

Fall Brides



Trending Bridesmaid Palettes

Autumn is a season full of color with changing leaves and falling seeds.

Many brides take inspiration from the colors around them as they plan their autumn weddings, embracing the rich and warm hues that define the season.

Wedding Shoppe tracks what colors are selling each season to identify top wedding color trends. For fall 2024, it invites people to embrace dark and warm colors, with some of their favorite stand-out colors that are stealing the spotlight being olive green, classic black and burnt orange.

OLIVE GREEN: EMBRACING NATURE'S PALETTE

Olive green exudes an earthy elegance that perfectly complements the natural beauty of autumn.

Symbolizing peace, harmony and growth, this versatile hue brings a sense of tranquility to any bridal party. Whether paired with rustic barnyard settings or lush outdoor venues, olive green bridesmaid dresses effortlessly blend with the autumn landscape, creating a seamless connection with nature.

This sophisticated shade flatters a variety of skin tones and can be styled with gold or copper accessories for an extra touch of warmth and luxury.



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CLASSIC BLACK: TIMELESS SOPHISTICATION

While black may seem unconventional for a fall wedding, its timeless appeal and understated glamour make it a perennial favorite among brides. Contrary to popular belief, black bridesmaid dresses can enhance the cozy ambiance of an autumn affair, adding a touch of drama and sophistication to the bridal party ensemble.

Paired with metallic accents or rich jewel tones, black creates a striking contrast that highlights the season's opulent

beauty. Whether opting for sleek silhouettes or romantic lace details, black bridesmaid dresses exude effortless chicness that transcends trends.

"We mostly just love the sleek look of black bridesmaid dresses with lots of greenery, black ties for the groomsmen and a beautiful white wedding dress as the star of the show," Wedding Shoppe wrote.

BURNT ORANGE: A TRIBUTE TO AUTUMN'S SPLENDOR

Embrace the fiery hues of fall foliage with burnt orange bridesmaid dresses that cap-

ture the essence of the season's vibrant palette. Radiating warmth and vitality, this bold color infuses weddings with a sense of energy and excitement.

Whether adorned with delicate floral patterns or embellished with metallic accents, burnt orange bridesmaid dresses evoke a sense of autumnal romance that is simply irresistible. Pair with rustic bouquets featuring sunflowers, dahlias and dried foliage for a cohesive look that celebrates the beauty of nature in all its glory.

Wedding Shoppe recom-

mends pairing the burnt orange bridesmaid dresses with navy groomsmen suits.

WELCOMING THE WARMTH OF FALL

Incorporating these trending bridesmaid dress colors into your autumn wedding palette is a surefire way to create a memorable and visually stunning celebration. Whether you opt for the earthy allure of olive green, the timeless sophistication of classic black, or the vibrant splendor of burnt orange, each hue offers its own unique charm and elegance.

Go Retro with an '80s Aesthetic

Couples planning fall weddings are embracing a blast from the past with the resurgence of the '80s look.

Characterized by bold colors, oversized silhouettes and a touch of flamboyance, the '80s revival trend is sweeping the wedding scene.

Wedding Cinematographers credits this revival as mirroring one in the overall culture which is once again tapping into '80s fashion, music and entertainment. It's an aesthetic that took over the world's fashion runways revealing fall 2024 looks and has spread to weddings.

"This nostalgia for the '80s, combined with the decade's hallmark of bold self-expression and fun, appeals to couples looking to infuse their wedding day with a unique and memorable vibe," Tomasz Kornatowski, a wedding videographer wrote. "This trend reflects a departure from the more subdued and minimalist aesthetics, embracing instead the lively and expressive spirit of the '80s."

BOLD COLORS AND GRAPHIC PRINTS

One of the hallmarks of the '80s aesthetic is its fearless use of color and pattern. For fall weddings, couples are incorporating bold hues such as electric blue, fuchsia and neon green into their color



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palettes, adding a pop of excitement to the autumn landscape.

Graphic prints, from geometric shapes to abstract designs, are also making a comeback, adorning everything from bridesmaid dresses to table linens. These vibrant colors and eye-catching patterns evoke the bold spirit of

the '80s, infusing weddings with energy and personality.

Fashion in the '80s were synonymous with oversized silhouettes and statement details. For fall weddings, brides are opting for voluminous ball gowns with dramatic sleeves and exaggerated proportions, channeling the iconic style of the decade. Grooms

are embracing bold patterns and textured fabrics, from oversized plaid suits to velvet blazers, adding a touch of retro flair to their ensembles. Bridesmaids are also getting in on the action with mismatched dresses featuring ruffled sleeves, shoulder pads and other playful details that pay homage to the '80s.

RETRO-INSPIRED DECOR AND ACCESSORIES

When it comes to decor, couples are turning to retro-inspired elements to create a nostalgic ambiance for their fall weddings. Think neon signage and cassette tape centerpieces that harken back to the heyday of the '80s. Velvet lounge furniture, metallic accents and geometric shapes add a touch of glamour to the reception space.

Event Planner Jove Meyer told Martha Stewart Weddings that disco balls aren't just for afterparties. "Disco balls are the new photo booth: Everyone has to have one! These retro balls are groovy and fun and set the tone for a great dance party. They are being used with lights to dance, but also in sculptural ways for decor: There are now custom disco shapes, disco mirrors, disco tables, disco hats — all things disco ball are back."

Couples are also incorporating '80s-inspired accessories into their wedding attire, from statement earrings and bold headpieces to retro sunglasses and leather jackets, adding a playful twist to their bridal looks.

The fun spreads to the celebrations with the carefree spirit of the decade, as couples incorporate iconic '80s hits into their playlists and serve retro-inspired cocktails at the bar. Photo booths featuring props such as oversized sunglasses, inflatable guitars and Rubik's cubes let guests channel their inner '80s rockstar.

Non-Traditional Entertainment

Microtrends are emerging as a delightful way to infuse celebrations with personalized touches and unexpected delights.

In the realm of microweddings, where intimacy reigns supreme, couples are exploring non-traditional forms of entertainment to add an extra layer of fun and flair to their special day.

CARICATURE ARTISTS

Forget traditional photo booths — caricature artists are stealing the spotlight with their ability to capture the essence of guests in a playful and humorous way. Set up in a cozy corner of the venue, these talented artists create custom caricatures on the spot, providing guests with one-of-a-kind keepsakes that double as entertainment. From exaggerated features to witty captions, caricature portraits add a touch of whimsy and laughter to the festivities, ensuring that all guests leave with a smile on their face.

TATTOO ARTISTS

For couples with a penchant for body art, hiring a tattoo artist to provide live tattooing at their wedding adds a unique and deeply personal touch to the celebration. Whether it's matching tattoos



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to commemorate their union or temporary designs such as henna that reflect their love story, guests can participate in the festivities in a truly meaningful way. Each tattoo becomes a long-lasting reminder of the couple's special day, creating a lasting bond between them and their loved ones.

INTERACTIVE GUEST BOOKS

Guest books are taking on new life, with couples opting for interactive alternatives

that encourage creativity and engagement.

From fingerprint trees and polaroid photo albums to puzzle pieces and message-in-a-bottle stations, these unique guest book ideas provide guests with an opportunity to leave their mark on the celebration in a tangible and memorable way.

Couples can treasure these personalized keepsakes for years to come, revisiting the heartfelt messages and well wishes shared by their nearest and dearest.

NON-TRADITIONAL ENTERTAINMENT

Couples are embracing a wide range of non-traditional vendors and entertainment options to create unforgettable experiences. From live music performances and acrobatic acts to food trucks and DIY cocktail bars, couples are getting creative with choices that reflect their personalities and passions. Whether it's a tarot card reader offering insights into the couple's future or a virtual reality experience that transports guests to exotic des-

tinations, the possibilities are endless when it comes to infusing weddings with unique and memorable moments.

TIMING

At Small Shindigs, a wedding planner said she has seen more couples leaving behind the traditional Saturday evening weddings for more unique timing options including weekdays, brunches and lunches. It's a way for couples to be able to secure unique venues and specialized vendors.

Savor Fall Foods

Innovative trends are shaping the culinary experience of autumn weddings.

From creative non-booze alternatives to interactive food stations and late-night fast food bites infused with nostalgia, fall wedding receptions in 2024 are all about indulging the senses and creating unforgettable moments.

NON-BOOZE ALTERNATIVES

While traditional alcoholic beverages are a staple of wedding receptions, couples are increasingly opting for creative non-booze alternatives that cater to all guests. The pandemic saw a drop in alcoholic beverage consumption amongst the younger generations as they focused on better health and wellness.

Handcrafted mocktails infused with seasonal flavors like apple cider and pumpkin spice alongside artisanal sodas and botanical-infused waters provide a range of memorable drinks for everyone. These beverages provide a welcome break from alcohol while adding a touch of sophistication to the drink menu.

Nancy Parrague Barclay, partner and vice president of Paula LeDuc Fine Catering & Events, told Martha Stewart Weddings there is an increased emphasis on personalized experiences and radical hospitality. “This will



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mean more specialized zero-proof beverage offerings as generational preferences shift.”

INTERACTIVE FOOD STATIONS

Interactive food stations have been a popular choice for wedding receptions, but in 2024, couples are taking the experience to new heights with chef-assisted action stations. Picture freshly grilled tropical fruits served up by a skilled chef, live-toasted s'mores stations where guests can customize their sweet treats, and fired local cherry flambé sta-

tions that dazzle with fiery flair.

Those are the stations that event planner Emily Coyne told Martha Stewart Weddings are making appearances at fall 2024 weddings.

These interactive culinary experiences not only engage the senses but also create memorable moments that guests will be talking about long after the wedding day.

COCKTAIL EXPERIENCES

Couples are elevating the cocktail hour experience with curated cocktail experiences that showcase their personali-

ty and preferences.

From signature cocktails inspired by the couple's favorite flavors to craft cocktail bars featuring artisanal spirits and house-made mixers, there's no shortage of options to delight guests' taste buds.

Mixologists are on hand to shake up custom creations and offer expert guidance, ensuring that each drink is crafted to perfection. Whether guests prefer classic cocktails with a twist or innovative libations infused with seasonal ingredients, the cocktail hour is a time to savor and celebrate in style.

LATE-NIGHT FAST FOOD BITES

Couples are surprising guests with late-night fast food bites that tap into childhood memories or reference special trips taken together. Picture gourmet versions of classic comfort foods like mini sliders served with truffle fries, gourmet grilled cheese paired with tomato soup shooters, ramen noodles, bowls of frosted flake cereals or decadent milkshakes topped with indulgent toppings. These playful and nostalgic treats provide a satisfying way to refuel and keep the party going well into the night.

Shift in Bridal Party Roles

Bridal parties aren't what they used to be as brides set aside rigid traditions in favor of personalization and a celebration of their unique community.

This evolution embraces inclusivity, personalization and seated bridal parties.

INCLUSIVITY AND DIVERSITY

Modern couples are breaking away from traditional gender norms and embracing a more inclusive approach to their wedding parties. Gone are the days when bridesmaids were exclusively female and groomsmen were exclusively male. Instead, couples are choosing to honor their closest friends and family members, regardless of gender identity or relationship to the bride or groom.

This trend towards inclusivity reflects the changing social landscape and ensures that everyone feels valued and represented on this special day.

FLEXIBILITY AND PERSONALIZATION

Couples are reimagining the traditional responsibilities of bridesmaids and groomsmen, allowing them to play a more meaningful role in the wedding planning process.

From offering emotional support and practical assistance to helping with DIY projects and providing moral support, modern bridal party members are involved in a variety of ways that reflect their unique talents and interests. This shift towards personalized roles ensures that each member of the bridal party feels valued and appreciated for their contributions to the wedding celebration.



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Many brides are letting their bridesmaids choose their own dresses in collaboration with each other. Emily Coyne, founder of Emily Coyne Events, told *Martha Stewart* magazine that there is a shift in how brides are spending the day with their friends and it focuses on the guest experience.

“More and more, ladies are relaxing in the bridal suite, selecting their own dresses and sitting during the ceremony,” Coyne said.

SEATED BRIDAL PARTIES

Seated bridal parties have become increasingly popular, offering a more relaxed and comfortable alternative.

Seated bridal parties provide a

moment of respite for the bridal party members and creates intimacy and connection during the ceremony. The bridal party can fully participate in the ceremony without worrying about standing for extended periods.

Tomasz Kornatowski of Wedding Cinematographers said the trend has bloomed out of an increased desire for guests to be comfortable and ceremonies to be more relaxed and intimate.

“It underscores the importance of inclusivity in modern weddings, ensuring that everyone, from the youngest flower girl to the eldest grandparent, can fully participate and enjoy the ceremony,” Kornatowski wrote. “By embracing seated bridal parties, couples are not

only making a stylistic choice but are also making a statement about the values they want their wedding to embody: comfort, inclusivity and a focus on shared joy.”

Beyond their practical benefits, seated bridal parties also add a touch of elegance and sophistication to the wedding ceremony. Arranged in beautifully decorated chairs or benches, the bridal party becomes a focal point of the ceremony, enhancing the overall aesthetic of the event. Seated formations allow for creative seating arrangements, such as circular or semi-circle configurations, that create a visually stunning backdrop for exchanging vows and making memories.

Innovative Wedding Trends

Technology plays a ubiquitous role in our lives and weddings are no exception.

This fall, expect weddings to incorporate technology in creative and new ways to make for memorable and unique experiences.

GOING VIRTUAL

Livestreaming ceremonies allow guests to tune in from anywhere in the world, ensuring that no one misses out on the joyous occasion. Virtual reality (VR) wedding experiences can help guests witness vows and join the dance floor fun from anywhere in the world.

But the VR experience goes beyond just a Zoom check-in. It can provide an immersive experience for those at the wedding site. Wedding Cinematographers explains, “With VR, you can design your dream wedding in fantastical landscapes or impossible settings. Fancy exchanging vows on a serene beach at sunset, atop a mountain or even in a recreated scene from your favorite movie or book.”

INTERACTIVE OPTIONS

Couples are opting for interactive guestbook experiences that allow guests to leave personalized messages, photos and videos online. These digital keepsakes can be accessed anytime, serving as a cherished memento of the wedding day.



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There is also a rise of interactive wedding websites, where couples can effortlessly share important details, accept RSVPs and give updates to guests, creating a seamless and engaging experience for all.

From coordinating schedules to managing guest lists, personalized wedding apps streamline the planning process. With AI-driven features, these apps can even generate personalized vows based on the couple's love story and preferences.

REVOLUTIONIZING IMAGERY

Capture aerial shots of the fall foliage and wedding venue

with drone photography. These perspectives provide a unique visual narrative of the wedding day, immortalizing precious moments from a bird's-eye view.

Also making appearances at weddings are holographic displays, where couples showcase images in 3D form, adding a touch of futuristic flair to the celebration.

MORE TECHNOLOGY

Transform the dance floor into a spectacle with LED dance floors filled with colors and patterns. Couples can groove under the glow of neon lights, creating a mesmerizing atmosphere that enhances the celebration.

Smart wedding bands offer a modern twist on traditional wedding rings, with features such as fitness tracking, message notifications and even payment capabilities, ensuring that the bond between the couple remains connected in the digital age.

From custom cake toppers to personalized wedding favors, 3-D printing allows couples to bring their visions to life in new ways. These customizable creations add a touch of whimsy and individuality to the wedding decor, setting the stage for an unforgettable celebration.

Digital invitations offer an eco-friendly and convenient alternative to traditional paper

invites, allowing couples to easily track RSVPs and manage guest communications online.

NO TECHNOLOGY

Amid all this tech, some are going in the opposite direction. Phone-free weddings are becoming increasingly popular as couples seek to create intimate and distraction-free environments. By requesting that guests refrain from using their phones during the ceremony and reception, couples hope to foster deeper connections and ensure that everyone is fully present in the moment. Phone-free weddings also allow professional photographers to capture the day's moments without interference.

A Feast for the Eyes and Palette

This fall, expect to see wedding cakes that are more colorful than ever.

Departing from traditional white confections, couples are opting for bold and eye-catching cakes that serve as stunning focal points of their celebrations. From rich jewel tones to whimsical pastels inspired by the season's palette, these colorful creations are redefining the art of wedding cake design and adding a touch of personality to every sweet moment of the day.

Kelsey Connely, owner of Downey Street Events, says 2024 wedding cakes are bigger and better than ever, becoming true conversation pieces at weddings. "Wedding cakes have been making a comeback after taking a backseat in the last few years to dessert displays and other unique types of dessert offerings. However, with many recent celebrity weddings showcasing gorgeous, multi-tiered wedding cakes ... statement cakes that are still classically beautiful are definitely going to be a trend in 2024."

FLOWERS

Dulcerella Cakes said vibrant-colored flowers on wedding cakes are becoming more and more popular in 2024, especially when framed by buttercream. The Knot concurs saying fresh flowers are going to make plenty of appearances to provide organic and abstract looks.

"Instead of meticulously placed clusters of blooms or elaborate flowers cascading down fondant tiers, the concept of this wedding cake trend is to use florals in a way that feels like they sprouted directly out of the cake," wrote Samantha Iacia, editor at The Knot.

She does warn that you need to consult with your wedding cake baker and

florist to choose food-safe flowers.

CELEBRATING THE SEASON

Fall's kaleidoscope of colors are inspiring couples to infuse their wedding cakes with color. Deep burgundies, rustic oranges and golden yellows evoke the warmth and richness of autumn, while shades of emerald green and sapphire blue pay homage to the lush foliage that surrounds them.

For couples seeking a more whimsical and playful aesthetic, pastel hues and creative patterns are stealing the spotlight. Soft blush pinks, mint greens and lavender purples add a touch of romance and whimsy to wedding cakes, while playful patterns such as watercolor washes, marble swirls and geometric designs create visual interest and intrigue.

The colorful wedding cake trend opens up opportunity for personalization and self-expression. Couples are collaborating with talented cake designers to bring unique visions to life, sometimes by incorporating meaningful motifs, monograms or even hand-painted scenes that reflect their love story.

Each cake becomes a work of art that tells a story, allowing couples to share a piece of themselves with their loved ones in the sweetest way possible.

DECADENT FLAVORS AND TEXTURES

Beyond their striking appearance, colorful wedding cakes are delighting taste buds with decadent flavors and textures that complement the season. From spiced pumpkin and caramel apple to decadent chocolate and red velvet, couples are embracing rich and



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indulgent flavors that warm the soul and satisfy cravings. Meanwhile, textured buttercream finishes, edible gold leaf accents and cascading sugar

flowers add depth and dimension to each slice, creating a sensory experience that is as delightful to behold as it is to taste.