

Why Blue?

No doubt you've heard this wedding-day checklist: something old, something new, something borrowed, and something blue. But are you aware of the tradition's origins? (No, it wasn't created to add that extra bit of stress to your pre-wedding plans.) Well, here's a bit of trivia for you: The custom of collecting old, new, borrowed, and blue objects for your wedding-day wardrobe derives from an Old English rhyme, in which the "blue" stands for purity.

This should come to no surprise to you literature, history, and art buffs. Historically, the color blue has always connoted virtue. In art, such as Raphael's *Marriage of the Virgin* (a truly heavenly marriage, indeed!), the Virgin Mary's blue veil signifies her supreme virtue. So, for good luck on your big day, don a bit of blue—whether you're virtuous, superstitious, or just look great in the color!

How I Got the Blues

“I slipped into a pair of powder-blue Keds at my reception. That way my feet didn't get the blues from dancing all night long.”—Audra, 24

“My husband always said he loved my blue eyes. So, on the big day my make-up artist applied just the right shade of blue shadow to make my eyes glimmer.”—Kirsten, 28

“Every bride in my family has worn my great-grandmother's blue-ribbon garter. So, by wearing it I got 'something old' and 'something blue' in one shot.”—Marie, 34

“The only person who knows how I used blue is my husband. Let's just say on our wedding night he got a turquoise surprise from Victoria's Secret.”—Jennifer, 27



Don't know what to do for something blue? We've got five fabulous azure answers: This 100 percent cotton handkerchief with delicate yellow and blue floral embroidery, \$6, can be tucked away anywhere—ready for those emotional, tear-filled moments. Tie this blue Austrian-crystal heart, \$3, on to a button, bow, or bracelet to add a charming aqua accent to your bridal ensemble. Slip on this beautiful

Blue Notes

bridal garter with a periwinkle-blue bow, \$6, for an elegant yet simple solution. All from Mullen & Fitzmaurice; call 800-440-1320. And here's a new, innovative idea for today's brides. If you buy a Janell Berté gown you'll receive a complimentary embroidered monogram on the inside back bodice—it's not only blue, but also a wonderful remembrance for generations to come.

Call 717-291-9894 for information.