



Cover up

Not keen on a long-sleeved wedding gown? There's still no need to freeze! Shrug, boleros and capelets are the ideal cover-ups this season, as are sheer wraps (the ballerina look) and embellished cardigans (*Mad Men* style). You can also opt for detachable sleeves or neck pieces, both of which are super chic and offer two looks in one, or alternatively a dress with gorgeous texture (see page 23). Pinterest is awash with inspiration ...

ETHEREAL GRACE

Couturier Elbeth Gillis has unveiled her 2014/Heirloom Bridal Collection, a stunning range of dresses with feminine, elegant appeal. The glamorous collection features fabrics like Indian silks and lace with sophisticated details such as sweep-length trains, intricately detailed backs, long sleeves and delicate beadwork. Gorgeous! Prices range from R13 000 to R21 000. Call 021 423 2220 or visit elbethgillis.co.za to view the full range.



Rosa Clara at Olivelli

NEWS fashion

Top finds for your trip down the aisle

COSTUME DRAMA

Make a statement in cool costume jewellery from Aussie label Mimco, one of the latest brands (along with Witchery) to be introduced into Woolworths. On our wish list: this bold, blush-hued necklace and pretty bling earrings. Visit woolworths.co.za.



The right support

If you're wearing a bra on your big day, make sure it's a perfect fit, says Taryn Palacios of Pandora Bra Studio. Choose a well-structured design that offers comfort and support and make sure it sits discretely under your wedding dress (now is not the time to be fiddling with straps). Remember that seamless bras are best under fragile or smooth fabrics (no lumps or bumps) and that pre-formed cups can also be worn inside your bra to create the illusion of a fuller bust. For expert advice (and bras ranging in cup size from A to J), call 011 783 8174 or visit pandorabradstudio.co.za.



PROS IN THE KNOW

Dress to impress with this on-trend fashion advice from the pros:

- **BE INSPIRED** by the glamour of the 1920s with fishtail, lace and satin accents. Pinks and nudes can be layered underneath dustings of vintage lace and shimmering beadwork – couturier Kobus Dippenaar (kobusdippenaar.com).
- **COMBINE** soft tulle with layers of lace and different shades of soft earthy colours. Veils are longer and embroidered borders are still popular – designer Elizabeth Stockenström (elizabethweddinggowns.co.za).
- **EMBRACE** Gatsby-esque style such as beading, portrait backs and cap sleeves. Long lace sleeves are on trend and perfect for winter weddings – bridal blogger Gaby Frescura (southboundbride.com). Turn to page 86 to discover what else is “in” for 2014.



Crowning GLORY

Don't be fooled into thinking that floral crowns are for spring and summer nuptials alone. This beautiful fabric version with crystal and pearl detail by White Lilly Bridal, R1 450, is delicate, stylish and unique; a gorgeous keepsake from your big day. Call 082 851 1742 or visit whitelillybridal.com.

Photographs: supplied



SAVVY SUITING



If your groom is going to be “suited and booted” on your big day, these style tips from Dwight Fenton, vice president of design at menswear label Bonobos are a must.

- **Fit** is the most important detail for a suit. The jacket should grab your shoulders snugly but not be overly tight.
- **Length** matters – you should be able to cup the bottom of the suit jacket with your arms by your side.
- **Remember** to show some shirt. A general rule of thumb is to have a quarter-inch of your shirt cuff showing. Visit bonobos.com for more.

Bows for you beau



Bowties are big news. Snap up well-priced (R99.95), local options from Woolworths or cast your net wider and shop online for these funky designs from Beau Ties Ltd (beautiesltd.com). Such fun!

Lovely legs

There's something so ladylike about hosiery, especially this time of year. For brides, we love the lacy stay-ups available at Blu Symmetry in Parkhurst, Johannesburg; ditto the sheer pantyhose with crystal embellishment around the ankles. Both are part of the exquisite Italian Oroblu label and are priced from R230 upwards. Call 011 447 5592 or visit blu-symmetry.co.za.



SOLE STYLE

For wedding shoes that stand out from the crowd, take a look at Le Soulier's beautiful, bespoke creations. Designer Sonia Brown hand paints shoes with a fabulous, feminine mix of 18th century Zephyrine rose florals, rococo influences, decorative trims and Swarovski crystals. The only snag is that she's based in England, so you'll need to factor in courier costs and payment in GBP (though the price – from £195 per pair – is still cheaper than some imported bridal footwear that's available locally). Visit lesoulier.co.uk for details.

