

Sustainable Weddings

For the
organically
inclined

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For the sustainable bride, we've got the details on how to have a trendy and beautiful wedding that is vintage, organic and natural while still conveying an elegant aura to the day. Whether your focus is on minimizing your wedding's carbon footprint or putting on a wedding that radiates naturalism and simplicity, there are so many great options.

Style

The wedding gown is an extension of the bride's personality. For the bride who wants her wedding dress to reflect her environmentally conscious heart, think about choosing a wedding dress from a sustainable and eco-friendly wedding dress designer. These are designers who want to make glam and gorgeous couture bridal fashions that don't harm the earth and who advocate for using sustainable methods and materials. Eco-friendly wedding dresses are made from a wide range of vintage, recycled, fair trade and deadstock fabrics and materials, depending on the designer. Canada boasts many talented eco-friendly wedding dress designers like Pure Magnolia and Katherine Feiel. Another great eco-friendly option is a vintage wedding gown. The dress may not necessarily have been sustainably made, but it is still recycling an already loved dress instead of using new resources. If you are going for a period bridal look and willing to put in the research, you can find some stunning possibilities in vintage clothing stores.

Décor

The trend of incorporating greenery, aka Pantone's 2017 colour of the year, into elements of décor extends into 2018 wedding trends. This perfectly complements the spring and summer seasons, those times of year when we yearn to be outside, surrounded by nature's beauty. Your wedding is an opportunity to create a meaningful space for you and your guests to celebrate your marriage, while reveling in the sense of peace and well-being that comes from being outdoors. A backyard garden wedding can put the focus on your natural surroundings over expensive glitzy décor, while still feeling classic and elegant. Search for venues that are beautiful on their own and don't require very much added decoration.

Recycled material can still be incredibly classy. For your invitations, there are so many recycled paper options that still look chic. Create a wedding website for all the important details to minimize waste of paper. You can also send seed paper invitations as your save the date and wedding invites that guests can then plant. Your tablescapes can feature sustainable dishware and silverware to lend earthy tones to your wedding meal.

A macramé wall hanging under the altar could be the perfect boho-inspired backdrop for exchanging vows and you can re-use it as a wall-hanging for plants in your newly married abode. During the cocktail hour and reception, help your guests find their best light with the energy-saving, yet vintage look, of Edison lights that use LED bulbs. You can also go with a personalized LED neon sign to lend a more retro vibe to your reception.

You've nurtured your relationship, now give your guests something to bring home and nurture. Succulents can double as place cards and a take-home party favour. Send your guests home with seed packets that are personalized with your wedding colours and initials.

Flowers

A mini bridal bouquet can be simple and elegant, while also saving you money. Wildflower centerpieces bring an easy, relaxed and exotic vibe to the wedding table settings. Choose in-season flowers, such as tulips, daffodils, hyacinths for the springtime season. You can also go with planted blooms or succulents that will live on beyond your wedding day. Flowers and greenery are a great way to imbue your reception with a natural, refreshing vibe.

You may have noticed that flowers aren't just for bouquets anymore! Fresh florals are becoming a popular and elegant accent to wedding cakes and dessert. Give your caterer the details of your wedding flowers and colours and see what magical decoration they can conjure. Use flowers as a garnish for your wedding's signature drink. W