

Why Something Blue? And New Ideas Too!

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"Something old, something new
Something borrowed, something blue
With a sixpence in your shoe"

We have all heard various versions of that little Victorian saying that has a big impact on some of the decisions we make on our wedding day. But why, you may wonder, are bride's supposed to wear something blue?

The tradition dates back to ancient Israel when brides wore blue ribbons on the border of their wedding cloths to symbolize, love, modesty and fidelity. Blue also became popular among Christian brides because it symbolizes the purity of the Virgin Mary and is the color most often worn by Mary in paintings and statues.

If you want to carry on the tradition of wearing blue on your wedding day, here is a list of some old and new ideas:

~ A blue dress. Believe it or not, brides who wear blue dresses today are not as "funky" or "eccentric" as one may believe. Before the nineteenth century, blue was the color of choice for a bride's gown. There are several sayings about blue gowns, one is "Marry in blue, lover be true" and another is "Yellow's forsaken, and green's forsworn, but blue and red ought to be worn." White dresses did not become mainstream until 1828 when President John Quincy Adams's son John married his white dressed bride Mary.

~ A blue garter or white garter with a little blue ribbon on it.

~ A traditional blue ribbon, like the ancient brides of Israel wore. If you don't want to wear it on the outside of your dress, though, have it sewn inside.

~ Blue toe nails—a modern and playful choice being made by more and more brides. This was my "something blue," thanks to the idea of my fashionable little flower girl Isabelle.

~ A blue piece of jewelry with special importance, like an heirloom topaz ring or a pin of an angel holding a blue crystal. You can wear the select jewel for everyone to see or, again, have it pinned or stitched under your gown.

~ Blue panties! This can be a little secret for everyone but your bridesmaids (whose job it is to remind you to wear something blue!) and your husband.

~ Blue shoes. If you are having a problem finding a pair of blue shoes, get a pair of white dyeable heels or even a white pair of Keds and dye them your favorite shade of azure.

~ Something blue in your bouquet. The something blue does not have to be a flower, either, it could be something that has meaning to you from your childhood—like a little toy—or a blue butterfly purchased from any craft store and adhered to the bouquet with flower wire.

Whatever you choose, have fun and may the only blue things about your wedding be the sky above and the blue you choose!