

HE chose my DRESS!

From sexy to short, five fiancés dream up the look for their bride-to-be

COLOURFUL

Samantha Martin, 30, a solicitor, is engaged to Dominic Barrington Prowse, 36, a foreign exchange dealer. They are planning their wedding for 18 February 2012 in New Zealand



Dominic says 'Sam wears colourful, pretty dresses so I can't imagine her in pure white. She's got a traditional side though, so perhaps splashes of colour here and there. We want a fun, relaxed wedding so I think this would work well.'

Shopping editor Astrid says 'Most brides want to wear white or cream, but that doesn't necessarily mean they don't want any colour. The best way to do this is through accessories like shoes, a belt or flowers. Sam has a great skin tone, so she looks fantastic in bold make-up. The hot-pink lips are very now.'

Samantha's verdict 'This dress, with the crystals and flowing chiffon overlay, would suit our outdoor wedding. Dominic's look is fun; I love the shirt.'

Samantha wears Silk dress with tulle overlay and beaded skirt, £1,310, Blue by Enzoani. Velvet and cotton organdie headpiece with a vintage veil, £225, Caroline Morris. Satin shoes with crystal butterfly, £495, Aruna Seth. Yves Piaget, Piano and Ecuadorian rose bouquet, from £95, By Appointment Only Design. Dominic wears Wool suit, from £595, Marc Wallace. Shirt, £65, Austin Reed. Suede shoes, £320, Fratelli Rossetti →



Photographs ANDREW HOBBS
Styling ASTRID JOSS



SEXY

Adeela Khan, 28, a retail sales manager and Daniel Gregor, 28, a property developer, will wed in St Lucia on 17 May 2012



Daniel says 'I would like Adeela to wear a simple, modern dress that complements her gorgeous looks. She's definitely got the figure to wear something slinky. Her skin is a beautiful honeysuckle colour, so I think she should wear something that shows it off. I love the way this dress moves over her body. Plus, it'll be hot in St Lucia, so she doesn't need to cover up.'

Astrid says 'Nothing is sexier than a plunging neckline and it can still be elegant with a long gown. Adeela has great skin, so why shouldn't she show it off on her wedding day – particularly as she's getting married in the Caribbean.'

Adeela's verdict 'This dress is very modern and glamorous, it's gorgeous. Daniel looks like James Bond – the jacket is fantastic.'

Adeela wears Silk dress with crystal detail, £1,870, Jenny Packham. Simulated gemstone earrings, £350, Carat at Selfridges. Swarovski-crystal and pearl ring, £375, Erickson Beamon. Daniel wears Cotton jacket, from £690; cotton trousers, £160, Favourbrook. Cotton shirt, £145, Paul Smith. Silk bow tie, £30, Thomas Pink. Lace-up shoes, £210, Crockett & Jones



QUIRKY

Holly Simpson, 25, a TV researcher, and Antony Leech, 25, the founder of a sports-coaching agency, will say their vows at St Chad's Church in Saddleworth on 30 June 2012

Antony says 'We're still quite young so we don't want anything too formal. But I'd love Holly to wear a short dress that shows off her legs.'
Astrid says 'Holly and Antony are a fun, confident couple, so we knew they could pull off a look like this. For Holly, we've taken retro elements like the prom-style dress, bobby socks and shorter veil and put them together for a style that's a bit different but actually quite modern.'
Holly's verdict 'The dress and accessories are cute but I'd like something a bit more traditional. It's very trendy though. Antony's so sporty; who knew he'd look so good in geek chic! There's a bit of a Buddy Holly vibe.'

Holly wears Tulle dress, £822, Sottero & Midgley. Tulle veil, £95, Rainbow Club. Faux-pearl earrings, £12, Mood by Jon Richard at Debenhams. Lace gloves, £37.50, Cornelia James. Socks, £8, Jonathan Aston. Silk-satin and crystal sandals, £120, Rainbow Couture. Sweet Avalanche and Quicksand rose, astilbe and Sarah Bernhardt peony bouquet, from £100, By Appointment Only Design. Antony wears Wool suit, £695, Duchamp. Cotton shirt, £42, Ben Sherman at Asos. Bow tie, £12.99, Tie Rack. Glasses, £230, Claire Goldsmith. Lace-up shoes, £60, Topman



Anthea wears French lace and Thai silk dress with a bead- and Swarovski-crystal-trimmed belt, £3,800, Alan Hannah. Austrian crystal earrings, £23, Glitzy Secrets. Grand Prix and Baccara rose, peony and dahlia bouquet, from £95, By Appointment Only Design. Ed wears Morning suit and Lingfield waistcoat, £67 to hire, Moss Bros. Shirt, Ed's own. Shoes, £300, Crockett & Jones. Dahlia buttonhole, £5, By Appointment Only Design



REGAL

Anthea Denning, 31, a marketing designer, and Ed Renshaw, 32, a management consultant, will marry at Trelissick House in Cornwall on 2 June 2012

Ed says 'I liked Kate Middleton's dress and I know that Anthea would love to play a princess for the day. She loves dressing up and has the confidence to pull off a classic but sophisticated gown.'

Astrid says 'Lace is a very traditional bridal fabric but the silver on this dress makes it slightly more modern while still regal. The sheer top stops it looking too formal; no modern bride wants to be completely covered to the neck on her wedding day.'

Anthea's verdict 'I love this dress. The lace is pretty and I like the silver element to it, which makes it feel even more special.' →



BOHO

Jessica Gahan, 28, a graphic designer, and Russell Bryan, 30, a community support officer, have chosen Buckland House in Devon for their wedding on 7 July 2012



Russell says 'A big, traditional princess dress wouldn't work, as our wedding will have quite a vintage feel. Jessica is a country girl at heart and likes floaty fabrics, so the flowers in her hair and floral pattern of the dress are perfect. Also, she loves to dance, so the dress definitely needs to be something she can move in.'

Astrid says 'We wanted to keep this boho but in a British way, rather than the more rock'n'roll, Ibiza-style bohemian chic. The embroidered bluebell detail on the dress is so pretty and, of course, very English. The shorter length at the front means it's easy to wear and the slight train gives it movement.'

Jessica's verdict 'I like the embroidery and the low back of this dress. Russell seems like himself in this outfit. I love the white-suit-and-no-tie combo.'

Jessica wears Embroidered silk-tulle dress, from £4,000, Olivia Couture at Blackburn Bridal Couture. Satin shoes, £395, Jimmy Choo. Faux-pearl bracelet, £22, Jon Richard. Gerberas, from £2 per stem, By Appointment Only Design. Russell wears Linen suit, from £595; cotton shirt, £75, Marc Wallace. Sandals, £70, G.H. Bass.

Make-up Sarah Brock using Crème de la Mer and Daniel Sandler Cosmetics.

Hair Desmond Grady at Sarah Hayes Management using Paul Mitchell.

Interviews Victoria Kingdon 

