



FALL 2025

Bridal GUIDE

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Hair and Makeup Advice

Fall weddings have a magic all their own, with vibrant leaves, cozy color palettes and cool, refreshing air.

But that shift in weather can bring new beauty challenges, including dry skin to static-prone hair. With the right strategies, you can stay radiant and camera-ready from “I do” to the last dance.

HYDRATION IS THE FOUNDATION

Crisp autumn air may feel delightful, but it can be tough on your skin. In the weeks leading up to your wedding, switch to a more rich moisturizer or add a hydrating serum to your skincare routine. On the big day, start with a primer that locks in moisture and smooths the skin's texture for flawless makeup application.

Chapped lips are another cool-weather culprit. Keep lips supple by gently exfoliating with a sugar scrub and applying a nourishing balm before lipstick. Consider layering a moisturizing lip color that won't dry out over the evening.

MobileStyles recommends sev-



eral popular techniques for fall weddings that can elevate your makeup. They include smoky eyes, monochromatic makeup, bold lips, soft contouring and dewy skin.

WEATHER-PROOF HAIR STRATEGIES

Autumn's dry air and gusty breezes call for flexible, resilient hairstyles. Styles like soft waves, low buns and textured braids tend to hold up better than ultra-sleek looks that may frizz or flatten. Adding a light anti-humidity spray or texturizing product can help hair maintain volume and shape throughout the day.

If you plan to wear your hair

down, have a few discreet hairpins or a travel-sized hairspray on hand for quick touch-ups. Brides with natural curls should focus on hydration, using leave-in conditioners or curl creams to keep hair healthy, bouncy and defined.

GLOW ALL NIGHT

The cooler temperatures can sometimes dull your natural glow but you can easily bring it back. A dewy foundation or a few well-placed dabs of cream highlighter can mimic that soft, lit-from-within look.

Dusting a light shimmer on your collarbones and shoulders can also enhance your overall

radiance, especially in candlelight or golden fall sunsets.

Setting sprays designed for long wear are especially helpful in fall. They'll keep your look fresh without needing constant touch-ups, even through hours of dancing and celebration.

BONUS TIP: THINK AHEAD

With fall's unpredictable weather, it's wise to prepare a mini beauty kit with essentials like blotting papers, lip balm, tissues and a compact mirror. A cozy wrap or shawl can save the day if temperatures dip, keeping you warm without sacrificing your wedding-day style.



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Blending Traditions

Weddings are an opportunity to weave diverse traditions into a heartfelt, one-of-a-kind celebration.

For couples coming from different cultural, religious or family backgrounds, embracing those heritages can turn a ceremony into a powerful reflection of love, identity and unity.

START WITH STORYTELLING

Before deciding which traditions to incorporate, many couples start by sharing family stories. Learning why a ritual is important — whether it's a Persian sofreh aghd, a Celtic handfasting or a Jewish breaking of the glass — helps couples connect personally with each custom. Those stories can guide decisions about what feels meaningful and authentic to their shared future. Creating a wedding program or signage that explains different traditions helps guests feel connected to the ceremony.

MIX, MATCH AND MODERNIZE

There's no rule saying couples

must strictly follow traditional formats. Instead, many are blending rituals into a modern ceremony that feels personal and fresh. A couple might walk down the aisle together, light a unity candle, sip from a shared wine glass and have a family elder offer a blessing in a native language. Choosing a nontraditional officiant, such as a friend or family member who can weave together different cultural references, can create a deeply personal experience.

CELEBRATE THROUGH MUSIC, FOOD AND DECOR

Fall's rich colors and harvest themes naturally complement many global traditions. Couples might choose music that honors both heritages, such as blending an Irish folk song with a Mexican mariachi procession. Reception menus can fuse favorite family dishes into a multicultural feast. Think tamales next to pierogies, or samosas alongside Southern barbecue. Decor offers another opportunity, with fabrics, flowers or heirlooms that reflect different cultures set against the vibrant hues of autumn.

HONOR FAMILY WITHOUT LOSING YOURSELVES

When families have strong



expectations, balancing tradition with individuality can be challenging.

Some couples opt to host a private ceremony with one set of customs, followed by a public ceremony that incorporates more inclusive elements. Others invite family members to lead a small ritual within the larger event.

Fall lends itself to symbolic acts of unity, such as planting a tree together or weaving ribbons into a shared tapestry.

NEW TRADITIONS FOR A NEW LIFE

Ultimately, an inclusive fall wedding is about starting a new tradition, one that honors the past but looks boldly toward the future. Whether that means blending rituals, inventing new ones or simply gathering loved ones under the golden leaves to celebrate, the most meaningful ceremonies are the ones that feel true to the couple's journey. In the season of change and abundance, love itself becomes the greatest tradition of all.

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Elopements and Micro-Weddings

Couples are increasingly trading large, traditional weddings for smaller, deeply personal celebrations.

Wildly Connected

Photography's blog reports that elopements are on the rise and in 2025, the top trends are adventure elopements, eco-friendly elopements, nature elopements, destination elopements, eloping alone with a big party afterwards and handfasting. Meanwhile, Lena Christine says that vintage elopement weddings are on the rise.

Helzberg Diamonds conducted a survey a few years ago of 1,000 U.S.-based engaged couples. They found that 62% were open to the idea of eloping, with 69% of women interested.

"Modern couples are motivated by elopements because of cost efficiency and intimacy of the environment," said Lauren Gravelyn, Helzberg Diamonds ordained associate.

Cost was also a factor. The average wedding cost, Helzberg Diamonds reported, was \$33,204 in 2022 and 26% of couples thought they were spending too

much. They also learned that older couples are more likely to consider eloping as they are responsible for all of their wedding expenses, whereas younger millennials and Gen Z respondents are more likely to have a larger wedding as they have financial support from parents and grandparents.

THE ALLURE OF FALL ELOPEMENTS

Eloping isn't just a spur-of-the-moment decision anymore. Many couples thoughtfully plan fall elopements that still feel adventurous, while reflecting their personalities and values. Popular fall elopement destinations include national parks bursting with autumn color, historic towns with charming backdrops or even cozy family cabins tucked deep into the woods.

Because fall tends to be less crowded than summer, couples often find more flexibility with locations and vendors. Some choose to hike to a mountaintop to exchange vows surrounded by golden leaves, while others opt for urban elopements filled with crisp air and historic architecture. No matter the setting, the season's natural beauty ensures that even the simplest ceremony feels extraordinary.



MICROWEDDINGS: SMALL GUEST LISTS, BIG EXPERIENCES

For couples who want a celebration without the size and stress of a traditional wedding, micro-weddings strike the perfect balance. Typically hosting 10-50 guests, microweddings allow couples to splurge on details that truly matter, such as a custom farm-to-table dinner, live acoustic music or elaborate fall-themed decor.

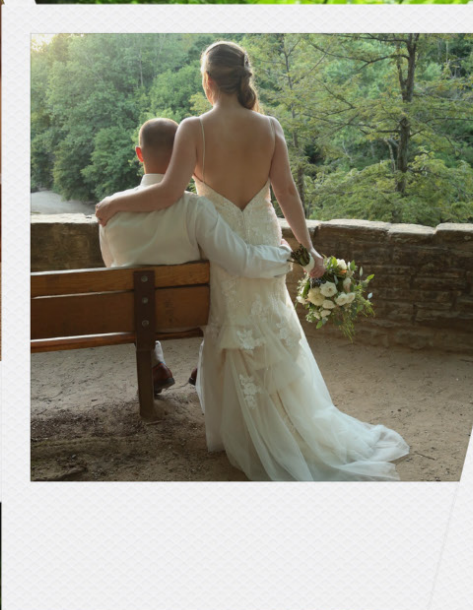
Fall microweddings can offer more venue flexibility. Think private gardens, local vineyards or even outdoor art spaces decorated with pumpkins, mums and vintage lanterns. Couples can get creative with activities too, from

cider tastings to hayrides or even bonfires complete with s'mores.

Everly Events shares the statistic that microweddings have increased by 40% in the past year as couples embrace minimalism.

MAKING IT MEANINGFUL

One of the greatest strengths of fall elopements and microweddings is how personalized they can be. Couples often write their own vows, incorporate family heirlooms or create new traditions that blend their cultures and stories. Some invite just their immediate family or closest friends, while others turn it into a weekend getaway packed with cozy meals, hikes and shared memories.



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