



## BRIDESMAN STYLE

*If your wedding party includes a male bestie, these tips will infuse some personality into his look.*

### BOLD BOUTONNIERE

Have your guy wear a floral boutonniere in your signature color, or go for a themed lapel pin.

### PRINTED SHIRT

Patterned shirts will make even the most basic suit feel funky. You can't go wrong with floral print, gingham or stripes.

### STATEMENT SOCKS

Colorful socks with whimsical designs are a simple way to inject a little bit of humor into your bridesman's look.

### FUN FOOTWEAR

Ditch the dress shoes and opt for playful sneakers instead. We love brands with customizable options like Converse or Vans. Choose a specific style and let your guy pick the color.

## A GUIDE TO COLOR

**SELECTING A SHADE** There are several foolproof ways to pick the perfect color. One of the easiest methods is to play off of the color schemes of the venue and the season. For instance, if your wedding will be held at a rustic vineyard with burgundy décor in the middle of winter, you'll probably want to rule out sunshine-yellow dresses. Rich colors like emerald, eggplant and crimson work well in the fall and winter months, while lighter shades like sage green, lavender and blush are perfect for spring and summer. If you're still at a loss for exactly which hue to choose, go for a general color (like blue) or color family (think: jewel tones) and let your bridesmaids pick their favorite shades from light to dark for a mismatched effect. Another thought: Toss tradition altogether and opt for chic, all-white dresses and jumpsuits in a variety of fabrics and styles.

**FINDING COMPLEMENTARY COLORS** If your attendants have a diverse range of skin tones, think about choosing a universally flattering color. More muted colors like blush, gunmetal gray and dusty blue work on pretty much everyone and are also right on trend. Want an edgier feel? It's hard to go wrong with pretty metallics like rose gold and champagne.

**CHOOSING A PRINT** To push the envelope even further, consider prints—floral-print bridesmaid dresses are hot right now. Just remember patterns work best in smaller parties and should be paired with simple accessories like monochromatic shoes and minimal jewelry. If you have a larger party of six or more, consider having your maid of honor wear a printed dress while your other attendants wear solid colors—it's a fun way to give your MOH a shout-out while still maintaining a cohesive-looking group.

## PICKING THE RIGHT PALETTE

Once you've chosen a dress shade you love, it's time to figure out which accent colors work with it. Here's what to pair with the hues of the moment:

**BLUSH** There's a reason this light pink shade has staying power: It goes with a wide range of accent colors and is romantic without being frilly. Metallics like copper, rose gold and yellow gold pop against this stonewashed shade. For a softer palette, mix it with pastels like mint or natural tones like taupe.

**LILAC** A combination of mauve and pink, lilac has rustic associations. To play up its floral roots, pair lilac with lush shades of green (try sage, olive or hunter). Or go full-on Manic Pixie and opt for analogous colors like purple and pink.

**RUBY** This is what we call a power color. A rich shade of red, ruby can feel either earthy or regal, depending on how you work with it. For an instantly royal effect, consider an opulent accent color like gold. If you're going for a more understated look, blush and beige create a pretty contrast.

**NAVY** One of the most versatile colors, this deep shade of blue jives with almost every wedding style and venue. Add red or hot-pink accents for a preppy feel, coral or lemon yellow for a more tropical vibe or lighter blues for a dreamy tone-on-tone palette.

**GRAY** This color is pure sophistication. For formal nuptials, mix in glittery metallics like silver or pewter. For a more casual affair, try cooler blues or navy. The subtlety of gray also makes it ideal for experimenting with different textures like pleated chiffon, velvet or beaded embellishments. »