

The bride will enjoy karat gold jewelry on her wedding day and for years to come

Something old, something new... so the saying goes. Traditionally, the bride wears on her wedding day her special meaning, whether a gift from her husband-to-be, bestowed from a friend or a family heirloom. However, her treasure wouldn't be complete without the one item that will stay with her throughout her married life: Karat gold jewelry.

An expression of the way she feels about herself on her wedding day, karat gold jewelry is as feminine and radiant as much warmth and beauty as the bride does. The gold she wears gives sentimental value over the years and is a constant reminder of one of the happiest moments in her life.

Just as dainty as the hand-drawn details on her flowing bridal gown are any number of delicately styled items in gold gold. For a bride who favors Victorian and

is ultra romantic, a beautiful tucker engraved with swirling patterns is the perfect enhancement for a wedding day portrait. Inevitably, a variety of feminine dainty earrings with dangling pearl accents catches the eye from on her bridal gown. An unassuming gold ruffie cuff or pretty bracelet cut-out bangle bracelet completes the look.

For the bride who prefers to be more tasteful, a classic pair of gold earrings in overcast purity, best of all, the tucker hoop design would add a touch of femininity to her look. Wedding day sun Also (U-got and fashionable) are any number of fancy link chain necklaces and bracelets worn singly or in mixed styles, depending on the desired effect.

Always the first with the latest, the bride who wants to make a grand entrance opts for bold gold accents. A truly classic is her own custom wedding dress, she dates to wear jewelry in presence of her individuality.

For one of a kind look, could include a striking natural gold collar dotted with brightly colored semi-precious stones, and bold gold earrings that contour the ear. Depending on her gown, she might also have to wear a matching stack of gold bangles, each adorned with a different colored pattern.

Just as much a part of a wedding day look are the rings the bride and groom will exchange. Usually in 14 or 18 karat gold, there is no real end to its available, complementary to any look or personal style. Often, couples choose individual rings which others opt for matching ring sets.

For the romantic at heart, there are delicate, lace bands, perhaps a swirling punky design or floral cut-out motif. Granted for the traditional couple, are the classic ridge, etched or set with color beaded bands that can be worn stacked for a bold look.

For the experimental, fashion forward couple, there are free-form sculpted shapes in gold, many sandblasted and highly polished surfaces, achieving a modern look.

Both bride and groom deserve to look and wear the very best on their one-of-a-kind day. Whether a self-treat or

wedding day surprise, and gold jewelry is the ultimate expression of love and personal style. It's the one everlasting me-

Ten wedding gift dos and don'ts

1. The bride should register only with one store of a kind.
2. The bride should specify inform a relative about some larger expensive items that she would love to have.
3. The bride-to-be should allow the store in which she is registered to send out notice to her friends and wedding guests list that she is registered there.
4. It is improper to give gifts at the reception.
5. The bride should write a thank-you note as soon as she possibly can, but not on cards that say "Thank You" on the top fold. When wives work full time, husbands should share the task of writing thank-you notes.
6. Gifts from the immediate family of either the bride or the groom should never be returned to a store in exchange for something else, as feelings could easily be hurt by such an action. If the exception is this, of course, is if there are duplicate gifts.
7. When an engagement is broken or a wedding does not take place, the gifts, especially gifts of great value, must be returned to all senders with brief and tactful notes of explanation.
8. Both bride and groom give their attendants some lasting memento of the occasion. While these gifts are often silver or gold, a gift of crystal, such as Steuben, is an excellent idea.
9. The wedding party gives the bride and groom some lasting memento of the occasion, such as Steuben's Marriage Goblet, engraved with the couple's initials and wedding date.
10. The groom usually gives his bride a personal gift just before the wedding. The bride in turn gives something to the groom. If one of the pair is far richer than the other, the one with the more money should "lend" down" his or her present. There will be plenty of time for lavish presents later.

ments that truly reflect a couple's hopes and dreams to strive for the very best in life together.



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Planning your wedding can help you plan your marriage

Countless decisions face a bride and groom in the months before the wedding: How large a wedding should we have? How will we pay for it? Where should we have it? According to a recent article in *Redeem* magazine, here are some guidelines these decisions can predict how their marriage will work later.

"All things that happen during this time are microcosms of what's going to happen in marriage," says Dr. David Sneed, author of *Revised and Expanded* *Self-Test*. So as a perfect time to head off potential problems.

If you'd like to forecast your married future, examine your wedding planning style in each of the following:

• **Spending money.** Is budget hunting your idea of a good time, while your partner buys the first thing he sees, just to "get it over with"? Each approach has its place. While it might not make sense to shop for hours to save \$10 dollars on a dining room set, it's probably worth the extra effort to find an apartment that, exactly suits your needs.

• **Wedding power.** Does one of you always make the decision? If this suits you both, it could work out fine. But, be warned: This kind of imbalance tends to grow greater over the years and, eventually, the leader can grow tired of the responsibility and the follower can become resentful. It's important to break the pattern.

Do you both shy from making any decisions at all? The "submissive you want" syndrome is common early in relation-

ships. How to break it? Ask each other: "What do you really want to see happen?" Often you'll find you do have the same goal. For example, to pick house-

hold items you'll both enjoy.

• **Relating to others.** Planning a wedding involves being dozens of wedding specialists. Are you outgoing and assertive? Is your partner very shy? You can

can make a contribution to keeping with your concept. For example, your partner may research reception locations, while you negotiate the details with the caterer.

• **Compromise.** When you're on opposite sides, can you each concede a little and agree on a third choice? The level of compromise is "acceptance" or "agreeing to disagree." If you

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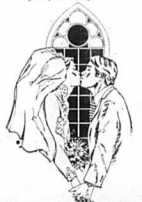
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