

# Superstitions . . .

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There is also many factors unrelated to the actual ceremony that can cast a shadow of misfortune on the couple.

For instance in Syria, doom would strike if the wedding procession passed a cemetery. If it passed a bakery, the bride could develop a constant ravenous appetite for sweets.

In Germany, if the priest sneezed during the ceremony one of the pair would die within a year.

Seeing a flock of birds on the way to the church is a sign of many children.

Seeing a funeral procession on the way is an omen of a quick separation.

Superstitions also follow that which comes after the wedding—the eating of the cake.

A bride must have the bridegroom's help when slicing the first piece or she is destined to be childless. A bride who makes the cake herself may be in for bad luck, and to taste it before the wedding could cause her to lose a husband's love.

For women who are always the bridesmaid, never the bride, try carrying a piece of the bride's wedding cake until the honeymoon is over. Superstition says you will soon be married. And after the first wedding

in a family, part of the cake should be kept in the house or all the single daughters are destined to stay that way.

One of the most common bridal traditions is that something old, something new, something borrowed, and something blue should be with her at her wedding. Superstitious beliefs are behind this saying.

Something old should come from a happily married person, to insure a happy marriage for the bride. Something new comes from the belief that every bride should have something new at her wedding. Something borrowed, such as a piece of jewelry, will bring the bride wealth. And something blue is a symbol of true love.

## Wedding day timetable will prevent hassles

The Perfect Wedding. Most take at least six months to plan, but many brides-to-be could easily be busy for a year.

The editors of *Bride's* magazine prepared a detailed checklist, explaining the majority of steps that need to be taken before the big day:

### Six months before the wedding:

- Select a wedding date and time. Reserve the church or other location.
- Discuss budget—decide on wedding style, and everything from flowers to food.
- Have both families complete guest lists.
- Plan your reception and make the necessary arrangements.
- Check catering facilities, book musicians.
- Plan the color scheme for the wedding and reception.
- Visit your clergyman.
- Choose and order your wedding dress and accessories.
- Pick out your engagement ring with your fiancé.
- Discuss ideas for a new home—begin household shopping.
- Register china, crystal, silver, etc.
- Choose your attendants.
- Order attendant's dresses and tuxedos.
- Discuss honeymoon plans.

### Three months before:

- Order invitations.
- Engage a photographer.
- Set the date for a pre-bridal portrait and take engagement pictures.
- Consult with a florist.
- Arrange to visit your doctor.
- Do all alterations.
- Finish details of reception and wedding.

### One month before:

- Mail invitations.
- Order wedding cake.
- Choose gifts for the attendants.
- Plan rehearsal dinner.
- Buy wedding rings.
- Arrange lodging for out-of-town guests.
- Write thank-you notes.

### Two weeks before:

- Send wedding announcement to papers.
- Arrange to change name and address on all credit cards, driver's license, etc.
- Obtain marriage license.

### One week before:

- Pack for honeymoon.
- Check all final details.
- Relax!

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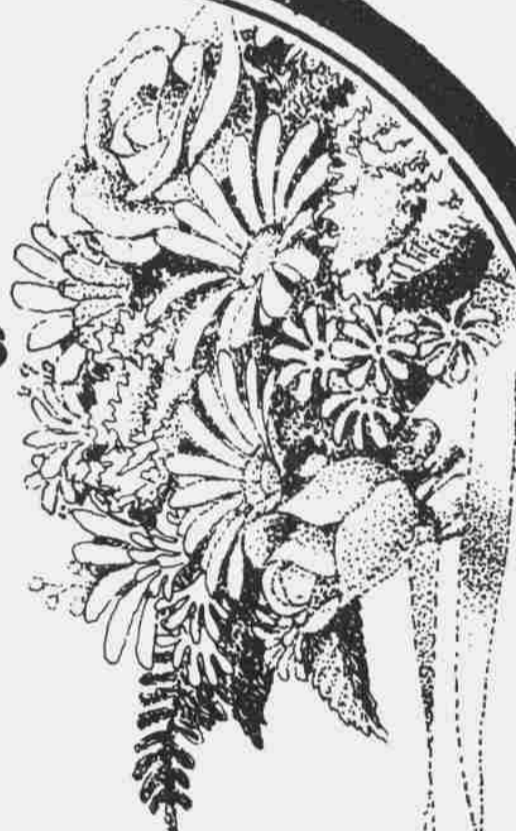
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