

If you're like most brides-to-be, you've probably spent countless hours combing bridal magazines and websites, looking for your perfect wedding dress.

Whether you're mulling over necklines, beading detail, or train length, wedding dress shopping can be one of the most exciting and overwhelming parts to the wedding planning process.

Here a few tips to help you scout your perfect dress:

Bring pictures

Before your dress shopping appointment, look through bridal magazines and bridal websites to get an idea of what dress styles and designers you'd like to try on.

Bring these pictures to your appointment so your dress consultant will have a good grasp of how you want to look on your wedding day.

Start fresh

Before you leave to try on wedding dresses, be sure your face is makeup-free and your body is free of self-tanning lotions or sprays.

Bridal shop owners work hard to keep their sample dresses as clean as possible for their

clients, so it's important for all brides to do their part in keeping the gowns stain-free.

Keep your audience to a minimum

One of the biggest mistakes a bride can make is bringing too many friends and family members to her dress appointment.

The bigger your audience is, the bigger the chance of encountering clashing opinions – which can ultimately skew your own thoughts on the dress you choose.

A good rule of thumb is to bring three or four individuals who you feel will have your best wedding dress interests at heart.

Bring accessories

If you've already purchased your bridal shoes, bring them to your appointment. Otherwise, bring a pair of pumps that are the same heel height you anticipate buying.

Having the right shoes on will help you visualize where and

how the dress's hemline will fall.

If you expect to wear any shape wear pieces under your dress, bring those as well so you can see how smoothly the dress will lie against you.

Keep an open mind

It's important to understand that wedding dresses are sewn and structured differently than any other type of dress you've worn in the past. So, it's a good idea to try on as many styles as possible.

If you think a certain dress style hasn't flattered your body type before, that doesn't mean

that same style won't look stunning on you in wedding dress form. Don't be afraid to think out of the box and experiment.

There's no mistaking that the wedding gown is one of the most significant pieces a bride will buy for her wedding.

When it's time to shop for your wedding dress, remember that the only person you need to please is yourself.

If you feel comfortable, beautiful, and like the star of the day, your wedding will fill you with many happy memories for years to come.

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