

# Helpful Wedding Terms

Term	Description
Ascot	Scarf-like necktie worn looped under the chin. This tie is worn with the cutaway.
Boutonniere	A single flower, or very small arrangement of flowers, usually worn by men on the lapel of their suit jacket.
Buffet	Tables or sideboards set up with food and/or refreshments in which guests may walk up and serve themselves.
Calligraphy	A fancy decorative style of handwriting.
Charmeuse	A satin fabric with a soft, lightweight and flexible finish.
Chiffon	A lustrous sheer fabric. Chiffon is lightweight and often layered.
Chuppah	A canopy or arch of flowers in which a couple stands under during Jewish wedding ceremonies.
Corsage	Small arrangement of flowers worn by women which is pinned on their dress near their shoulder.
Cuff links	Jewelry used to fasten (link) shirt cuffs.
Cummerbund	A sash worn, with pleats facing upward, over the waistband of suit trousers, which take the place of wearing a vest.
Cutaway	Tailcoat worn in formal daytime weddings. Cutaways are worn with striped trousers.
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Engraved invitations	Very formal invitations in which the words are cut (engraved) into the paper. Engraved invitations are very elegant and are usually used for very formal weddings. They are also the most expensive.
Fiancé	A man engaged to be married.
Formal	Term used to describe a ceremonious wedding. Several characteristics of a formal wedding: engraved or thermographed invitations for up to two hundred guests; two to six bridesmaids and ushers; Bride attired in long gown and veil; Groom and ushers in tuxedos; reception with full meal and drinks follow the ceremony. Usually a band or DJ provides music at the reception.
Four-in-hand tie	Standard necktie worn with a regular shirt and stroller. This tie is also commonly worn daily by men who wear suits to work.
Informal	Term used to describe a nonformal, casual/ relaxed wedding. An informal wedding could be held anywhere including City Hall. A simple ceremony is performed and usually there are less than fifty guests. A small informal reception at someone's house or at a restaurant may follow the ceremony.