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Your Wedding Gown

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Mrs. Allen Sharp, formerly Mary Daine of Ames, is wearing a dress styled with a portrait neckline of organdy.

Your most beautiful dress—

Your wedding gown

by Gwen Olson

Technical Journalism sophomore

THE LOVELIEST dress of your life and of your dreams is your wedding dress. As a bride you will want to be your most feminine and beautiful self, and this year the fitted bodice and full-mist skirt will easily make your dream dress come true.

The first phase of choosing your bridal dress is deciding if you want a versatile formal or a family heirloom. Today, the latter is a fading custom. The fast-changing styles and rising economy have made the versatile formal most popular with brides.

Choose a dress with a neckline to flatter your features. You may choose between the ante-bellum, off-the-shoulder neckline and the demure, high neckline, but a tiny waist and bouffant mist skirt are inevitable for your most beautiful dress this year.

Crisp organdy, pure silk, organza, shantung, lace, satin or drifting nylon tulle can all be molded to heighten your most fragile and feminine features. Satin is always appropriate, and a de-lustered satin skirt can billow into cascading foam, but for summer, shimmering sheers will be your choice. The laces, such as Chantilly and Alencon, appliques, embroidery or soulache (a worked ric-rac) will add to make yours a gossamer gown.

You can walk down the aisle in a star-lit dress dusted with pearls or rhinestones, but remember that the bride's face is foremost, and all the lines of your gown should make you beautiful.

A tiara, Juliet cap or little pill box cap follow the style of small compact headdresses. Or perhaps you will choose a flower-encrested band to hold your gathered veil which may be shoulder length, fingertip length or long and trailing, depending upon the formality of the ceremony.

You will find wedding dresses with and without sleeves and matching gloves. Mitts and gloves will give a finish to your ensemble, but are only essential

for the sleeveless, ultra-formal wedding dress. Also for the very formal wedding you will select a cathedral train. A shorter or chapel train and floor-length dress are worn at a less formal wedding, and for an informal wedding, you'll choose a floor or waltz-length dress.

Although white is traditional, don't forget about color when choosing your most beautiful dress. Delicate tints of the three primary colors, blue, red and yellow, have been accepted and will be delightful for your summer wedding. Baby blue, blush pink and ivory or pale yellow will bring out the romantic color of your hair, eyes and skin.

Thus in a pale color and cloud skirt you will enhance your own romantic charm in your most beautiful dress, your wedding dress.

Bridesmaids Carol Fisher Schnell and Sally Schermer make sure Nancy Fisher Stanek's crown veil is on right.

