

**WORST-CASE
SCENARIO.**

HOW TO FIX THE GROOM'S WEDDING ATTIRE

Tux Too SMALL



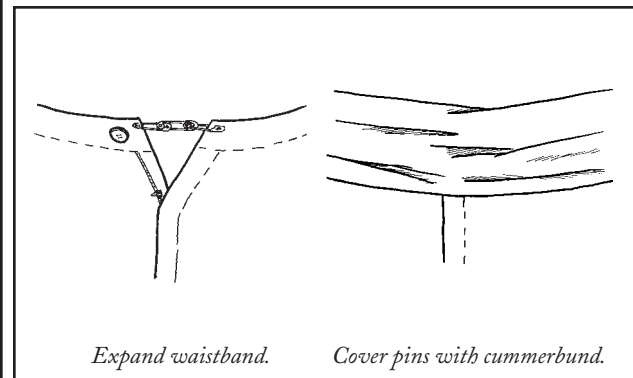
Swap tuxedos.

If your tuxedo matches the style of those worn by the groomsmen or waiter, exchange yours for one that fits: It is better for a groomsman or waiter to look poorly dressed than the groom.



Expand the waistband.

Make a chain of two or three safety pins, depending on how much additional room is required. Secure the sides of the waistband together using pins. Your cummerbund will hide the fix. Do not remove the cummerbund during the wedding.



★ **Replace the pants.**
Locate a pair of black pants that fit. Cut a piece of black electrical tape the same length as the pant leg, waist to hem. Cut the tape in half lengthwise. Affix one half on the side seam of the right leg of the pants. Repeat for your left leg.

★ **Keep the jacket unbuttoned.**
Buttoning the jacket will make the improper fit more apparent.

★ **Distract with your cufflinks.**
If the jacket sleeves are too short, make sure your cufflinks are of a high quality. Keep your arms slightly bent at all times to reduce the obviousness of the length disparity.

★ **Expand the shirt collar.**
Loop a rubber band through the buttonhole of the shirt collar. Secure the ends to the collar button. Conceal with a necktie. Do not remove the tie during the wedding.

SPLIT SEAM

1 **Remove the jacket, shirt, or pants.**

2 **Turn the garment inside out.**

3 **Pull the seam together.**
There will be a narrow section of fabric behind the

seam. Pull the split sections together. Line up the sides carefully.

4 **Pin.**
Using safety pins, connect the two sides. Pin the material as close to the seam as possible, but not so close that the pins will be visible from the outside.

5 **Check the repair.**
Turn the garment right-side out. If the seam holds and the pins are not visible, the repair was successful. If the pins are visible, remove and start over.

Be Aware

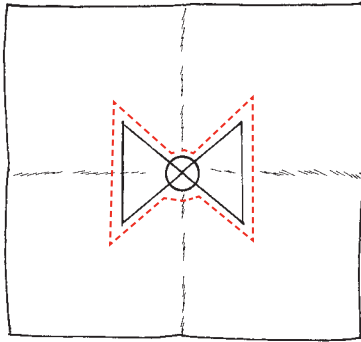
If no safety pins are available, use staples. Take care when removing them to prevent rips in the fabric. If neither pins nor staples are available, use electrical or duct tape. Fast-drying glue is also effective for repairing torn garments, but may damage or stain the fabric.

LOST BOW TIE

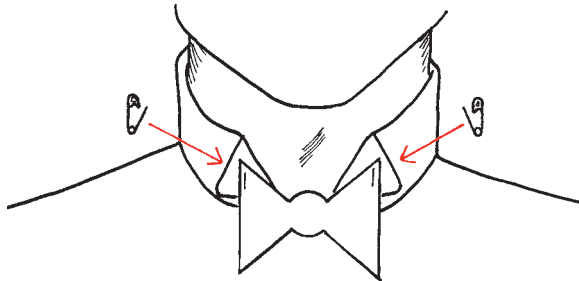
★ **Make an emergency replacement from a cloth napkin.**

- Place a well-starched white dinner napkin flat on a table in front of you. Using a pencil, carefully draw a circle about 1 inch in diameter.
- To the left of the circle, draw a triangle with sides about 2 inches long. One point of the triangle should extend slightly into the circle.

- Repeat, drawing a second triangle to the right of the circle, with one point extending into the circle. Your drawing should look like a bow tie when viewed from the front.



Draw tie pattern on cloth napkin. Cut and remove.



Attach tie, unmarked side out, to collar.

- Use scissors to cut the bow tie from the napkin. Turn the bow tie over so the pencil marks are on the back.
- Secure the cutout to your collar using loops of tape or safety pins. Do not wear with a black cummerbund: Make an emergency napkin cummerbund (see page 68) to match.



Wear a medallion.

Open your shirt at the collar and open three additional buttons. For a more fashionable look, borrow a spread collar shirt (one without a wing collar, which is made for a bow tie). Borrow and wear a large medallion, gold cross, Star of David, giant locket, or flashy pendant. To make a medallion:

- Open a wedding gift wrapped in gold-colored wrapping paper.
- Wrap the gold paper around a drink coaster or a similar-sized piece of cardboard. Cut the paper to fit, then tape or glue to cover.
- Affix your medallion to a black dress shoelace or piece of string with tape.
- Hang around your neck.



Make a bolo tie.

- Thread a black shoelace (leather or nylon) under and around your shirt collar to simulate a bolo lanyard.
- Run the two loose ends through the backing of a pin, pendant, or horizontal tie clasp.
- Slide the clasp up so it sits just below the second shirt button. Keep your collar button open.

EMERGENCY CUFF LINKS

- 1 Remove your shirt.**
- 2 Thread a narrow ($\frac{1}{8}$ - to -inch-wide) ribbon through the cuff holes.**

Leave the cuff open about half an inch. Do not tie the ends.
- 3 Tie knots.**

On the outside of one cuff, tie a small knot on the ribbon as close to the hole as possible. Tie a second knot on top of the first.
- 4 Check the knot diameter.**

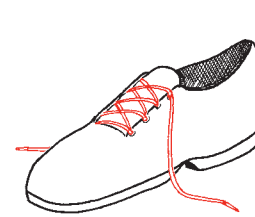
Test the knot by pulling gently on the other end of the ribbon. If the knot pulls through easily, tie another knot on top of the first two.
- 5 Trim the ends.**

When the knot is too big to fit through the hole easily, snip the excess ribbon just past the knot. Repeat on the other side of the cuff, then on the other sleeve. The knots may be pushed through the cuff holes after the shirt is on. They will hold the cuffs closed and look similar to braided silk cuff knots.

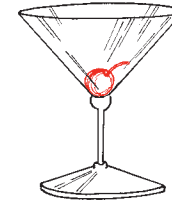
Be Aware

- Keep the jacket sleeve pulled down as far as possible to hide an unsightly fix.

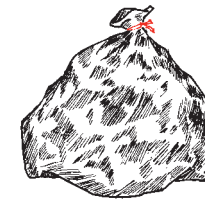
Emergency Cuff Links



shoelace



cherry stem



twist tie

- Items that can be used as emergency cuff links:
 - paper clips
 - twist ties
 - rubber bands
 - the metal rings from two key chains
 - large earrings
 - Maraschino cherry stems tied in knots
 - shoelaces (cut short)

EMERGENCY CUMMERBUND

You will need a white cloth napkin for a white-tie wedding or a black or dark blue napkin for a black-tie event, plus a couple additional napkins to secure the cummerbund. The napkins should be starched and slightly stiff.

- 1 Place the napkin flat on a table in front of you, with one corner pointing toward you.**
- 2 Fold the corner closest to you and the opposite corner into the center of the napkin.**
- 3 Fold the bottom half of the napkin up toward the top edge.**

The bottom edge should be about one inch above the top edge when the fold is complete.
- 4 Fold both upper edges down toward the bottom edge.**

The lower of the two pleats should be one inch above the bottom edge. The napkin should now have three

pleats and be the approximate shape of a cummerbund.

5 Secure.

Tightly roll another napkin on the diagonal so it is long and thin. Tie or pin the second (or two more) napkin(s) to one end of the cummerbund, run it around your back, then tie or pin it to the other end. The pleats of the cummerbund should face up. Your jacket will obscure the sides of the napkin, even when unbuttoned.

PREVENT PERSPIRATION STAINS FROM SHOWING

- ★ **Wear an undershirt.**

A thin cotton T-shirt will absorb sweat before it reaches your exterior layer of clothing.
- ★ **Wear perspiration shields.**

Tape several layers of tissue paper, paper towels, or cocktail napkins to the underarm area of your shirt to absorb excess wetness. Do not use colored tissue or napkins because the ink from the dye may stain your shirt when wet.
- ★ **Wear chamois.**

Cut a piece of chamois cloth, the ultra-absorbent cloth often employed for drying and polishing cars, into two 4-inch squares. Tape the squares to the underarm area of your shirt to remain extra dry.



Wear a pantiliner.

Apply a self-sticking pantiliner or other feminine product to the underarm area of the shirt. Make sure you remove the product in private before joining your new spouse after the wedding.

Be Aware

If you discover that the sweat has come through and is visible on your shirt, use a blow-dryer or hot-air hand dryer to dry the wet areas. It is not necessary to remove the shirt first.

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