



Photo: Beyond Photography

# It's Raining Men



Photo: Patrick Furter

A marriage is a wonderful contract between two people who love each other and want to share the rest of their lives together. Being asked to attend the ceremony is both an honour and a privilege.

## The Groom

The groom is the man of the moment. If you are like most men, you leave all the aesthetics to the women in your life. Your fiancée has been dreaming of her wedding since she was a little girl and may have a much clearer picture in her mind of what she wants than you do. Start your marriage off on the right foot and get involved—you may even have fun doing it!



Photo: Angela Rose Photography

Planning your wedding is a huge undertaking which requires dedication and lots of hard work. Your venue, date of your wedding, the guest list and budget are very important elements and should be decided by both of you. One of your most important responsibilities is choosing your best man. You need to take a look at the people in your life and your choice should be the person that means the most to you based on your relationship, trust, possibly his organisational skills and maybe even tradition.

## The Best Man

You have been asked to be the best man at a wedding—what an honour! Well, what is a best man? To begin with,



Photo: Karen Agenbag



Photo: Tyne Photography



it is probably the toughest, most exhausting and demanding role of all the attendants—it is not an easy task. Your role would be to assist the groom in all duties, starting months before the wedding.

Some may say that the best part is organising of the stag party. You must discuss your intentions with the groom before making any plans. The last thing you want to do is upset anyone or cause tension between the bride and groom. Prior to the wedding, you would need to attend pre-wedding meetings or rehearsals and fittings for your suits.

On the wedding day you need to lend moral support and ensure that the groom gets to the church on time. You are responsible for the wedding rings until the moment arises for the couple to exchange rings. Remember that you are also there in a legal capacity as a witness to the signing of the legal documents.

It is tradition that the best man makes a toast to the bride and groom at the reception. You may even have been asked to act in the capacity of Master of Ceremonies. Towards the end of the evening, it is your duty to assist the bridal couple in making a smooth exit and toning down the party.

### The Page Boys

Yes, those cute little boys in their waistcoats looking like butter wouldn't melt in their mouths.

These little guys are usually very young and sometimes get overawed by the occasion and forget what they are

there for—this can be both cute and fun, or frustrating and irritating. Traditionally, their roles are pretty limited—they would generally carry the wedding rings to the front of the church and just as well, as their attention span is as limited.

Some tips are to ensure that the child you choose is confident and likes to perform in front of a crowd, make sure they have a nap before the ceremony and seat them with their parents who can keep a beady eye on them.

At the end of the day, children will be children and are sometimes difficult, but they do add an element of charm, adorableness and fun to your special day.