apartment; such as air conditioning, dishwasher, disposal, carpet, draperies, electric range, utilities included in the rent, pets allowed, etc. Rate these in order of preference so you can eliminate the ones you can live without more readily.

7 When you begin to look, fix a maximum rate you can afford then do not go more than \$10 over that. Don't forget to allow for electricity and water if these are not included in the rent.

8 Also take along a tape measure on your visits to check the sizes of rooms. The apartment with the right rent may not have enough space for your furnishings and all those wedding presents!

9 As you will find when you go apartment hunting, there are large apartments and small apartments with lots of features or with

no features at low rent or high rent. Carefully analyze the prospects.

- 10 Look at the neighborhood and surroundings. Where you live should be conveniently located to work, to shopping areas and to recreational facilities. Your own values will determine the number of miles which are convenient for you. However, it is not necessary to be so close that you are located on a noisy highway or throughway with roaring trucks and buses.
- 11 Private parking for your car will provide more security from hit-and-run drivers and from thieves.
- 12 Ask the manager about the kind of people already living in the building or complex - not for snob reasons but because places have become very specialized according to life situations. Singles, young marrieds and families with young children and older people all seem to enjoy living among their peers.
- 13 The apartment entrance should be well lit. It will make it easier for you to unlock the door and it will discourage thieves and thugs. If the entrance to the apartment is from a hall, a staggered arrangement of doors on opposite sides of the hall will reduce noise problems and provide more privacy.
- 14 What is your first impression? If you immediately see good decorating possibilities as you enter and walk around, the apartment may be worth considering. Take a walk around to get a general idea about the apartment, the floor plan and general condition. The bathroom should be near the bedroom. The dining room should be convenient and close to the kitchen.

Preferably, the kitchen door should face the dining area as this eliminates steps in serving. Can the kitchen be shut off partially or completely from the living room? This is nice if you are a messy cook. Mentally move in your furniture and try to arrange it--estimating whether there is enough wall space for the sofa, enough height for your bookcases, etc.

- 15        What is the general condition of the apartment? Check doors and windows to see if they operate smoothly and that there are no gaps for air or noise to leak through. Make sure the landlord will make any necessary repairs before you move into the apartment.
- 16        Are you worried about noisy neighbors? A partition of 5/8 inch gypsum board attached to 2 by 4 inch studs, a laminated gypsum wall consisting of two 3/8 inch gypsum board panels attached to 2 by 4 inch studs, on a concrete wall, typical of modular construction, are examples of good sound barriers. A wall system is considered a good noise barrier when conversation can be heard but not understood. Carpeted floors, draperies or an acoustical ceiling will reduce sound reverberation within a room.
- 17        Select an apartment away from road traffic. For best control of outside noise, look for masonry exterior walls and double-glazed windows. Independent heating and air conditioning systems for each apartment will reduce noise transmission between apartments.
- 18        Allowing for the fact that you will never have enough space to store everything, the storage space in the apartment should

neatly and conveniently hold clothes, linens, cookware and seasonal items. Check the amount of storage space in the different areas.

19 It does not matter so much how heat gets to the apartment as it does how much and whether you can control it yourself. This is a good time to ask who pays for the heating and/or cooling. If the apartment is not air-conditioned, find out if it has adequate wiring for a window unit. Also check to be sure each room has at least one electrical outlet per wall.

20 Now that you have a general impression of the apartment, go back to certain areas and take a second look, considering the needs of you and your spouse.

In the kitchen, check the arrangement of work centers. The mix center, sink center and range-serve center should be conveniently located without the interference of traffic patterns. There should be sufficient counter space for you to work. Using your tape measure, compare these recommended counter space requirements to the counter space in the apartment. There should be 24 inches to the right of the sink for stacking dishes for washing. There should be 18 inches to the left of the sink for draining and stacking clean dishes.

For mixing and food preparation 36 inches of space is recommended. Preferably, this should be located between the refrigerator and sink or between the refrigerator and range. There should be 15 inches beside the range for setting out serving dishes. Fifteen inches is recommended also on the latch side of the refrigerator for setting out supplies.

- 21           Is there enough cabinet space to store all those dishes and kitchen equipment you got as wedding presents? There should be a minimum of 6 feet of base cabinet frontage and 8 feet of wall cabinet frontage in a kitchen.
- 22           Investigate the range, refrigerator, fans, dishwasher and garbage disposal to see how they work.
- 23           In the bathroom and dressing area, there should be enough space for the two of you to get dressed in the morning. "His and her" dressing areas are sometimes featured in apartments. In her area there should be enough space for cosmetics and those electric curlers. In his area there should be space for toiletries and shaving equipment. Check the storage space for linens, toiletries, etc. Make sure the toilet, fan, sink and drains work.
- 24           Do not be swayed by all those ads featuring all kinds of extras like a swimming pool, saunas, health club, putting greens, etc. You can well believe they are included in the price of the rent. They are nice if you make use of them, but many working people do not take advantage of them when they are available. Needless to say, they do not compensate for tiny rooms or poor construction.
- 25           Read the lease carefully before you sign. Be sure you understand your responsibilities as a renter. Ask about the management's attitudes concerning pets, improvements, security deposits and terms if these are not clear in the lease. Remember, the lease is a protection for you, the renter, as well as the landlord.
- 26           When you look at apartments in your area, take more than a

"bird's eye view" so that you can make an intelligent decision about your prospective living arrangements. Your apartment may not be a honeymooner's retreat, but it should meet your needs and make your home life enjoyable.

\* \* \* \* \*

## CHECKLIST FOR SELECTING AN APARTMENT

### Neighborhood & Surroundings

- |  | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|--|------------|-----------|
| 1. Are there shops and services convenient to the apartment? | _____      | _____     |
| 2. Is it convenient to your work?                            | _____      | _____     |
| 3. Will your car be parked in a parking lot?                 | _____      | _____     |
| 4. Does the neighborhood appeal to you?                      | _____      | _____     |
| 5. Is the appearance of the neighborhood neat and well-kept? | _____      | _____     |
| 6. Is it convenient to shopping facilities?                  | _____      | _____     |

### Apartment Entrance

- |   |       |       |
|---|-------|-------|
| 1. Is it well lighted?  | _____ | _____ |
| 2. If the apartment entrance is from a hall, are the apartment doors staggered on opposite sides of the hall? | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Are the locks sturdy?  | _____ | _____ |

### Apartment Floor Plan

- |  |       |       |
|--|-------|-------|
| 1. Is the bathroom close to the bedroom?                                 | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Is the dining area convenient and near the kitchen?                   | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Is the apartment large enough for the two of you and your belongings? | _____ | _____ |

### General Condition

- |  |       |       |
|--|-------|-------|
| 1. Is the general condition of the apartment good?               | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Will the landlord make the necessary repairs before you move? | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Do the windows and doors fit well without air leaks?          | _____ | _____ |
| 4. Do the windows and doors operate smoothly?                    | _____ | _____ |

### Kitchen

- |   |       |       |
|---|-------|-------|
| 1. Is the size of the kitchen adequate?           | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Is the arrangement of work centers good?       | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Is there enough counter space for you to work? | _____ | _____ |
| 4. Is there enough cabinet space?                 | _____ | _____ |
| 5. Do the appliances work well?                   | _____ | _____ |

### Bathroom & Dressing Areas

- |  |       |       |
|--|-------|-------|
| 1. Is there enough space for the two of you to get dressed in the morning? | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Is there enough counter space for her cosmetics and electric curlers?   | _____ | _____ |

- |  |            |           |
|--|------------|-----------|
| 3. Is there enough counter space for 'his' toiletries and shaving equipment? | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
| 4. Is there enough storage space for linens?                                 | _____      | _____     |
| 5. Do the tub, shower, toilet, ventilating fan work well?                    | _____      | _____     |

#### Total Storage Space

- |  |       |       |
|--|-------|-------|
| 1. Is there enough space to take care of your belongings?  | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Will you be able to store all things (clothes, dishes, linens, cookware, seasonal items) easily and conveniently? | _____ | _____ |

#### Heating & Electrical

- |   |       |       |
|---|-------|-------|
| 1. Can you control the heat and/or cooling system yourself?     | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Does each room have at least one electrical outlet per wall? | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Are there laundry facilities available?                      | _____ | _____ |

## CHECKLIST FOR SELECTING A MOBILE HOME

### Exterior

- |   | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|---|------------|-----------|
| 1. Is the color and/or color combination pleasing without being dark or flashy? | _____      | _____     |
| 2. Is the home architecturally pleasing and free of gaudy moldings and trims?   | _____      | _____     |
| 3. Are the windows approximately the same size?                                 | _____      | _____     |
| 4. Is there only one texture of exterior material used?                         | _____      | _____     |
| 5. Does the unit display the Mobile Home Manufacturers Association's seal?      | _____      | _____     |

### Interior

- |   |       |       |
|---|-------|-------|
| 1. Is there good separation between the sleeping, living and work area so that activities in each area do not disturb those in other areas? | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Is the window space 16 percent of the total floor space with 5 percent free to open?   | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Do interior doors fit in the jambs without unusual openings at the bottom for air circulation?   | _____ | _____ |

### Construction

- |   |       |       |
|---|-------|-------|
| 1. Do the walls and floor seem rigidly constructed?       | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Are the wall lights in color to brighten the interior? | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Are the flooring materials of good quality?            | _____ | _____ |
| 4. Are the flooring materials properly installed?         | _____ | _____ |

### Living Room

- |  |       |       |
|--|-------|-------|
| 1. Is the interior decoration tasteful and free of gaudy trims and decoration? | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Is the furniture sturdy?  | _____ | _____ |

### Kitchen

- |   |       |       |
|---|-------|-------|
| 1. Is there adequate counter space for mixing, washing and draining dishes? | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Is there at least 12" of counter space on each side of the range?        | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Is there 18" of counter space on the latch side of the refrigerator?     | _____ | _____ |
| 4. Are the counter tops of a laminated plastic surface?                     | _____ | _____ |
| 5. Is the cabinet shelf spacing good?                                       | _____ | _____ |
| 6. Are the cabinet door pulls of "screw" type?                              | _____ | _____ |
| 7. Do the doors have spring loaded hinges or Alnico magnets?                | _____ | _____ |
| 8. Are there nylon guides for ease in operation?                            | _____ | _____ |

- |   | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|---|------------|-----------|
| 9. Is there an outside door in or near the kitchen?   | _____      | _____     |
| 10. Is there general overhead lighting in the kitchen without lighting over the sink and range? | _____      | _____     |
| 11. Are the appliances brand names with which you are familiar?                                 | _____      | _____     |

Bathroom

- |  |       |       |
|--|-------|-------|
| 1. Is the bathroom convenient to the bedroom and to the living area?         | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Does the installation of fixtures in the bathroom show good workmanship?  | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Is the drain pipe under the lavatory the standard 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ " size? | _____ | _____ |
| 4. Is there sufficient lighting in the bathroom?                             | _____ | _____ |
| 5. Is there storage space for linens in or near the area?                    | _____ | _____ |

Bedrooms

- |   |       |       |
|---|-------|-------|
| 1. Is the bedroom located so that it will get less traffic and noise? | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Is there at least 3' of closet space per person?                   | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Do the closet doors operate smoothly?                              | _____ | _____ |
| 4. Are the closets 24" deep?  | _____ | _____ |
| 5. Are the beds standard size--double, queen, king?                   | _____ | _____ |
| 6. Does the mattress feel firm and provide good support?              | _____ | _____ |

Heating & Electrical

- |   |       |       |
|---|-------|-------|
| 1. Is there a 150-200 amp service for a electrically heated mobile home?                | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Is the heating burner a gun-type?  | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Is the mobile home fully insulated with insulation in the floors, walls and ceiling? | _____ | _____ |
| 4. Is the furnace centrally located in the mobile home?                                 | _____ | _____ |
| 5. Is the water heater located near the kitchen?  | _____ | _____ |
| 6. Is the water heater a 40-gallon quick-recovery type?                                 | _____ | _____ |
| 7. Is there double electrical outlets placed 12' apart in each room?                    | _____ | _____ |
| 8. Is the fuse box inconspicuous and located in an inconspicuous location?              | _____ | _____ |

-----

Prepared by Wilma Scott, Extension Housing and House Furnishings Specialist, published by the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service. North Carolina State University at Raleigh and the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Cooperating. State College Station, Raleigh, N. C., George Hyatt, Jr., Director. Distributed in furtherance of the Acts of Congress of May 8 and June 30, 1914.

February 1973

## FOR YOUR DINING PLEASURE - CHOOSE TABLEWARE FOR YOUR NEW LIFESTYLE

"A successful table setting . . . depends largely on know-how and use of things that go well together." Just as today's interior trend is eclectic so are today's table settings. Brides-to-be are blending the traditional and contemporary patterns of tableware and creating eclectic designs that suit today's lifestyles. Traditional silver and glassware patterns successfully combined with earthenware can create table settings with informal elegance. Several manufacturers are featuring mix-and-match dinnerware where solid colored pieces can be color coordinated with patterned pieces. For example, you may select a multi-color patterned plate and then select a solid color cup or bowl to coordinate with it. Another company offers a starter set in which each five-place piece setting is a different color. One place setting is pink and lavender, another blue and green, another gray and black and another brown and beige.

Many brides-to-be today are selecting only one set of tableware. They are selecting and coordinating patterns that will suit their everyday lifestyles yet can look dressed up when special occasions occur. There are several reasons for this trend. Today brides plan to work outside the home longer and are not interested in collecting two sets of dishes at this point. Since most young couples plan to live in apartments or mobile homes and storage space is not in great abundance in either one, they choose one set of tableware. Those who select two sets usually store one at the in-laws' anyway for the time being. Most couples today are concerned with selecting practical tableware that will meet their specific needs not merely to follow a tradition of getting married.

To assist brides-to-be in selecting the right tableware for them, each category (dinnerware, glassware and flatware) will be presented in detail. Guidelines for the selection of each will be discussed.

### Dinnerware

Today, the bride-to-be has to consider more than just pattern when she selects dinnerware. Dinnerware is available in a variety of materials as well as a variety of patterns. This is great for the couple who have no idea of the pattern or material they want for their home. However, the large variety can result in confusion, also.

Do not be persuaded to select two sets of dinnerware, flatware and glassware--one for everyday and one for "Sunday" just because this has been traditional in your area. This should be a time for you to stop and think about your future goals together and your future lifestyle. Tableware should reflect your mode of living yet should be suitable no matter whom you entertain. You want your tableware to be tasteful in years to come, therefore, you should give it's selection careful consideration.

Dinnerware has been said to be . . . "like a good basic dress." Its pattern and color influence pattern and color of flatware and glassware as well as table linens.

Consider your needs now and in the future. If you select one style which you plan to use for some time, then you should select a pattern and a material that are versatile and will complement a formal or informal setting. If one day you can foresee entertaining your husband's business associates, then you may want to consider a stoneware or ironstone pattern that will be suitable for more formal entertaining or a set of fine china. If this is the case, you may choose

a set of plastic dinnerware for everyday use.

Before you decide, visit many dinnerware departments or jewelry stores to see the variety of brands on the market. Compare patterns and prices. Read advertisements in bridal magazines and order brochures from companies.

As mentioned previously, there is a variety of dinnerware materials on the market today. Let's discuss each one and identify its properties so you will know what you are looking at.

Pottery is considered the crudest type of dinnerware. It is made of clay and baked at a relatively low temperature. It is heavy, thick, very porous, and chips and breaks easily. Pottery is fairly inexpensive.

Earthenware is made from a better quality clay than pottery and is baked at a higher temperature. This is opaque and relatively porous.

Ironstone is less porous than earthenware. It is baked at a relatively high temperature. It also has good strength.

Stoneware is similar to china. It is baked at a high temperature which gives it the vitreous characteristic. It is also nonporous. It is heavy with a hard finish that resists oven heat. Therefore, it is suitable for casserole dishes.

Vitreous china, or porcelain is made from pottery clay called kaolin and is baked at a high temperature which gives it a glass-like appearance. It is nonporous, translucent, light, thin and strong. It is the most expensive dinnerware.

Bone china is made by adding ash to the kaolin. Bone china is strong and translucent. It is generally known for its high quality and whiteness. Spode, Wedgewood and Royal Doulton manufacture bone china.

Certain decorations on vitreous and bone china are subject to fading and scratching since they are applied over the glaze. Metallic decorations are an example of a decoration applied over the glaze. Metallic decorations are not applied under glazes because the glaze would create a chemical reaction causing the metals to turn a dull brown or gray.

Melamine plastic is lightweight. It is resistant to breaking, cracking and chipping. Generally inexpensive, it can be seen in a range of pleasing solid colors and designs. Its major disadvantage is that it can be stained, scratched and even damaged by excessive heat.

When selecting dinnerware use the following guidelines to assist you in making a wise choice:

1. Check translucency (of china). Hold a plate to the light. You should be able to see your hand behind it.
2. Look at the color. It should be clear with no gray or muddiness.
3. Hold a plate on your palm, tap it. It should have a bell-like ring (for china).
4. Be certain the glaze is put on smoothly and evenly on the front and back of the plate. Hold the plate to the light at an angle. There should be no waviness or bumps. Run your finger along the edge to be sure it is smooth and glazed. The rim where the plate touches the table should be the only place where the glaze is polished off. There should not be pin holes, dark specks or splotches.
5. Examine the cup handle and pick it up. It should be comfortable to hold. Cup handles should be large enough for your husband-to-be's hand.

6. Test rims of cup for smoothness and no rough spots.
7. Make sure the saucer depression holds the cup firmly.
8. Is the pattern versatile enough to meet your needs?
9. Examine the pattern. It should be of the finest quality and free from any small breaks and imperfections.
10. Consider how your china will look in use. Will it add appetite appeal to the food you serve?
11. Imagine your situation 10 years from now. Your pattern should be one you will not tire of easily.
12. Be sure the china you select is in open stock. This means you can purchase individual pieces of the pattern. However, open stock does not assure you the pattern will be available forever. Find out from the salesperson if the pattern is expected to close out soon.

### Flatware

Flatware refers to knives, forks, spoons and other pieces used in eating and serving meals. Sterling, silverplate, goldplate and stainless steel are the most usual types of materials.

Flatware patterns can be divided into three design groups-- traditional, contemporary and modern. Traditional patterns may be plain, semi-ornate or ornate. Contemporary patterns usually are decorated with current motifs or ornamentation. Modern patterns are usually simple with little or no ornamentation or else have a simple yet elegant shape.

Sterling silver, silverplate and goldplate all render themselves effective in any of the three design groups. Stainless steel, however, is more effective in less ornate patterns.

Traditionally, selecting a silver pattern has been one of the symbolic arts of a bride-to-be. Sterling silver is beautiful whether greatly detailed or simply designed. Sterling silver has a lasting value. The term "sterling" indicates that a product contains 925 parts pure silver (92.5%) and 75 parts (7.5%) of an alloy such as copper or antimony to give it strength. This standard is set by the U. S. Government and is strictly controlled. In the past 100 years, the cost of silver has gone up considerably. If you are considering a set of sterling silver tableware in your future, you should begin the set now. As the value of pure metal increases, the cost of workmanship and manufacturing rise; the cost of the sterling silver will increase also.

In selecting sterling silver, consider pattern, craftsmanship and detailing. However, your choice should be influenced by the way you live, using formality or informality in a table setting and entertaining. Look for these features when selecting silver.

1. Overall design - Look at the back and front of the piece to be sure the craftsman has paid attention to the attractiveness of the back also. Look at the flow of the design from one tip to the other. The design should go with the shapes of the bowls and tines.
2. Weight and balance - Compare similar patterns for size, weight and balance as these may vary between brands. Pick up the pieces to see how comfortable they will be to use.
3. Workmanship - Look at the decoration carefully. They should be sharp and executed with precision. Check to see how the handles of knives are joined to the blades. The joining should be smooth and solid.
4. Finish - The finish should be "rich, warm, soft and satiny."

Avoid those that look like stainless steel. They are not of the quality one desires in sterling silver.

Stainless steel is a widely popular material for tableware. Although it does not have prestige or sentiment, it is a practical choice for any homemaker. It does not tarnish and is not stained by foods, therefore, it requires little care. It is available in a variety of patterns and costs less than sterling silver.

In selecting stainless steel, whether it is for everyday use only or whether it will be the only set of flatware you own for a while, consider these points in the selection.

1. Weight - Weight is the most important consideration. Generally the heavier, the better.
2. Size - Compare sizes of various brands and patterns. Better stainless steel flatware pieces are slightly larger than lower and less expensive grades.
3. Finish - The finish should be smooth on each piece. Be sure to check the edges of each piece and between the tines of the fork.
4. Resistance to bending - Test the pressure points of the tableware--the tines of the fork and the shank (the narrow place where the handle joins with the bowl or tines). Inexpensive stainless steel will bend under pressure.
5. Thickness - Look at the profile of a fork or spoon. The better grades show a distinct difference in thickness. Cheaper grades are manufactured by a stamping process that produces a piece with the same thickness from tip to tip. The more expensive grades are "forged." These generally have better balance and are heavier.

6. Balance - The piece should have balance in design, proportion and "feel." This is related to thickness as discussed previously. For example, the shank of the spoon should be slightly thicker than the bowl or top of the handle.
7. The knife - Look where the knife handle joins the blade. It should be smooth and solid--not flimsy. In "forged" stainless steel the blade and the handle form a smooth one-piece line. Most stainless steel knives have a serrated or saw toothed edge. This serrated edge should not be visible when the knife is placed to the right of the dinner plate.
8. Salad forks and butter knife - Compare these with higher and lower priced patterns. Sometimes there may be almost an inch difference in size. The better knife should be fat instead of flat in better stainless steel.

### Silverplate

Silverplate looks like sterling. It is made of a coating of silver over a base metal of nickel, copper and zinc. The durability of silverplate is dependent on the thickness of the coating and the quality of application. It generally has the weight, balance and "feel" of sterling. It also tarnishes and needs to be polished as does sterling. It will show scratches and wear more than sterling or stainless steel. However, with proper use, a good quality of silverplate will last for many years.

When buying silverplate, consider these points:

1. Weight - Pick up a piece. The higher quality pieces are generally heavier and will look beautiful longer.
2. Finish - Look carefully at the finish on the piece. Take special note of the stress points to see if there is extra plating in these areas. A pattern with a textured finish will show scratches

less and wear less.

3. Balance - Hold the piece in profile to check its balance. It should be shaped and show variations in thickness and thinness for a more comfortable and graceful line.
4. Manufacturer's guarantee - Ask about the time and terms of the manufacturer's guarantee before you buy. It is wise to buy from a reputable manufacturer that has been in business for a long time and will continue.

#### Goldplate

If one wishes the look of gold in flatware, the bride-to-be may choose goldplate. It is a very elegant flatware. Its use, however, is limited. It does not coordinate well with all dinnerware patterns-- only with those with gold trim and those with no silver color in the pattern. The goldplate finish is very soft and consequently shows scratches and wear faster than silver. Goldplate does not tarnish and never needs polishing. Although goldplate is generally considered to have a more formal appearance it will blend with informal settings quite well, depending on the pattern.

When considering goldplate, look for these points:

1. Amount of plating - A heavy plating will last longer than a thin one.
2. Weight of the base metal - Better grades of goldplate will use a heavier base metal.
3. Look carefully at all detail work and finish. The finish should be smooth and even and the detail work executed with precision.
4. Ask about the guarantee - You should know how long the guarantee lasts and what will be done by the company if any of the pieces

show defects within the time period.

5. Ask about open stock availability - Many lower-priced pieces and some imports are available in sets.

Before making a final selection of a flatware pattern, collect many pattern folders from local retailers. Compare the various brands, patterns and pieces. Then choose a pattern that will suit your lifestyle and will coordinate with other tableware you may have selected.

### Glassware

The informality or formality of your tablesetting will determine the glassware you select. The glassware you choose should coordinate with the dinnerware or flatware you plan to use.

Glasses come in many shapes and sizes. Tall goblets add formal elegance to a tablesetting. The short-stemmed glass complements a less formal setting.

Different kinds of glass are produced by adding different chemicals to sand in the manufacturer's process. Lead glass is produced from a mixture of sand, potash and lead. It is the "top of the line" in glassware. It is characterized by a brilliant luster and produces a bell-like ring when the edge is tapped.

Lime glass is the oldest type of glassware. It is quite popular today since it is economical and durable. It has a soft sheen and a hard brittle surface. When the rim is tapped, it produces a dull sound.

Milk glass is a white milky glass. A combination of aluminum fluorides produces the opaque quality.

When referring to glassware as "crystal", we are referring to its clear quality rather than price. Whether selecting lead or lime glass, look for quality. Hold the glass to the light. There should be no

cloudy look or off-color tints. Lead glass should have a slightly blue cast. Lime glass should have a slightly yellow cast.

Colored glassware has gained in popularity in the last few years. It lends itself beautifully to contemporary settings. When selecting colored glassware, look for luster and evenness of tint. Dark-colored glassware should have good depth of color and a nice sparkle.

### Care of Tableware

Don't forget to find out about the manufacturer's cleaning and storage recommendations. If you think you may have a dishwasher in the near or distant future, your tableware should be dishwasher safe.

Consumer Guide suggests these points for cleaning and storing tableware.

1. Rinse off most food particles and grease before washing.
2. Never allow coffee or tea to dry in cups or pots.
3. Use mild soaps and detergent.
4. If you use a dishwasher, be sure to load it properly. Do not allow dishes to touch one another.
5. Never use steel wool or other abrasives on your dinnerware.
6. Use doilies or separating pads when storing your fine china. Always stack with largest plate on the bottom, smaller ones on top.
7. Cups should hang from hooks or nest two together.
8. When warming dishes, do it gradually. Never heat plastic dinnerware.

### Conclusion

Before making a final selection of either dinnerware, flatware, or glassware, consider how the three will look together. One might

consider including pattern and plain designs in the tableware grouping. There are no set guidelines for blending styles and periods. However, if patterned and plain designs are combined the grouping will be coordinated without being either overpowering or undistinguished. All items should blend with your home and fit your family lifestyle.

---

Prepared by Wilma Scott, Extension Housing and House Furnishings Specialist. Published by the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service. North Carolina State University at Raleigh and the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Cooperating. State College Station, Raleigh, N. C., George Hyatt, Jr., Director. Distributed in furtherance of the Acts of Congress of May 8 and June 30, 1914. January 1973

# MARRIAGE



**so you've decided**