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THE WEDDING SHOE GUIDE FOR MEN





If you want to bulk buy shoes for your entire wedding party, we can give you a **25% discount** when you order four or more pairs.

INTRODUCTION TO YOUR GUIDE

The summer months hail wedding season. Whether you are a member of the wedding party or a guest, we have just the footwear you need to enjoy the day and into the evening too.

We have collated the very best formal men's shoes to help you celebrate the big day in style and in comfort.

We have ordered this guide into three wedding types to make it easy for you to navigate and choose the most appropriate footwear for your celebration:

- Formal - page 4
- Lounge suit - page 9
- Casual - page 13



Most people will buy something new to wear for the happy occasion and we would urge you to consider your footwear at the same time to not only look smart but to support you through a tiring day.

Grooms, ushers, and guests alike will be on their feet for much of the day, whether at the ceremony, posing for photos, drinking bubbles and eating canapes before the wedding breakfast, standing in the receiving line, making speeches or dancing... it's not your average day at the office. You will need comfort which means getting a pair of shoes that fit you properly.

This is where handmade shoes will serve you well. They will mould to the shape of your feet. No slipping at the heel and no pinching at the toe will prevent blisters from forming.



FORMAL WEDDING

When we refer to a formal wedding, we mean the type where a black morning suit or dinner jacket is understood to be the appropriate clothing choice for the male guests. Often though, the guests are permitted to make up their own minds on what they wear while the wedding party may choose a morning suit or dinner jacket to distinguish themselves from the rest.

The jacket of the morning suit is the distinguishing factor. A derivative of the frock coat, which had been modified with curved front edges to accommodate the horse-rider's knees, the morning suit jacket is usually teamed with striped, grey trousers and a matching or contrasting waistcoat. In the 1930s, grey three-piece morning suits also became fashionable.



Recently, black tie weddings have become more popular. A bit of a slow burner in the UK at first, but the US and social media influence have ensured this style choice has reached these shores.

If you choose a traditional black suit, then you need to choose black shoes. The safest option is the **black Oxford**. This is one of the most enduring styles of men's shoe and is a must in every gentleman's wardrobe.

It is a style that is timeless and elegant. A black Oxford gives the dark trousers of a morning suit the sleek look most grooms, ushers and guests are seeking. This shoe will also serve you well for other occasions and for work.



Our luxury bestseller is the **Churchill II** or the **Knightsbridge** (above) for a premium experience. These are both classic Oxford toe-cap design that have been handmade from start to finish in Northamptonshire.

The **Sussex** would also be an excellent, opulent choice. Made on the traditional but elegant Z401 last, the Sussex features a blue sole that has been made exclusively for us. If your wedding ceremony involves any kneeling with your back to the congregation, a handsome sole will be appreciated!



If you want something a little different while maintaining your loyalty to the dark side, then why not consider a **monk shoe**?

The **Monkwell** is a classically refined single monk shoe, also featuring that exclusive blue sole. We have used the finest leathers to create this stunning monk style.

If you have wider feet, a **Derby shoe** may fit you better but that does not mean you have to compromise on style. The **Carroll** is a gorgeous, bespoke looking plain fronted Derby. The last has a very distinct shape with a sleek toe that emphasises the handmade look of the shoe.



The last few styles to consider are definitely more about the evening festivities after the wedding breakfast. The **Gusbourne** is a black and white two-tone classic that harks back to the era of spats. Very *The Great Gatsby*!

While patent shoes will add a bit of sparkle. Our **Aston** and **Martin** styles are very popular and go well with black tie ready for you to dance the night away.



LOUNGE SUIT WEDDING

We now turn our attention to consider shoes that would be suitable to wear with lounge suits for a formal, yet a little more dressed down, occasion.

Most weddings fit this bill, where the groom, the ushers and the rest of the male wedding party wear matching or complementary lounge suits. If these suits are black, then see the formal wedding section in this guide, if not, then there is so much more choice available to you.



If you still want to choose an Oxford, then choose a **brown or tan** style. The **Sussex** comes in dark brown calf and the **Knightsbridge** has a chestnut style too.

For a wider foot, a Derby will give the comfort you need for being on your feet all day and we suggest the **Westport**. They are a gorgeous tan colour and have a rubber sole for a bit for extra spring.

If you want a little decoration, then consider a **brogue or semi-brogue**. The **Henry II** is our bestseller and has stylish swings to the facings and quarter patterns giving this shoe a bespoke look. The chestnut calf has a beautiful, burnished finish. For something a little more financially comfortable, our best-selling **Carnaby brogue** (above) is a stunning British-made shoe.



New to our brogue collection is the **Bournwell**. Made using dark brown calf, it is an elegant, exquisite brogue with a delicate toe rosette and hand finished to a high shine. There is a rakish swoop to the swan neck facing with more fine brogue detailing.

The **Villiers** has a similar feel to it, but in a rosewood calf, while the **Dunkeld** (above) is a slip-on shoe with clever faux laces.

The monk shoe is a handsome alternative to the Oxford with single, double and triple buckle styles to choose from. The **Shakespeare** is a beautiful shoe with a double buckle made on the Z160 last so has a chiselled toe box. If you like three buckles, then the **Dahl** is for you.



Lastly, for the lounge suit, may we suggest a two-tone or **spectator shoe or boot**. Like the Gusborne, they have a little bit of the dandy about them but look oh-so good.

If you want something more lightweight, then both our **Henley** and **Henley II** (above) generously provide this by blending canvas with calf, while the **Farnham** is a beautiful mix of navy suede and chestnut calf. These are truly standout shoes.



CASUAL WEDDING

These days, the casual wedding is all about the open-necked shirts, tailored shorts or chinos, linen suits, and maybe a blazer or waistcoat.

Casual weddings are a good opportunity to wear easy, breezy clothes that you feel comfortable in but still ooze style...your own style.



There isn't much scope for obvious personality with the uniform of a traditional morning suit; it's all a bit black, grey and a white shirt. A casual wedding though gives you more opportunity to vary colours and styles. You can go to town on your footwear too.

For a casual brogue we have the **Rockford** in a honey brown suede. Smart but not over-bearing. If your feet are a little wide and you prefer a derby, then the **St Julien** comes in dark brown or navy suede but has a white, lightweight rubber sole to home in on the summertime vibe.

A casual wedding, though, is a perfect excuse for a new pair of loafers. Our Italian inspired collection – the **Lucca II**, **Sienna II** (above), **Terni II** and **Pisa II** – offer suede, penny, and tasselled options made from the finest leather.



The **Barcelona** tasselled loafer is smart too while the **Guildford** comes in a beautiful grey calf.

To really kick back though, you could opt for **Matira** (above) rubber-soled loafers or slip into our biscuit **Sanremo** suede espadrilles.

You can ditch the socks with all the above suggestions to really embrace the casual nature of the occasion. With any of these choices though, you do not have to ditch the style!



LAST THOUGHTS....

If you are the groom, then remember it is your day so go with the style that suits your personality but don't scrimp on the comfort. Handmade shoes from Herring will mould to your feet so wear them around the house to get used to them. Do not wear these for the first time on your wedding day!

If you want any advice on wedding shoes, our customer service advisors are excellent. They will guide you on what would best complement your outfit or what style is ideal for your feet. Just give them a call and they will talk your through the options.



Remember if you want to bulk buy shoes for your entire wedding party, we can give you a 25% discount when you order four or more pairs.

Very last thought, if you are part of the wedding party or just a guest, have a great day!