

HOW TO SURVIVE THE BRIDAL SHOWER

How to Make a Toilet Paper Dress

Most bridal showers include group games. A game that the bride and her guests are often asked to play involves breaking into groups and dressing several models in toilet paper to see who can create the best bridal gown.

Construct the bodice.

1

- Unwrap a roll of toilet paper around the model's midsection, beginning at her waist and wrapping around her torso, in overlapping layers, until she is wrapped to just underneath her underarms.
- Without detaching the paper, make a small sleeve by wrapping from underneath one of her arms to over and around the opposite shoulder. Repeat over the other shoulder to give the dress a slightly offthe-shoulder neckline.

2 Make the skirt.

- Tape the free end of a fresh roll to the waist on the dress's bodice, unrolling a strip long enough to reach the floor (or your desired length—a short dress can also be nice, especially if your model is wearing a mini skirt or shorts).
- Tape the next piece to the waist of the dress, overlapping to about the middle of the first strip. Unroll to meet the length of the first strip.

- Repeat in this way until you've taped strips the whole way around the model's waist.
- A staggered effect, with strips of different lengths, can earn extra points for creativity.

3 Make a belt.

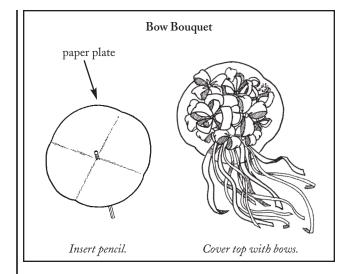
Unroll several layers of toilet paper directly around the model's waist, to cover the area where the skirt is taped to the bodice of the dress.

4 Make the veil.

- Unwrap about four feet of toilet paper.
- Fold it in half, so that it's two feet long, and then in half again.
- Now fold it lengthwise several times, until you have a fairly sturdy, thick strip to use as a head-band. Tape the sides of the headband to secure it.
- Tape several three- to five-foot-long strips of toilet paper to the headband. The length of the strips can be adjusted to suit your preference.
- Use bobby pins to secure the veil to the model's head.

How to Make a Bow Bouquet

As the bride unwraps her presents, a member of the wedding party is responsible for making a bow bouquet for the bride to carry at her wedding rehearsal. You will need a paper plate; a pencil, pen, or other long skinny object; tape; and bows and ribbons from gifts.



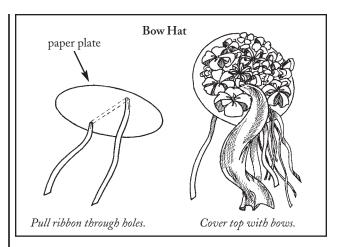
Make the base.

1

Fold a paper plate in quarters, then unfold. (The folds in the plate will provide the bow bouquet with volume.) Insert the pencil, pen, or other long skinny object into the center of the plate, push it through so that only about an inch shows through the top, and tape it in place at the top and bottom.

2 Build the bouquet.

As the bride unwraps her gifts, take each bow and ribbon and tape it on top of the plate. Place smaller bows in the center, and larger bows on the outside. Wrap long, curling ribbons around the pencil, allowing them to hang down from under the plate. If the bride has a lot of presents, layer the bows as necessary. Be sure to use all of the bows and ribbons.



Alternate Method:

In some cases, the bows and ribbons from the bride's gifts are used to make a bow hat rather than a bouquet. To make a bow hat:

- Poke a hole about half an inch from the edge of a paper plate. Repeat on the opposite side.
- Thread a thick, wide ribbon through one of the holes, tying a knot at the end on top of the plate to keep it from slipping out. Repeat on the opposite side, leaving the bottom ends loose to tie the hat to the bride's head.
- Tape bows and ribbons to the top of the paper plate so that the largest bows are around the outside edge, the smallest in the center. Attach all long ribbons to hang down from the back of the hat.
- Tie the hat to the bride's head with the two wide ribbons at the sides. Laugh. Cry.

