

Accessories: jewelry for your special day

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Choose your wedding ring as wisely as you've chosen your spouse.
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www.ldarconte.com

For that once in a lifetime day in your life, LG Landau (www.diamondideals.com) advises you make a statement when it comes to wedding jewelry. "Treat yourself; don't settle or make-do. Decide what you want and make it happen," states Landau.

- Don't wear your everyday diamond studs unless you can dress them up with dramatic earring jackets, which can be easily attached to regular studs to create a beautiful drop earring. This is not an everyday event and Jackets are a great way to dress up simple studs.
- Do wear dramatic drop or chandelier earrings.
- Do wear a stunning necklace if your dress calls for it.
- Don't wear costume cocktail rings; they are often oversized and will either clash with or take attention away from your engagement ring and wedding band. For that matter, try to avoid any costume jewelry as invariably it will never look as good as the real thing. If you cannot afford the real thing you may want to consider borrowing or renting an exquisite piece of jewelry for the day.
- Do wear something traditional and sentimental. Maybe your mom's earrings or your grandmother's bracelet could be your something borrowed.
- Don't wear jewelry made of rope, rubber or other non-metal material. Yes, you may need to cut off that friendship bracelet you promised you'd wear forever.
- Do up your diamond status with a cascading necklace or an elegant tennis bracelet.
- Don't forget your grooms gift! Hint: tie studs, cufflinks or a watch make for a nice gift that they can use again.
- Do thorough research on the types of wedding bands you and your groom want and when in doubt, ask the experts! and Do not wait until the last minute! Many wedding rings can take a couple of weeks to manufacture and this is the kind of stress you can easily avoid with a little forward planning.

• Tips for choosing wedding bands

Just like your spouse, the wedding bands you choose are meant to last a lifetime. Kerry Ryan, head designer, Shenoa & Co., (www.shenoadiamonds.com) provides some practical tips for choosing wedding bands, especially men, who he says typically resist wearing a wedding band for a number of reasons, such as "I don't wear jewelry" or "I'll lose it." Hence, a simple gold band is often the best way to go. Women, on the other hand, should ask themselves a few simple questions before choosing, such as, "Are you going to wear the band with the engagement ring? And if so, would you prefer an exact match or something that works well with the engagement ring? Also, "Can you deal with a gap between your engagement ring and the band? If so, great. If not, then consider a custom ring or adjustments to your engagement ring. "If you move your engagement ring to your other hand," says Ryan, "then the choices are endless." Ryan strongly recommend brides choose a band that can be worn on its own because one day they'll choose not to wear the engagement ring and so they'll want a band that speaks for itself.