

# HOW TO FIX THE BRIDE'S WEDDING ATTIRE

#### STAINED DRESS



#### For tea, coffee, or dirt stains

- Apply a dot of clear liquid soap and water to a cloth and dab gently on the back of the stain. Do not use excessive water. Do not rub the stain, as you will take the finish off the fibers of the dress.
- Dab the cloth with club soda.
- If the stain remains, dab with a solution of vinegar and water.



#### For a red wine stain

- Wet a cloth with white wine and blot behind the stain. Do not rub the stain, as you will take the finish off the fibers of the dress.
- When the stain has faded, dab with water to rinse.



#### For grease or makeup stains

- Gently rub a bit of chalk on the stain to absorb the mark. After a few moments, whisk away the chalk dust.
- If you do not have chalk, try baking soda, baby powder, or talcum powder, but they are less absorbent. Sprinkle powder on and then lightly shake off dress.



## For a lipstick stain

- Dab some petroleum jelly on the mark to dissolve the stain.
- If the stain remains, conceal with baby powder, chalk, or baking powder. Blot the stain to remove as much of it as possible. Pat baby powder on the area gently. Also, try rolling a de-linting brush over the stain to lift it off. This works best for stains that are not embedded into the fibers.

#### Be Aware

- Before treating a stain, read the label on your dress. The fabric will dictate how or if you should clean it. Silk is the most fragile fabric and toughest to clean. Polyester is the easiest.
- White correction fluid or toothpaste may work to cover up a stain, but because they both possess alcohol, they can pull the color out of your dress, leaving a permanent mark even after professional dry cleaning.
- Avoid using hot water, which will set the stain; always use cool or cold water when cleaning.
- After cleaning a stain, dry the area thoroughly.
   Water marks are a hazard for dresses, particularly silk ones. Use a hair dryer on the coolest setting to dry the area while stretching the fabric with your fingers to prevent wrinkling.

#### Dress Wet from Rain

1 Do not put the dress in a clothes dryer.

Dryer heat is too intense and can cause the dress to shrink, wrinkle, and lose beading.

2 Air dry.

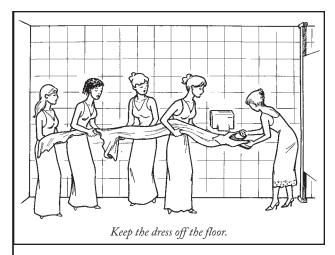
Air drying is best when there is just a sprinkling of water on the dress and there is no time left before the ceremony. If you have been caught in a downpour, remove the dress and air dry it, then follow up with some hand steaming to remove the resulting wrinkles. If you do not have a hand steamer, hang the dress in the bathroom while running hot water in the shower, creating a makeshift sauna. Another option is to activate the steam component from a clothes iron and wave it near the dress.

3 Use a hair dryer to dry the dress.

Set the dryer on low and hold it at least 6 inches from the wet fabric. Keep the fabric taut to prevent wrinkling. Use a circular motion with the hair dryer to avoid burning the fabric. Do not try to speed the process by holding the dryer close to the dress; you will only damage the fabric.

4 Use the hot-air dryer in the bathroom.

Do not let the dress drag on the bathroom floor.



5 Finish with an iron.

Test the iron first on the inside of the dress. Place a pressing cloth on the dress before applying the iron and keep the setting on low.

## Broken Strand of Pearls

- 1 Find all the pearls.
- Put the pearls on a towel or cloth.

  Arrange the pearls so that the biggest pearls are in the middle, flanked by pearls of diminishing size.
- Jimid a needle and string.
  Use dental floss, fishing wire, or nylon thread to restring the pearls. Waxed floss is stiff so it will eliminate the need for a needle. Stiffen the end of fishing wire or a thread with glue if you are without a needle.

4 Make a triple knot on one end of the string.

Add a dab of glue on top of the knot for extra security. Leave extra length on the string beyond the knot for tying.

- Add a pearl.
- 6 Make a loose overhand knot.

Place a pin, needle, or tweezers in the open knot and slide the knot next to the pearl. Then pull the knot loop snug as you remove the pin, needle, or tweezers.

7 Add the next pearl.

Keep your knot-tying tension consistent. If time is running out, tie a knot after every five pearls.

Repeat steps 5 through 7 until all the pearls are on the string.

Make a triple knot after the final pearl. Add a dab of glue to the knot.

Tie the necklace on the bride's neck using a secure square knot.

Dab with glue for added strength. Trim off the excess string.

#### Be Aware

If the bride's strand of pearls breaks and not enough of the pearls can be located, scan the guests' necks for the best piece of replacement jewelry. Once the most appropriate jewelry has been spotted, ask the guest to help the bride by lending her the jewels for the big event—or at least for the photographs. Most guests will be flattered to help save the day. Be sure to return the jewelry.

#### Broken Heel

## Remove both shoes and go barefoot.

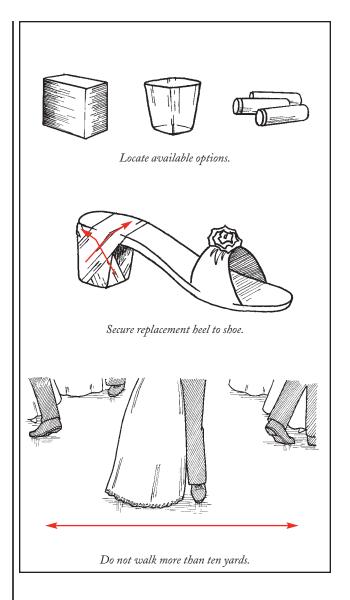
Depending on the length of your dress and the formality of your wedding, going barefoot may be an acceptable option. If you are wearing a floor-length gown, you may need to use straight pins to temporarily hem the dress an inch or two at the bottom to keep it from dragging on the floor and tripping you as you walk.

## Borrow shoes from others.

Ask a member of the wedding party or a guest with the same size foot if you can wear her shoes for the ceremony. Do not be choosy about style or color.

# Make an emergency heel.

Find a sturdy object or objects the same height as the broken heel. A shot glass, a stack of sticky notes (so long as it's not raining), or a votive candleholder are acceptable choices. Alternatively, use duct tape to make a cylinder out of several short pencils or metal lipstick tubes. Wrap duct tape around your shoe and the substitute heel to secure it in place.



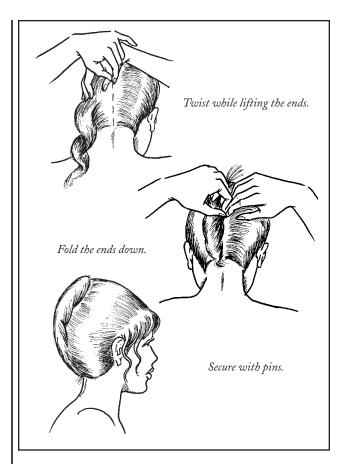
#### Be Aware

- A replacement heel is fine for a short period of light activity, but do not dance, run, carry heavy objects, walk more than 10 yards, or stand for long periods of time with your weight on the emergency heel.
- Once the dancing begins at the reception, your guests will be relieved to see that you have removed your shoes. They will feel much more comfortable about taking off their own uncomfortable and restricting shoes and having fun.

#### EMERGENCY Up-Do Hairstyle

- Brush your hair back from your forehead.

  Comb it long enough to make the hair on top of your head smooth.
- Gather your hair at the nape, slightly to the left, as if you were going to put in a low ponytail.
- Twist the hair twice, in a clockwise direction, to anchor it in place.
  You can also use bobby pins to hold the hair in place.
- Brush the remaining hair down toward the direction of the nape of your neck.
- Twist it clockwise while lifting the ends.
  You are creating a roll effect on the back of your head.



- 6 Continue to twist until the roll feels tight and secure.
  - Your loose ends should be at the top of the roll.
- With your right hand, fold the ends down toward the nape of your neck, under the twist.

# 8 Pin the roll in place.

Use your left hand to hold the twist in place while your right hand works the bobby pins. Slide one long pin in the top of the roll, facing down. Place another long pin in the bottom, going up the middle. Insert a final large pin at an angle through the side of the roll. Finish with enough small bobby pins to secure the twist and smooth any ruffled areas.

## 9 Pull out a few tendrils.

Loosen a few strands of hair around your face for a more romantic look. Curl the strands with a curling iron if one is available.

Spray the twist in place with hairspray.

