

*Welcome to
The Wedding Bell*



A MESSAGE

From The Owner...



Congratulations on your engagement, and thank you for giving The Wedding Bell an opportunity to serve you! This is such an exciting time in your life, and we are honored and thrilled to be a part of it!

All of the gowns you will see in my boutiques have been carefully selected by me and my wonderful Staff. We strive to offer one of the largest selections of gowns in the Puget Sound area. Our gowns come from top-notch designers, and you will not find better attention to detail, quality, and value anywhere. In addition, we carry many gowns that are exclusive to our boutique, so you will truly find a gown unlike any other.

Whether you're looking for something trendy or classic, fun or sophisticated, you'll find it with us. With over 69 years in the Puget Sound area, we have the experience and expertise to help you select the perfect gown for your wedding day!

Kimberly Miller

Your First Step to Finding the Perfect Dress

Appointments

Please be on time for your appointment. If you are going to be late or need to reschedule your appointment, please let us know as soon as possible. Your appointment will last up to 90 minutes.

Bring your research and ideas

If you already have an idea for your dream dress, feel free to bring in the pictures. We may not have that exact dress, but we would be happy to find similar styles for you to try on.

Arrange for childcare

At our bridal salon, we want you to feel at home. Please be courteous to other clients who may be in at the same time you are. A curious or bored child can get hurt in our store or cause hundreds of dollars in damages. If you want to shop for a flower girl gown, please arrange a dedicated appointment with us to focus on that, and make your flower girl feel like a princess for the day.

Other appointments

We suggest that you concentrate on finding your bridal gown on your first visit to The Wedding Bell. We recommend scheduling separate appointments when you are ready to look for bridesmaids, flower girls, mothers, tuxedos, etc. Your first visit to The Wedding Bell should be all about you!

Friends and Family

Our boutique is a comfortable environment, and, while we have a great selection of gowns, our space for large groups is limited. Please bring two to three others with you at most. This is YOUR decision, and you need to be able to listen to your own instincts about what gown makes you feel beautiful and happy. It's easier to hear what your heart says if you don't have a crowd with you. However, if you would like to bring a larger party with you, we are happy to schedule an after hours appointment or an appointment during a less busy time to fully assist you and your group.

Grooming

You will want to bring a strapless bra if you have one that you like. If you don't have one, we will provide you with a bustier for your appointment. Make sure you are freshly bathed, and wear underwear. Please know that one of our consultants will be in the room with you to help you into the gowns, and she will wait on you more closely than you're used to when shopping for other clothes. Make sure you are comfortable in your choice of undergarments. If you are not properly groomed and dressed, you may not be allowed to try on gowns. Wear little or no makeup. This protects our gowns, and it also lets you see more accurately which colors will be most flattering to your true skin tones.

Keep an open mind

Be open to suggestions. Your bridal consultant has worked with hundreds of brides and can recommend styles that will be most flattering to your body type. She is also intimately familiar with the gowns in our store. She knows which ones do not show well on the hanger, but will be beautiful on a bride. You might be pleasantly surprised.

Sample gowns

Do not be discouraged if our sample gowns do not fit perfectly. Your gown will be ordered based on your actual measurements and the designer's size chart. Be aware that sizing for bridal is not the same as for other clothing. It is common to order a gown one to two sizes larger than your usual size. Your consultant will review the designer's size chart with you at the time of purchase.

Budget

Give some thought to your budget for your bridal gown. Falling in love with a gown that is out of your price range will either break your heart or break your budget. Your consultant will be conscientious of your budget and show you gowns within the price range that's realistic for you.

Layaway plan

The Wedding Bell does offer a layaway plan. Ask your consultant for details about this program.

Have fun!

This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience, and it's not every day that you get to feel like a princess wearing a spectacular gown. Enjoy your time at our salon! Enjoy the attention, and let us pamper you!

When you arrive

You will be greeted warmly by one of our professional and courteous bridal consultants and assisted in completing a simple bridal registry form unless you filled it out in advance. We send it with our email confirmations. This will help your bridal consultant get a feel for your personal style and the ideas you've already put together for your wedding plans. Your bridal consultant will also show you the four silhouettes of gowns and briefly explain some of the different fabrics and construction of the wedding gowns you will try on.



Thank you!

As a Wedding Bell bride, you will receive:

- FREE professional measurements and advice on sizing with the in-store purchase of your bridal gown (valued at \$50)!
- FREE bridal gown bag with in-store purchase of your bridal gown (valued at \$30)!
- FREE day of bag with your in-store bridal gown purchase (valued at \$15)!
- Special discounts on bridal party dresses and tuxedo rentals!
- Come back, and try on your bridal gown with a try-on appointment! We love to have you come back and visit!
- Get \$50 off your gown preservation with the in-store purchase of your bridal gown!

*Congratulations, and thank you for
choosing The Wedding Bell to be a part
of your wedding!*

Bridal Party Gowns

We realize that shopping online has become very popular, but there are pitfalls to shopping online for your bridesmaid dresses, flower girl dresses, and mother's dresses. Online retailers look at you as a one-time buyer. Therefore, they do not care about giving you the customer service you deserve or the product you dreamed about. You risk receiving a dress that is not authentic and looks nothing like the picture, you risk not receiving your dress at all, etc.

We realize that our brides are looking for ways to save money, and The Wedding Bell offers many options for you to take care of your bridal party dresses without the worry of dealing with an unauthorized or unethical retailer. The girls at The Wedding Bell will assist with selecting your bridal party dresses, will take or gather your bridal party's measurements, will offer advice on sizing, and will collect payment from each member of your bridal party. When the dresses arrive at our store, we will contact each member of the party will be called and take care of scheduling alterations appointments if they are necessary. Even if members of your bridal party are not in the local Tacoma area, we can assist with sizing each member of your bridal party and coordinate their dress purchase. It is important for all members of your bridal party to order from the same retailer, so that there are not dye lot variations or errors in the ordering process.

If you purchased your bridal gown from The Wedding Bell, each member of your bridal party will receive a \$10 discount on their dresses. This discount will apply for you as well if you need a "little white dress" for your rehearsal dinner or going away outfit!

Most bridesmaid manufacturers take twelve weeks to produce a bridesmaid gown. We strongly advise you to order your bridesmaid gowns at least five months prior to the wedding. If you have less than four months until the wedding, a rush fee may apply. Please ask your consultant about this as some designers offer quicker options without a fee.

We want to make your wedding experience as stress-free as possible and protect you from unauthorized or unethical retailers. You can rest assured that you are dealing with an authorized and trusted retailer that has been in business for over 69 years.

Benefits

- Less stress for the bride and bridal party with focused pampering on each member of the Bridal Party
- Expert measuring and consultation on sizing

Tuxedo Rentals

The girls at The Wedding Bell will assist with selecting your tuxedo rentals, will take or gather your party's measurements, will offer advice on sizing, and will collect payment from each member of your party. There is a \$40 charge per rental to secure the tuxedo rental with the balance due upon pickup.

If you purchased your bridal gown from The Wedding Bell, each member of your bridal party will receive a \$10 discount on their tuxedo rentals if there are five paid rentals or less. If there are six or more paid rentals, your groom get his choice of a **tuxedo rental or a suit for free**** , and the rest of the party still gets \$10 off!

If you purchase your bridal gown and bridesmaid dresses from The Wedding Bell, you will receive \$15 off your bridal party dresses and tuxedo rentals.** In addition, you will still receive your **groom's tuxedo rental or suit for free** if you have six or more paid rentals.

**Tuxedo rentals must be the full ensemble (jacket, tie, vest, pants, shoes). The free suit options can be seen by making an appointment with one of our consultants. It is the coat and pants only. Other accessories are available at an additional charge.

Benefits

- Less stress for the bride and groom
- Expert measuring and consultation on sizing
- Free tuxedo rental or suit with qualifying purchases

Alterations

We have in-house alterations specialists who will help finalize the vision for your gown. Whether you need standard alterations or want to create a completely custom look, our seamstresses can help! You do need to make an appointment for a fitting. Please call 253-759-2513 to book your appointment!

We can give you a referral if you need your alterations done outside of the Tacoma area. The Wedding Bell makes no guarantees on the work of the independent seamstresses and provides referrals as a service for our clients only. Please keep in mind that most gowns will need some alterations to fit properly.

Alterations Tips – Budget for alterations costs. On average, bridal gown alterations cost \$300-\$500. It could be higher, it could be lower. The cost of alterations depends on the fabric, beading, and what you need altered on your gown. Schedule your appointment for alterations 8-9 weeks prior to your wedding. Bring your shoes, petticoat, bustier, and other undergarments to all of your fittings.