

## Blush-colored dresses, longer sleeves new trends for 2016 wedding fashions

by Lori McGinnis Black

Brides this year will be wearing more color and different sleeve styles are trending.

Pure white is out of style in wedding gowns, said Jocelyn Robertshaw, owner of Ready or Knot. Gowns rather are being sold in off white, ivory and blush. Strapless dresses are still in demand but sleeves are back for this year, she said. Sleeves can be either three-fourths or full. Long sleeves often have what Robertshaw calls a "lace

### Methodist promotes Rodgers

Sharlon Rodgers of Methodist Health System has been promoted to director of regulatory standards and risk management for Methodist Hospital and Methodist Women's Hospital.

In her new role, Rodgers will verify compliance and coordinate readiness for joint commission re-accreditation.

She will also partner with patients and insurance carriers to provide timely review of incidents and complaints at Methodist Hospital and Methodist Women's Hospital.

Rodgers has a bachelor's degree in radiation oncology from Howard University in Washington, D.C. She completed the executive master of business administration program at the University of Nebraska at Omaha in 2004.



Rodgers

tattoo" look — sheer fabric with applique.

Dresses either have low backs or textured backs. Belts that tie or clasp are popular. Today's brides don't wear necklaces but are choosing earrings and hair pins in gold and rose gold, she said.

Look for gold sequins on bridesmaids dresses this year, she said. Glitter and sparkle are in demand. Colors in demand include champagne, blush and soft taupe.

"Bridesmaids dresses are super hot," Robertshaw said.

All shades of gray are the popular colors for men's formal wear, said Lisa Solberg, owner of Gentleman's Choice Formal Wear. Grooms and groomsmen are still wearing tuxes but more are choosing formal suits. Solberg suspects that could be due to a more casual clientele and the fact that the men can keep the suits. Tuxes can rent for as low as \$60 to as high as \$220, she said.

Gray is the dominant choice in color in suits or tuxes.

"It's a neutral. It's not too light or too dark," she said.

Suspenders are popular as are bow ties, Solberg said. Accent colors generally are lighter and more pastel, with blush and a light blue gray being commonly seen, she said.

The trend in wedding flowers is different depending on who you ask.

The simpler the better when it comes to wedding bouquets, said Shelly Krenk, manager at Janousek Florist.

Paula Benne, owner of Terryl's Flower



Jocelyn Robertshaw, owner of Ready or Knot.

Garden, finds the trend toward larger cascading bouquets.

Brides today are abandoning the huge floral bouquets in favor of simple handheld floral arrangement, Krenk said.

"It seems like the bling has gone away and they want a natural, rustic look," she said.

For 2016 weddings, brides are choosing organic bouquets featuring succulents and eucalyptus. Popular flowers to blend in are garden roses in white. Whites, greens and deep blues are in demand in bouquets, she said. Many are getting their ideas from Pinterest.

Many brides are taking the succulents from their bouquets and planting them in gardens at their new homes to give them a lasting memory, Krenk said.

Benne still sees a trend toward large cascading bouquets. Popular flowers include garden roses, peonies, lilies and gerber daisies. Many brides opt for wearing flowers in their hair as well, she said.

Bridesmaid flowers are much simpler, often hand-held flowers tied together.

For men, roses and calla lilies are most common on boutonnières. Corsages are now attached with magnets rather than pins, which are more prone to snagging clothes, Benne said.

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