

## Shopping for Plus-Size Wedding Dresses

Shopping for Plus-Size Wedding Dresses      Being engaged is one of the happiest times of your life, but it can also be one of the most stressful times. For brides of all sizes, shopping for the perfect dress is often complicated and a bit intimidating. It's even harder for a full-figured bride searching for a plus-size&nbsp;wedding dress. You have to deal with samples that are too small, sales people that are sometimes unfriendly and the worry of not finding a shape that flatters your body type. Before you set foot in the first store, it's helpful to arm yourself with as much information as possible. Here are some tips that every plus-size bride should know before embarking on her journey for her dream gown.      Sizing:

The sample dresses in most bridal salons are a size 10. Or so you think. Bridal clothing runs small, so a size 10 is actually equivalent to a size 6 in sportswear.      This means that many women will attempt to try on a sample that simply doesn't fit. Don't let this frustrating fact discourage you though. Many designers make their dresses up to a size 22 or 24, so finding a fashionable plus-size wedding dress is far from impossible. You should note that, for larger sizes, many stores tack on additional charges to cover the extra fabric and the special measurements it takes to ensure your dress fits correctly. But it's worth it because you are guaranteed to get a dress that fits you properly and, more importantly, makes you feel beautiful. After all, it is your wedding day.      Body Type:

Learning which shape sheath is flattering on your body type is an important step in the plus-size&nbsp;wedding dress shopping process. Although each woman's body is different, there are a few silhouettes that consistently flatter most full-figured brides:      Slim A-line: A-line dresses are flattering to the pear shape figure because they highlight the top half of the body and camouflage the lower half. But make sure to keep the skirt on the smaller side as too much volume will add bulk.      &nbsp;      &nbsp;      The Princess Cut: Princess Cut dresses have an A-line shape and no seam at the waist, which gives a long, uninterrupted appearance that is extremely flattering. Skirts can range from slim A-lines to full A-lines, but the key is that they begin to flare just below your natural waist, hiding a heavier bottom.      &nbsp;      &nbsp;      Sleeves and Straps: Despite the popularity of strapless dresses, many curvy women shy away from them. Designers are responding to this by making more options in necklines. Busty brides often feel most comfortable with a little covering up top. Tank style dresses are very flattering as are cap sleeves and even three-quarter sleeves. One trend that works particularly well is sheer fabrics. Netting and tulle are chic alternatives that provide coverage without drawing attention to the chest area.      Fabrics:

Most bridal fabrics are suitable for any season, with the exception of eyelet, pique, and gazar, which are most suitable for warmer weather. Fabrics that have more [weight](#) to them are especially flattering on the plus-size bride because they do not cling to the body. Additionally, they are stiffer and allow the dress to maintain its shape. These include duchesse satin, taffeta, mikado and dupioni/silk shantung. Stay away from fabrics like charmeuse, chiffon, and crepe since they have a tendency to show dreaded lumps and bumps.      Timing:

Start your shopping at least eight months before your wedding. It may take a little while to find a [designer](#) and dress that you feel comfortable in and you don't want to feel rushed into making this big decision. Good luck and happy shopping.

## About the Author

by Julie Sabatino

Source: <http://www.BeautifulPlusSizes.info>