

## ASK US ANYTHING

**A FORMAL AFFAIR**

Can I still have a black-tie wedding if my reception starts at 4 p.m.? A lot of people assume that black tie is appropriate only after 6, "but a reception that starts at 4 will still be going on until 10 or 11 at night, so I disagree," says event designer Lucy Diaz-Flores from Bella Flora of Dallas. Your guests are there to celebrate you and your groom; if a formal afternoon event is what you want, then that's exactly what you should get, she says.

**#INSTAFAIL**

A guest posted a photo of me on Instagram, but I hate the way I look. Can I ask her to take it down?

You should love every photo of you at your wedding. If you're close friends, send her a text expressing your concern, and ask her to remove it. If the guest is a friend of your fiancé, have him make the request. But ask yourself whether you're being too self-critical, and hit send only if you feel strongly.

**WHITE OUT**

Can I wear white to the same-sex wedding ceremony of two grooms?

"Unless the couple has specifically requested an all-white wedding, I say wearing white is off-limits," explains *Brides* fashion director Eleanor Strauss. "There may not be an actual bride, but that doesn't mean you should fill the role!" Find some color in your closet and let the spotlight stay on the grooms.

**PARENT PROBLEM**

My dad wants to invite his business partners to my wedding. Can I say no?

A general rule of thumb is one third of the guest list goes to you and your groom, and one third goes to each set of parents. If you're paying, it's OK to cap their invites lower than that; if one or both pairs of parents are footing the bill, let it go. Your wedding is an important day for them too. But give everyone a fixed number of invites from the start to avoid drama.