

1. Start Early

• Timeline: Begin shopping at least 8-12 months before the wedding. Custom dresses can take several months to make, and alterations also require time. However most of our dresses are ex-sample off the rack so this allows for last minute purchases if your wedding day is fast approaching.

2. Research and Inspiration

- Research Styles: Look through bridal magazines, websites, and Pinterest to identify styles you like.
- Create a Vision Board: Collect images of dresses and styles that catch your eye to bring to your appointments.

3. Set a Budget

- Establish a Budget: Determine how much you're willing to spend on your dress, including alterations, accessories, and undergarments.
- Stick to It: Communicate your budget to the bridal consultant to avoid trying on dresses that are out of your price range.

4. Know Your Wedding Theme and Venue

- Theme Compatibility: Consider the theme and formality of your wedding. A beach wedding dress might differ significantly from one suitable for a formal ballroom.
- Venue Considerations: The venue can influence your dress choice. For example, a church might call for a more traditional gown, whereas a garden setting might suit something more relaxed.

5. Be Open-Minded

- Try Different Styles: Even if you have a specific style in mind, try on various silhouettes and fabrics. You might be surprised by what you end up loving.
- Listen to Consultants: They have experience and might suggest something you wouldn't have considered.

6. Comfort is Key

- Consider Comfort: Ensure you can move, sit, and dance comfortably in your dress. The last thing you want is to feel restricted on your big day.
- Weather Appropriateness: Think about the season and weather. Heavier fabrics might be great for winter but uncomfortable in the summer heat.

7. Bring Supportive Friends or Family

- Limit Your party: Bring 2-3 people whose opinions you trust and who understand your style. Too many opinions can be overwhelming.
- Honesty and Support: Choose companions who will be honest but also supportive and positive.

8. Plan for Multiple Appointments

- Don't Rush: You might not find 'the one' on your first shopping trip. Schedule multiple appointments to give yourself enough time.
- Relax and Enjoy: Make the experience enjoyable and stress-free. Take breaks if needed and enjoy the process.

9. Think About the Whole Look

- Accessories and Shoes: Consider how accessories, shoes, and hairstyle will complement your dress.
- Undergarments: Bring appropriate undergarments to your fittings to get a better idea of how the dress will look on the big day.

10. Trust Your Instincts

- Feel Beautiful: You should feel like the best version of yourself in your dress.
- Don't Settle: If you have any doubts, keep looking. You'll know it's the right dress when you feel confident and excited.

11. Alterations are Essential

- Schedule Early: Once you've chosen your dress, schedule your fittings early to ensure it fits perfectly.
- Multiple Fittings: Expect to have at least 2-3 fittings to get the perfect fit.

By following these tips, you can make the process of finding your wedding dress a joyous and memorable part of your wedding planning. Enjoy the journey and trust that you will find the perfect dress for your special day!