

Finding Your Perfect Wedding Hairstyle

By Lois Lam, Hair Artist

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Originally from fashion metropolitan of the world, New York City, Lois Lam has recently moved to Cleveland, bringing her expertise and experience to brides of the Greater Cleveland area. As you plan for your upcoming wedding day, Lois offers several tips on creating the perfect look:

1. Narrow down your choices to *down*, *half-up* or *all-up*. This will help concentrate your search instead of going through thousands of slides. Consider your neckline, face shape and comfort level when making this decision. (For example, don't opt for *all-up* if you will be self conscious all day about your face being "too exposed.")
2. Consider your hair length. Many brides don't realize that the models in magazines and online actually have a lot of length to work with. If you're really set on having a certain hairstyle, find a good artist that can incorporate extensions, or else the style may look skimpy.
3. The best suggestion for most brides is to just grow your hair from the time you're engaged. This will ensure the longest length possible with the most work room. Be careful when going for a trim. Emphasize you are getting married and only want a trim, otherwise you may get 3-4 inches cut off, which is crucial in creating most hairstyles.
4. Find a style that fits your face shape. A lot of brides pick styles from the internet and assume it will suit them just as well. However, that is sometimes not the case. Hair line and face shape play a lot into how a hairstyle looks on a person. (For example, someone with an oval face may not necessarily look as good with bouffant bangs as someone with a more square shape because the end result may elongate their face too much.)
5. Hire a professional. What better way to pamper yourself than to sit back and relax on your wedding day and have a professional create your perfect look. No stress of trying to do it yourself and not having it turn out the way you wanted.
6. If possible, do a trial. Unless time and distance are major restraints, you should make an appointment for a trial with the artist that will be doing your hair on your wedding day (be careful of institutions that offer a trial by one artist and sends another on your wedding day! Not every artist can create the same look!) The artist should completely create the look you expect on your wedding day. Be wary of artists who leave out steps or insist they will "do it better/differently" on your wedding day.
7. If a trial is not an option, request to have a consultation. Ask her to sit with you to discuss your options. If you are in a different state, request to email her your most current photo and ideas you have. Having a dialogue will better assure you are on the same page by the time your wedding day comes.
8. Try to schedule your trial on the same day as a dress fitting, so you can get a complete picture with your hair done in your gown.

9. Accessorize and accentuate your hairstyle with a pretty hair comb, crystal hair pins or real flowers. This dresses up your hairstyle if you choose not to wear a veil, or if you remove it for the reception.
10. Don't forget to complete your look with makeup, preferably done by a professional, who will skillfully blend colors and create a glowing look that looks naturally glamorous in person as well as enhances your wedding day photos.

Best of luck finding the perfect hairstyle for your wedding day! Have fun, relax and remember to not lose sight of the real reason of your big day. God bless your marriage! I hope to see you at the upcoming *Bridal and Beyond* bridal fair!