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Traditional Expenses

Who bears the expenses of the wedding was formerly a matter steeped in tradition, varying from region to region. At one time, it was considered improper for anyone other than the bride's parents to contribute to those expenses which traditionally fell upon them. This custom has changed and it is no longer considered a breach of etiquette for the bridegroom's family, and/or the bride and groom themselves, to assist here if they so desire. Good taste requires that no one be asked to go into debt to pay for the wedding and reception.

The Bride and Her Family

- fees for the organist, soloist and sexton.
- aisle carpet, ribbons and church decorations.
- bride's wedding dress, veil and accessories.
- bride's trousseau.
- bride's personal stationery and calling cards.
- bride's medical examination.
- attendants' bouquets and headdresses.
- presents for the bride's attendants.
- accommodation for the bride's attendants, if necessary.
- gift for the groom.
- wedding ring for the groom.
- newspaper announcements.
- engagement, wedding and reception photographs.
- bridesmaids' luncheon.
- transportation for the bridal party to the church and to the reception.
- entire cost of the reception.

The Groom and His Family

- the engagement and wedding rings.
- gift for the bride.
- bride's bouquet and going away corsage.
- clergyman's or other presiding official's fees.
- flowers for the two mothers.
- boutonnieres for men in the wedding party.
- gloves, ascots or ties for men in the wedding party.
- gifts for the best man and ushers.
- the marriage license.
- the groom's medical examination.
- accommodation for men in the wedding party, if necessary.
- the honeymoon.