

# General Wedding Terms

- **Ascot**--Scarf-like necktie worn looped under the chin. This tie is worn with the cutaway
- **Bakeware**--Items used in the kitchen to bake with; cake pans, muffin pans, cookie sheets, etc.
- **Bone china**--Fine china known for its characteristic translucency and whiteness. Fired at very high temperatures and containing bone ash as one of its ingredients. Bone china is very thin but strong and is resistant to chipping.
- **Boutonniere**--A single flower, or very small arrangement of flowers, usually worn by men on the lapel of their suit jacket.
- **Bridal Consultant**--
- **Buffet**--Tables or sideboards set up with food and/or refreshments in which guests may walk up and serve themselves.
- **Charmeuse**--A satin fabric with a soft, lightweight and flexible finish.
- **Chiffon**--A lustrous sheer fabric. Chiffon is lightweight and often layered.
- **Chuppah**--A canopy or arch of flowers in which a couple stands under during Jewish wedding ceremonies
- **Cookware**--Items used in the kitchen to cook with; saucepans, saucepots, frying pans, etc.
- **Corsage**--Small arrangement of flowers worn by women which is pinned on their dress near their shoulder.
- **Crystal**--Crystal is the highest quality of glass you can buy. It contains a certain percentage of lead, thus making it softer and much more fragile than glass. It is clear, transparent, and sparkling and is NOT dishwasher safe.
- **Cuff links**--Jewelry used to fasten (link) shirt cuffs.
- **Cummerbund**--A sash worn, with pleats facing upward, over the waistband of suit trousers, which take the place of wearing a vest.
- **Cutaway**--Tailcoat worn in formal daytime weddings. Cutaways are worn with striped trousers
- **Cutlery**--Cutting instruments primarily used in the kitchen; steak knives, chef knives, etc
- **Earthenware**--Ware made from clay and fired at lower temperatures than china, thus making it non-translucent. Earthenware is cheaper than china to produce, but does not possess the same durability.
- **Fiancé**--A man engaged to be married.
- **Fiancée**--A woman engaged to be married.
- **Flatware**--Term used in reference to all dining and serving utensils; forks, knives, spoons, etc.
- **Formal**--Term used to describe a ceremonious wedding. Several characteristics of a formal wedding: engraved or thermographed invitations for up to two hundred guests; two to six bridesmaids and ushers; Bride attired in long gown and veil; Groom and ushers in tuxedos;

reception with full meal and drinks follow the ceremony. Usually a band or DJ provides music at the reception.

- **Four-in-hand tie**--Standard necktie worn with a regular shirt and stroller. This tie is also commonly worn daily by men who wear suits to work.
- **Glassware**--Term used to describe the everyday casual glasses we drink from- iced tea and juice glasses are examples of glassware. Crystal is not included as glassware.
- **Hollowware**--Term used to describe serving pieces.
- **Informal**--Term used to describe a nonformal, casual/ relaxed wedding. An informal wedding could be held anywhere including City Hall. A simple ceremony is performed and usually there are less than fifty guests. A small informal reception at someone's house or at a restaurant may follow the ceremony.
- **Ironstone**--A higher quality, heavier and more durable type of earthenware.
- **Maid of Honor**--An unmarried woman whom a Bride chooses to stand by her side. The Maid of Honor also signs as an official witness on the marriage certificate.
- **Matron of Honor**-- married woman whom a Bride chooses to stand by her side. The Matron of Honor also signs as an official witness on the marriage certificate.
- **Monogram**--One's initials. Couples may choose to have their initials etched into their silver or embroidered on their linens. There are several variations of monogramming for couples to choose from.
- **Nosegay**--a round arrangement/bouquet of flowers. Usually small in size.
- **Officiant**--person who performs/officiates the wedding ceremony.
- **Organza**--Fabric which is much like chiffon, but is heavier and stiffer.
- **Porcelain**-- Porcelain is very similar to bone china, though it does not contain bone ash as one of its ingredients, and is usually not quite as translucent. Porcelain is also very strong.
- **Pottery**--Cookware made of clay.
- **Semi-formal**--Term used to describe a somewhat formal wedding. Several characteristics of a semi-formal wedding: printed invitations for under one hundred guests; Groom attired in either a dark suit or a tuxedo; Bride attired in a floor-length gown; one or two bridesmaids and ushers; reception with buffet or hors d' oeuvres following the ceremony.
- **Sexton**--One who takes care of the church
- **Shantung**--A fabric usually made of silk and is known for its characteristic nubby texture. Shantung is also a bit coarse to the touch.
- **Silverplate**--Flatware of a metal base (usually nickel or copper) that is coated with pure silver through a process called electroplating.