

Tuesday, February 11, 2020



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Wedding Flowers Becoming Larger Than Life

Move over bouquets and centerpieces. Flowers are taking over weddings in a big way. While wedding trends come and go, flowers will always have a place at the wedding table. The blooms brides and grooms choose and how they decide to display them can say much about the couple's style. Many modern couples are opting for statement pieces with their flowers to rival the big and bold ideas they're incorporating elsewhere into their occasions, such as in cakes and clothing. In fact, floral designer Tom Uberuaga says traditional hurricane vase centerpieces are outdated and only focus the eye on the middle of the table. He prefers guests enter the wedding and have their senses stimulated by flowers from all angles. Large flower installations, as well as blooms popping up in unexpected places, are some of the hot trends for couples to keep their eyes on.

Floral chandeliers - There's no need to worry about seeing over table centerpieces or flowers getting in the way of photo moments. Thanks to hanging flowers and floral chandeliers, flowers are quite literally moving up in the world. Hanging floral pieces can add instant drama and make a large visual impact. Florists can hang flowers from beams over tabletops to increase visual impact, whether as individual baskets, single stems or floral swags. Hanging floral chandeliers are dramatic but naturally expensive. Think about a large installation that forces guests to look up into a sea of greenery and flowers. The smell and the sight can be breathtaking.

Welcome wreaths - Why should wreaths only be reserved for front doors and holiday decor? A welcome floral wreath can be placed by the entryway to a chapel or reception hall with a heartfelt sentiment that shows guests how much they're appreciated.

Fairy-tale flowers - A floral curtain of hanging flowers can line a chuppah or drape the altar in beautiful blooms. Couples who would like a fairy-tale entrance also can make their debut as a couple by coming through a flower curtain at the reception. Martha Stewart Weddings says a cascade of flowers and greens can be romantic and elegant.

Dance floor blooms - Who says flowers have to be overhead or on a table? With a plexiglass dance floor, or one made from some other transparent material, flowers can be underfoot, creating a magical floral carpet.

Floral necklaces - Brides needn't carry their bouquets, they can wear ethereal and whimsical floral pieces around their necks or on their waists instead.

Couples are urged to speak with their florists about the innovative ways they can make flowers an even more aweinspiring component of their weddings.*emetrocreativeconnect ion*











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– by Jenna Van Iperen

The story began when Chelsie Stettnichs and Tory Kaminska were just kids. Having both their parents as best friends growing up meant that they spent a lot of time together. Even though these two have known one another ever since they can remember, they didn't start dating until 2015. Tory would take Chelsie on regular Sunday dates from spring through fall driving down random gravel roads picking her wild flowers. How adorable is that?

Tory surprised Chelsie with a trip to Niagara Falls in 2018 where he proposed to her standing over the falls on New Year's Eve.

Not long after the proposal they started planning for their wedding, which was going to be in just ten short months. The first item on the to-do list was to find her dress, and Chelsie knew just where to go. She found a beautiful mermaid style dress with lots of jewels and matching jewel headband at Elegance in Okoboji. The men's tuxes were from there, as well. Chelsie wanted a wedding with a Boho vibe and she got just that. Her bridesmaids wore sage green dresses and the men wore light grey tuxes with brown shoes. The colors consisted of earthy tones- sage green, taupe, desert rose and sparkly rose gold.

As the big day approached, they chose Hy-Vee Floral, in Spirit Lake, for the flowers. Chelsie wanted lots and lots of eucalyptus with a few white and pink roses. "Amber did a wonderful job with our flowers, they were beautiful," Chelsie said.

As her wedding day approached, Chelsie and her attendants started off with spray tans applied by Chelsie herself, since she owns her own business, Boji Breeze Face and Body, located in Okoboji. Chelsie also teaches part time at Faust Cosmetology school, so she had an instructor and recent graduates from the school do everyone's hair. They had their nails done at Cali Nails, both located in the Great Lakes Mall in Spirit Lake. Chelsie also did everyone's makeup for her big day!

Chelsie and Tory exchanged their vows on September 28, 2019 at the First Presbyterian Church in front of all their friends and family. "I get to marry my best friend" was a quote that was said when exchanging vows.

After the ceremony, Tory's family surprised them with his Grandpa's old car, a "Ford Model A," with cans dragging from behind it, and they rode from the church down to Parks Boat Club at Parks Marina ,where the reception would be held. Before the reception began, the wedding party was





picked up from the Snappers dock and enjoyed a nice relaxing cruise around the lake! Eucalyptus filled vases and rose gold sparkle table runners set the mood for the reception.

"Having our reception at Parks Boat Club made everything super simple. They provided us with a vintage car and boat to take pictures with. The outdoor scene is very pretty, from the bridge, the docks, to the grass area. Everyone was able to relax and enjoy themselves without having awkward pauses thoughout the day."

The delicious pasta bar was provided by Snappers and the wedding cake was made by Playful Cupcaketions. Harmony DJ Entertainment out of Rochester, MN is what kept the party going. "The dance floor was full, our DJ was amazing, and didn't cut us off until midnight," Chelsie said.

Emma Dau Visuals captured the day in pictures for Chelsie and Tory. One of Chelsie's best memories of her special day was when she and her dad did a swing dance for the father-daughter dance. Chelsie dipped and flipped, it was a huge hit!

The Kaminska couple received many lovely gifts from their bridal registry at Interiors in Spirit Lake and Zola.com. Tory and Chelsie both own local businesses in the lakes area, so finding time when they can both get away from work has been difficult. They are currently planning their honeymoon and looking forward to spending that special time together.

Congratulations Chelsie and Tory! May your "Love Story" last a lifetime. Like your vows said "at the end of this, you are still you, I am still me, we are still us."



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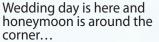
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Why professional makeup? What about my groom? Wedding day is here and And should I bring my And should I tan, I want to honeymoon is around the wedding party, too?

At Okoboji Skin Care, we carry the best Don't forget that you may be stressing the industry led her to create a makeup line sure to bring your sweetheart with you for to purchase their lip color choice for Skin and Vein Clinic and Dr. Ronald Care, we schedule wedding parties year highlight and contour. In ten minutes we round. Nothing looks more beautiful than can airbrush your skin so that it glows, a bride and her bridesmaids with carefully remains healthy and sets off colors that crafted makeup applications and a burst of look brilliant and beautiful. lip color.

look like I'm glowing!



We take pride in our wedding parties. groom out, and if you are, he might be We work very well under pressure and we accredit our 13 years of experience to

After the wedding, a new relationship has begun.

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-Dallas Dotson, Owner/Licensed Aesthetician, microblading artist, laser tech, makeup artist at Okoboji Skin Care

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A Wedding Day Shaving Guide For Grooms

Grooms are often content to let their brides-to-be shine on their wedding day. But weddings are a showcase of the two people getting married ... and grooms matter! Grooms can take steps to look handsome and polished, but may wonder what they can do to put their best feet forward when all eyes and cameras are facing their way.

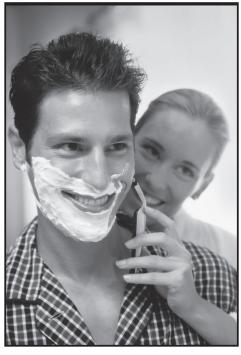
Addressing skin care and proper shaving techniques is essential. Although shaving is a seemingly simple task, some men struggle through the process because they haven't mastered the basics for a clean, comfortable shave. Grooms who do not already have beards should be clean shaven for their wedding days.

Brickell Men's Products advises that the first step to a good shave is to shower before shaving. The warm water and steam will open up pores and follicles, allowing the hair to protrude as much as possible out of the skin. The more it sticks out, the cleaner the shave will be.

Many men fail to prep their skin before shaving. It is important to rinse the face with a pre-shave soap and warm water to remove excess oil and dead skin that clogs razor blades.

Try a non-lathering or natural shave cream that does not contain the potentially irritating chemicals that create the lathering effect, but will still offer lubrication to help get a closer shave.

The right razor can make all the difference. While an electric shaver can serve in a pinch, come the day of the wedding, work with a traditional razor, either disposable or cartridge style. Start with a fresh, new and sharp blade so it is effective. Some men prefer a single blade for a close shave, while others like razors with multiple blades. Grooms



should use what has worked for them in the past, as now is not the time to experiment.

While shaving, go with and against the grain, or what feels comfortable to take off the hair without having to go over areas repeatedly and risk irritating the skin. Gillette advises rinsing blades often during shaving. However, do not tap the razor against the sink to dislodge the whiskers, as this can damage or dull the razor.

Finish up by rinsing with cool water and applying a moisturizer or specially designed aftershave product. It can take up to 48 hours for skin to heal after a shave and keeping it hydrated can diminish irritation. *emetrocreativeconnection*



Tux-renting Basics

Brides-to-be may invest thousands of dollars into their wedding day ensembles. Online wedding resource The Knot says that the average cost for a wedding dress is \$1,469. Grooms generally have a much easier and less expensive experience with their wedding day attire. In fact, grooms often rent their tuxedos for minimal cost.

Renting a wedding tuxedo has its advantages, namely in the cost savings. However, it's easy for a guy to fall into the trap of renting something that will not help him look his best if he isn't educated about the process. Looking sharp involves a little more than just showing up to the shop and picking a tux off the rack.

Choose your retailer wisely - Many stores sell or rent suits and tuxedos. As is the case with many aspects of wedding planning, getting a recommendation from friends or family members can help grooms identify the shops that offer exemplary service. When attending others' weddings or special events, pay attention to the look of the groom and his groomsmen. Find out where they got their tuxes. Price alone should not dictate where to shop.

Once bridesmaid dresses have been selected, the groomsmen can begin to shop around for tuxedoes. This way ties and vests will coordinate. Initial tux selection should begin between four and six months before the wedding.

Get a proper fitting - The experts at Men's Wearhouse say that it is important to be fitted for a tux or suit properly. Their professionals can handle the measurements, or men shopping elsewhere can use a tailor of their choosing. Shoulders should be close to the body in the jacket but not restrictive. Sleeves should fall so that they show a quarter- to a half-inch of shirt sleeves when arms are at the sides. An ill-fitting suit or tux can make a gentleman look sloppy. It is key to pay attention to sizing and use a shop that has a variety of styles that



fit various body types.

Choose a classic style - No one wants to look outdated in their wedding pictures. By choosing a classic cut and color in a suit or tux, guys will look stylish no matter the year. Fun can be had with vest colors or bow ties.

Confirm the order - The entire wedding party can visit the tuxedo shop for selections and fittings. The groom should call the store at least a month prior to the wedding to ensure that everyone has been fitted. Tuxes should be picked up a few days in advance of the wedding and tried on to ensure that everything fits and all accessories are included. This way last-minute alterations or substitutions can be made.

Grooms and groomsmen can look dapper by selecting a classic suit or tuxedo, having it properly fitted and confirming that all wardrobe components are ready to go in time for the big day. *metrocreativeconnection*



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Plan to Treat Guests in Extra-Special Ways

Weddings may focus on the couples getting hitched, but weddings also are special thanks to the many family and friends couples involve in the festivities. Some of the more successful weddings are ones in which couples honor their guests and let them know how much they're appreciated. By incorporating these ideas into their wedding ceremonies and receptions, couples can let their guests know how much they're loved.

• Arrange seats at the ceremony (if practical) in a circular pattern around you so that everyone can have a great view when you exchange vows.

• Create a bathroom convenience basket for both the men's and women's bathrooms. Stock items that might come in handy, like mouthwash, toothpaste, first aid items, spare pantyhose, hair spray, sanitary products, moisturizer, gum, and whatever other niceties you can think of.

· Provide prearranged to-go boxes so that guests can take home tasty tidbits from the meal or dessert table.

• Offer transportation between the ceremony and reception.

• Customize "do not disturb" door tags r overnight guests so they can ensure they get enough shut-eye after partying into the wee hours of the morning.

• Make sure the photographer takes photos of everyone at every table and then share those photos on a wedding website or via social media. Create a hashtag unique to your wedding so that guests can easily find the photos.

• Provide inexpensive slippers or flip-flops so that avid dancers can rest their toes in between songs.

• If valet parking service is not included, ask for an add-on so that guests get doorto-door treatment.

• Always be considerate of special needs by seating guests in places where they're most likely to be comfortable. Keep elderly guests away from speakers and near exits to facilitate trips to the bathroom.

· Be mindful of all food allergies or requirements and have accommodations set up in advance.

• Honor those people who could not be at the wedding in a special way, including deceased family and friends.

 Include information about how guests can request songs at the reception. Pass on the information to the band or DJ.

• Encourage guests to get up and dance by making it fun. Put song lyrics from different songs on each table. When that song is played, that table has to join you on the dance floor.

• Remember to thank everyone for coming and follow up those in-person sentiments with handwritten, personalized thank-you notes after the wedding. emetrocreativeconnection



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at Arnolds Park Amusement Park is quickly becoming a favorite venue for wedding receptions. You won't find a more perfectly extravagant space in the Okoboji area. With stunning high ceilings framed by dark beams and adjustable mood lighting, you and your new spouse won't be the only ones who will never forget your gorgeous day.

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Felicia mentioned that she is constantly looking at the photos and watching the video just to try and enjoy the day all over again.

The wedding ceremony was performed at the First Presbyterian Church in Spirit Lake with Max and Felicia saying their vows in front of all of their family and closest friends.

Felicia purchased her gown at Finery in Waterloo, a store she was familiar with as she went to college at the University of Northern Iowa. The colors of navy, dusty rose and gold were chosen to set the stage for the beautiful day in August. The bridesmaids wore blush pink dresses while the groom and groomsmen wore navy suits with blush pink bow ties. The flowers were white and light pink roses with lots of greenery. Felicia had the honor of wearing her grandmother's diamond bracelet. Following the ceremony the wedding party went out on the Barefoot Barge from Parks Marina. Everyone had a BLAST - a very fond memory of the day for both Felicia and Max. Following their boat ride, it was time for the reception which was held at the Majestic Pavilion in Arnolds Park.

The newly restored venue is located at Arnolds Park and "it was the perfect location for the reception," mentioned Felicia. Along the shores of West Lake Okoboji the guests enjoyed dinner catered by Red's Catering out of Hartley, Iowa, and mouth watering desserts from Hy-Vee in Spencer, as well as cake made by close family friend Shannon Dunham.

DJ Paul Ford, a friend of the family, set the tone for what was an amazing evening of singing and dancing on the dance floor, of course after the couple enjoyed their first dance as husband and wife to "Just You and I" by Tom Walker. Doing the train around the pavilion was a highlight for both Max and Felicia. "It was so fun, we had a huge line of people going in and out and around the entire place" mentioned Felicia with a large smile on her face.

The day was perfectly amazing with not a single glitch or mess up, and ended by enjoying drinks at the Beach Club, which is located at The Inn, followed up by some great Jimmy John,s with friends in their suite.

The day after the couple took a mini-moon to Chicago for three days. Neither Max or Felicia had been to Chicago before so they enjoyed couples massages, shopping, eating and drinking as a newly married couple.

Max and Felicia reside in Spirit Lake with their two cats Franky and Louie. Max is an electrician and Felicia is a special education teacher in Spencer. Wishing you many years of happiness as you grow in your love as husband and wife.







- by Jantina Carney

"Let Loose and Enjoy the Ride" - great words of advice from our featured bride Felicia (Anderson) Rasmussen. The story of Max and Felicia began in the summer of 2015 where they were both active members at the Spencer YMCA. As Max was working out he noticed a sweet little blonde girl out of the corner of his eye. Through social media the two of them began chatting and eventually exchanged phone numbers, which led to their first date at Captain's Getaway in Arnolds Park. Early on in the relationship the two of them would spend their time working out and then making dinner together. Felicia said many hours were spent in the kitchen just talking and getting to know each other.

Fast forward to October 13th, 2018 - it was Max's birthday and the couple had plans to enjoy an evening dinner with family and friends at The Waterfront in Okoboji. Before sitting down, Max asked everyone to walk down to the docks with him. Holding hands the two of them walked down, with his family close behind secretly recording the whole thing. At the end of the dock, Max got down on one knee and asked Felicia to spend forever with him, and proposed with a beautiful ring purchased from Nelson Jewelry in Spencer, Iowa.

Max and Felicia both wanted an Okoboji summer wedding, so the planning quickly began and an August 17, 2019 date was set. Felicia mentioned that they knocked a lot off of the to do list by attending the Spencer Bridal Show. "So many vendors under one roof, I highly recommend all brides to attend a bridal show".

The 10 month planning process was made so much easier with the help of Tori Rasmussen and Ferron Anderson, Max and Felicia's moms. Felicia stated that "they helped out a ton". Also Max's Aunt Karri owns Buttercup Floral in southern Iowa. She was a huge help when it came to the flowers and all of the decorations.

To start off, what was in Felicia's words a "perfectly amazing weekend", the rehearsal dinner for the wedding party and family was held at Rabab's in Spirit Lake. The entire wedding party spent the weekend at The Inn in Arnolds Park. This is where the wedding party all got ready and where the bride and groom did the first look photo. The beautiful architecture of the hotel was also the background for many of the wonderful wedding photos. In addition to photos at The Inn, the couple also enjoyed many photos on the shores of beautiful West Lake Okoboji at Arnolds Park Amusement Park. Courtney from Courtney Cook Photography captured the day just perfectly mentioned Felicia, and Drew Dau "did an amazing job as the videographer, both providing images we will cherish for many years."

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to get hitched.

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December may not mark the peak of the wedding season, but many couples tie the knot at the culmination of the holiday season. According to The Knot, a leading wedding industry resource and information site, New Year's Eve weddings are popular. A poll from The Knot found that 7,230 weddings were scheduled for December 31, 2017. Flowing champagne, extra vacation days during the holidays and long weekends, as well as the merry atmosphere of the holiday season can make New Year's Eve a great time

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Horoscope

ARIES - Mar 21/April 20

Business

Today

Transitional issues pop up this week, Aries. You are not quite sure which direction you should go. A close friend or advisor can help you navigate the way. *TAURUS - April 21/May 21*

Taurus, you are a team player, but this week you may need to fly solo for a bit to get a handle on all of your tasks. Once things get settled, the team mentality can be restored.

GEMINI - May 22/June 21

Gemini, if you feel like your hard work is not paying off, then you may need to use this opportunity to speak with a supervisor. This can spark changes you feel are necessary.

CANCER - June 22/July 22

Cancer, there are some major changes in the way you feel this week, and it could take a few days to work through all of the emotions. But you'll get a handle on things.

LEO - July 23/August 23

Big news arrives this week with much fanfare, Leo. The excitement will start early in the week and culminate by Thursday or Friday. Expect to be surprised.

VIRGO - August 24/September 22 Relationships can't be the stuff of movies all the time, Virgo. Sometimes you have to go with the flow and make the most of the small daily moments.

LIBRA - September 23/October 23 Your time has been stretched too fast and too much, Libra. The stress may be on and you're feeling it. However, the remedy is to delegate some of your tasks and lighten your load. SCORPIO - October 24/November 22 Scorpio, you're not one for being overly emotional and sappy, but this week you can't hold back the feelings any longer. Don't hesitate to share your feelings. SAGITTARIUS-November 23/December 21 If you are looking for inspiration, look no further than the close friends or relatives who are around you. They will have plenty of ideas that can get you fired up.

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CAPRICORN - December 22/January 20 You have plenty of events coming up to keep you busy, Capricorn. You may have to pick and choose which ones to attend because you simply can't do them all.

AQUARIUS - January 21/February 18 Aquarius, even though you think certain situations require your undivided attention, you're really not involved at all. Avoid reading into things and wait for news to come to you.

PISCES - February 19/March 20

It is time to assess your priorities, Pisces. What do you want to get accomplished over this week? You can knock out one or two items.

Famous Birthdays

February 2 - Gerard Piqué, Athlete (33) February 3 - Daddy Yankee, Singer (43) February 4 - Gavin DeGraw, Singer (43) February 5 - Darren Criss, Actor (33) February 6 - Charlie Heaton, Actor (26) February 7 - Ashton Kutcher, Actor (42) February 8 - Seth Green, Actor (46)

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<section-header>



Did You know?

While flowers certainly add beauty and a wonderful aroma to wedding ceremonies and receptions, there are other reasons behind their inclusion in such festivities. In ancientRome, brides carried or wore flower garlands because the Romans believed flowers signified hope, fertility and new beginnings. In the Middle Ages, brides did not carry flowers, but rather strong-smelling spices and herbs. The rationale was that the herbs and spices would drive away bad luck and evil spirits. Flowers also served another practical purpose. In eras when bathing was a luxury, different flowers and herbs helped mask body odors. It wasn't until the Victorian era, when flowers were used to symbolize romantic love, that they became part of wedding ceremonies, according to Modern Weddings magazine. *©metrocreativeconnection*



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3 Tips for Couples Considering Friday or Sunday Weddings

The cost of weddings continues to rise. In its 2016 Real Weddings Study, bridal resource because out-of-town guests who don't want the Knot found that the av

The Knot found that the average wedding cost couples and their families more than \$35,000. With such a high price tag, it's no wonder happy couples look for ways to save money.

One of the ways couples can save a sizable amount of money on their weddings is to tie the knot on Friday or Sunday instead of hosting a more traditional Saturday

afternoon or evening wedding. Wedding ceremony and reception venues may charge considerably less to host weddings on Fridays or Sundays. Reception venues tend to be the largest wedding expenses, so reducing those rates can go a long way toward helping couples stay within their budgets.

While the cost-savings of Friday or Sunday weddings may be the main focus for happy couples, it's important that grooms- and bridesto-be recognize that planning Friday or Sunday weddings may require some unique planning.

1. Avoid holiday weekends. Three-day holiday weekends may seem like the ideal time to host Friday or Sunday weddings, as guests likely already have Friday or Monday off from work. But the cost of travel and lodging may be much higher on holiday weekends than non-holiday weekends. That may compel some guests to decline their invitations. In addition, many families have holiday weekend traditions and it may be unfair for couples to ask them to interrupt or cancel those plans to attend their weddings.

2. Consider the timing. When hosting a Friday wedding, couples may want to start the ceremony later than they might if they



to use more than one vacation day to attend the wedding may be flying in on the day of the wedding. A later start time gives guests more flexibility when booking flights. Starting later also allows local guests to work a full day and still make it to the ceremony on time. Couples who opt for a Sunday wedding may want their ceremonies to start earlier than they would on

Saturday to accommodate guests who need to go to work on Monday morning.

3. Confirm vendor availability. Wedding vendors are accustomed to working on Saturdays, when the vast majority of weddings take place. So couples should not simply assume a favorite deejay, band or catering company will be available to work their Friday or Sunday weddings. Couples who have particular entertainers or caterers in mind should confirm the availability of these vendors before booking a wedding and reception facility. It's also important that couples getting married on Sundays confirm that hotel rooms will be clean and ready in time for their guests to make it to the ceremony. Many hotels host wedding parties on Fridays and Saturday nights, and some might not be able to turn rooms around in time to accommodate Sunday wedding parties.

Tying the knot on a day other than Saturday can save couples money and help make their weddings more unique. But it's important that couples consider more than just costsavings before agreeing to get married on a Friday or Sunday. *emetrocreativeconnection*

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Peanut Butter and Chocolate: A Pairing for the Ages

Few dessert pairings are as beloved as chocolate and peanut butter. These are strong flavors that are coveted on their own, and especially so when eaten together. When packed in a decadent terrine, peanut butter and chocolate take indulgence to new heights.

Whether hosting a gathering at home or preparing a dessert for family, this recipe for "Chocolate-Peanut Butter Terrine with Sugared Peanuts" from "Classic Stars Desserts" (Chronicle Books) by Emily Luchetti is sure to please. For best results, use chocolate with 58 to 62 percent cacao, rather than a chocolate of higher percentage.



Chocolate-Peanut Butter Terrine with Sugared Peanuts Serves 8

Terrine

- 11 ounces bittersweet chocolate, finely chopped
- 1 ounce unsalted butter
- 6 tablespoons creamy peanut butter
- 4 large egg yolks
- ¹/₄ cup granulated sugar
- 1³/₄ cups whipping cream

<u>Glaze</u>

4 ounces bittersweet chocolate, finely chopped 2½ ounces unsalted butter 2 teaspoons light corn syrup

Sugared Peanuts

- 1 large egg white
- 6 tablespoons granulated sugar
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups unsalted peanuts

Spray an 8½-by-4½-by2¾-inch loaf pan with nonstick spray. Line the sprayed pan with plastic wrap, allowing a 1½-inch overhang on all sides.

In a stainless-steel bowl, combine the chocolate, butter, and peanut butter. Place the bowl over a pan of simmering water, making sure the bottom of the bowl does not touch the water. Heat, stirring occasionally, until the chocolate and butter melt. Remove from the heat and whisk until smooth.

Combine the egg yolks and sugar in the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the whip attachment and whip on high speed until thick, about 1 minute. Remove the bowl from the mixer stand. Using a wooden spoon, stir in the chocolate mixture in 3 equal additions. The mixture will be quite thick.

In a separate bowl, whisk the cream until it starts to thicken. Using a spatula, fold the cream into the chocolate mixture in 4 equal additions. Spread the batter in the prepared pan. Cover with the plastic wrap overhanging the sides and refrigerate until firm, at least 4 hours.

To unmold the terrine, fold back the plastic wrap and invert the pan onto a wire rack. Pull on a corner of the plastic wrap to release the terrine from the pan. Lift off the pan and carefully remove the plastic wrap. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper and place the rack on it. Return the terrine to the refrigerator while you make the glaze.

To make the glaze, in a stainless-steel bowl, combine the chocolate, butter and corn syrup. Place the bowl over a pan of simmering water, making sure the bottom of the bowl does not touch the water, and heat, stirring occasionally, until the chocolate and butter melt. Remove from over the heat and whisk until smooth. The glaze should be pourable but not so thin that it will run off the terrine. If the glaze is too thin, let it sit at room temperature for about 30 minutes.

Slowly pour the glaze evenly over the top of the terrine, allowing it to stream evenly down the sides. With an offset spatula, spread the glaze to cover the terrine smoothly and completely. Refrigerate until the glaze is set, about 30 minutes.

To make the sugared peanuts, preheat the oven to 350° F. In a bowl, whisk the egg white until frothy. Whisk in the sugar. Add the peanuts and mix until they are evenly coated with the mixture. Spread the peanuts in a single layer on a rimmed baking sheet and place in the oven. Toast the nuts, stirring them every 5 minutes, until dry and golden brown, 15 to 20 minutes.

To serve, transfer the terrine to a serving platter and arrange the sugared peanuts on top. Cut the terrine with a hot, dry knife. ©metrocreativeconnection





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THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER Wedding Guide 2020 Tuesday, February 11, 2020 Page 18C Band or DJ? How About Both?

Few elements can make or break a couple's wedding day more than entertainbest of both worlds. There is nothing that says

ment. While factors like the weather are beyond couples' control, ensuring guests have an opportunity to dance or sing along to some good music is something couples can emphasize as they plan their weddings.

When it comes to music, the two main options for weddings are a live band or a disc jockey. Each has its share

of advantages and disadvantages. A live band may be more expensive, but it can get the crowd excited. A good bandleader also acts as a master of ceremonies and can pay attention to the vibe of the room, tailoring a playlist around that overall mood. Plus, bands offer live performances, which adds an extra special element to the occasion that can't be replicated at home.

A DJ is a popular choice, and today's DJs are often artists in their own right. They know just how to select and seamlessly mix music to create the mood and really keep the party going. Couples who prefer to hear original versions of particular songs — especially for their first dance song — often prefer DJs. The popular wedding planning resource The Knot also says that it is often no problem for a DJ to find and play a song from an extensive digital library, while bands may not be able to learn and perform a song in time.

Couples who can be flexible with their en-



a wedding cannot feature both a live band and a DJ. Such a wedding may just take a little more planning. Consider the scenario of bringing in a band for the cocktail hour and perhaps an hour or more during the dinner service of the reception when live music can accompany the meal. After that, a DJ can take over and drive the festivities up another notch with a late-night dance party.

Some music vendors also do a combination of live and prerecorded music. They may have live singers who accompany recorded tracks, or digital instruments like keyboards and drum pads that can enhance recorded songs. These also are options when selecting wedding music.

There is no right or wrong answer when it comes to setting the soundtrack for a wedding. A band, DJ or combination thereof can make the occasion even more memorable. *emetrocreativeconnection*





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More Couples Are Embracing Edgy, Adventurous Weddings

Brides and grooms once felt compelled to conform to the trappings of traditional weddings. From uber-romantic vows to pastel colors to the penultimate white tiered cake, various wedding components were long considered must-haves. But modern couples are increasingly expressing their individuality, and even embracing more edgy and adventurous elements, when planning their weddings.

According to The Knot, a leading bridal resource and information site, today's weddings are not what they were just a few years ago. Bold colors, exotic cakes and nontraditional foliage, are just some of the elements modern couples are embracing to set their weddings apart.

Adventurous locales - Vineyards and catering halls can be great places to tie the knot, but couples who like to push the envelope are looking to more adventurous locales to impart their unique spin on their weddings. Sharing vows atop a mountain crest at the end of a favorite hiking trail or on a roller coaster at a theme park that harkens back to a first date are some adventurous places to tie the knot.

Outside-the-box menus - Couples may want to break with tradition by offering a wide selection of foods at their receptions. These foods can include items that fit with their specific ethnic cuisines, gourmet comfort foods (think cocktail franks wellington), or foods that fit with their dietary choices, such as organic or vegan options. Work with a caterer to provide a variety of tasty choices.

Bold wardrobe choices - Brides can put new spins on their gowns by adding color



and texture. Sequins, bold embroidery, shorter hemlines, and whatever adventurous fashion style you want to impart can be considered. If white isn't your thing, that's okay, too. Yellow and slate gray look great together. Gentlemen can choose to wear a black suit or any combination of color and style they want to make a dramatic impression.

Full of flavor - Cakes don't have to be white with white buttercream. In fact, couples can make things even more tasty by incorporating favorite flavor combinations into their cakes. For example, a chocolate and caramel filling reminiscent of a candy bar might be something to consider.

Modern couples are embracing bold, unique and edgy components when planning their weddings. Putting an individualized spin on the ceremony and reception can make couples even more excited to tie the knot. *emetrocreativeconnection*



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