

Bright fashion choices for members of wedding

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Copley News Service

Adorable little flower girls in charming white organza dresses. Mischievous young ringbearers in white linen knickers and jackets. It's a scene right out of hundreds of traditional spring weddings every year.

But this wedding season, there's a colorful rainbow in store at the end of the wedding aisle for not only older

members of the bridal party who have been dipping into the pot of color for years, but for younger attendants as well.

"Who says they have to be in white?" said Ginger Fung of the Peanut Butter Collection. "It's time to give kids some personality!"

This spring, the children's company is adding a baby-blue tailcoat with ruffled shirt for boys. Red has been a

big accent color, too.

For girls, the spring Peanut Butter Collection of dresses features favorite styles in colors of pink, lavender and ivory. And the hottest color for spring flower girls? How about sage green?

Fung suggests dressing young attendants in wedding attire that is as charming as it is colorful.

"Only a kid can get away with these colorful styles and look adorable," she said. "Don't dress them up like adults. After all, they are kids."

But that doesn't mean that the rest of the bridal party doesn't want to make the rainbow connection with their wedding-day fashions. Formalwear manufacturers are picking up on the color trend, adding more and more intense shades to their bridal collections.

At Alyce, a manufacturer of formal dresses, color plays an important role for spring. With colors like key lime, lemony dew, elegant celadon, satin turquoise, icy pink, fuchsia and sunset coral, the future is bright for bridesmaids who love to stand out

in the wedding-day crowd.

At David's Bridal, another large bridal house, the newness this spring is found in two contrasting color moods, soft and bright. Soft colors like blue frost, banana and shell pink complement other pastels like pearl pink, celadon and lilac.

The bright colors for the bridal party in David's spring collection are represented by vibrant azalea, citrus green, orchid and cantaloupe and are used mostly to accent ribbons, flowers and piping — but can also be found in a few dramatic solid dresses. Watch for colorful prints and stripes to also show up at David's and other bridal lines this season.

More and more brides are choosing not to have matching bridesmaid dresses. Rather, they choose one or two complementary colors then let the bridesmaids choose the style of dress that suits their figure and personal style.

Guys are on the color wheel, too. At the Tux Shop, (www.thetuxshop.com) color runs rampant in accessories. From sophisticated paisleys



GNS Photo/Peanut Butter Collection

A baby-blue tailcoat on the ring bearer adds soft color to the wedding-day palette.

from Mel Howard to herringbone designs at Andrew Fezza to checks and plaids from Perry Ellis America, vests and ties provide a wide variety of fashion inspiration for the groom and his men. Shirts in sky blue, grey, champagne and lavender wisteria color combos also ensure more fashion options for tuxedos and suits.

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