

## PACKING FOR THE HONEYMOON,.. HERE ARE SOME HINTS

By Maureen Hart

In the hustle and bustle of wedding planning, it's difficult to find time to think about packing for the honeymoon. Still, it makes sense to bring out your suitcase and begin laying items into it during the weeks before the wedding. That way you can put in clothing and toiletries ahead of time and then take a quick look right before the wedding to make sure you have everything you need.

The number one mistake of most travelers, not just newlyweds, is to pack too much. Remember, you will probably buy tee shirts and other items during your trip, which you can add to your traveling wardrobe.

Do not take large containers of shampoo, which most hotels and resorts supply to their guests. Do not take up space with beach towels. If your resort does not supply towels at the pool, buy cheap ones at a souvenir shop and then discard them if your suitcases are too full. Buy your tanning lotions in a pharmacy or convenience store when you get there.

Not only are there weight allowances on each airline, but you do not want to lug heavy baggage around in hot and humid beach resorts, nor try to stow them on a train or ferry in Europe.

Don't panic about forgetting something. Unless your honeymoon destination is at South Pole, chances are you can find anything you need nearby.

Try to begin with a base color. For men, it can be navy and lighter blues, or browns and tans. By sticking to this scheme, you do not need to take more than two pairs of shoes and/or sandals. For women, any color scheme is fine, as long as your skirts, slacks, and tops all mix and match. For warm climates, think about lighter colors that coordinate. For cooler destinations, start with a pair of black slacks that can be casual or dressy, depending upon the top. Or work around brown, navy, even plum.

Although there are now strict rules regarding carry-on luggage, it is a good idea to take a small bag containing a change of underwear, a bathing suit, and a clean top or shirt that coordinates with what you are wearing on the plane. Include a toothbrush, comb, makeup, and any other essentials and you are good to go—even if the airline loses your suitcases!

**Here is a list of packing essentials for women:**

### **FOOTWEAR:**



Do not take more than two pairs of shoes (three at the very most)! In summer, walking sandals are essential. You may want to include a dressier pair of sandals for evening, and a pair of flip flops for the beach. In winter, you need a pair of walking shoes or sneakers, plus another pair of shoes for evening. If you are traveling during the coldest months, or to a snowy place for winter sports, you need a pair of boots. It would be best to wear these on the plane, since they take up space in the suitcase. Do not cave in and pack too many shoes—they add too much weight to the suitcase. Judicious shopping should produce two pairs that can get you through every occasion.

#### **PANTS:**

In summer, one or two pairs of basic cotton slacks will do, along with a pair of dressy pants for evening. Khaki slacks go with everything. In winter, you need heavier weight slacks, probably two pairs plus one for evening. For hot climates, you can also include three pairs of shorts which mix and match with your tops.



#### **SKIRTS AND DRESSES:**

A basic black dress can be accessorized for day or evening, sleeveless in a flowing fabric for summer, or with longer sleeves for winter. A basic black skirt can be used for day or evening with a variety of tops. For beach resorts, the flowing peasant type skirts are ideal and can even be worn over your bathing suit.

#### **TOPS:**

For a week-long trip, plan on five or six tops, ranging from casual to dressy. Don't forget that you will probably buy a tee shirt or two on your travels. Add a cotton cardigan or pashmina for evenings or highly air-conditioned restaurants. In winter, add a heavier cardigan or a basic blazer to add warmth under your coat or jacket.

#### **NIGHTWEAR:**

It's your honeymoon, so include your prettiest new negligee!

#### **OTHERS:**

Your underwear, of course. Your essential toiletries, in small travel-size containers. Any medication you take daily. Eyeglasses, contacts and solution, and sunglasses. Don't take an umbrella. If it rains for more than an hour on your honeymoon, you can always buy one there. In fact, eliminate any of the "what-if" items. Only pack the things you feel certain you will wear or use.

#### **HINTS:**

Pashminas are fabulous for travel. They don't take up much space, can double as a shawl, beach cover-up, or blanket on a plane, train or bus. A long tee shirt can double as a beach cover-up. Take at least two bathing suits for a beach vacation, so one can be drying at any given time. Do not take good jewelry unless you plan to wear it at all times or lock it up in the safe deposit box. Do not travel with too much cash—that is what ATMs are there for. And they are everywhere. If it is very sunny and hot, buy a straw hat at your destination. They are difficult to pack.

### **The packing essentials for men include:**

#### **FOOTWEAR:**

One pair of sandals and one pair of loafers for walking and/or dress. Flip-flops if you are going to the beach or pool. You will wear one pair of shoes to travel and have the other in your luggage.

#### **SLACKS:**

Three, including the pair you wear for departure. Take at least one darker pair for evening that will not show the stress of travel as much as lighter fabrics. Add two or three pairs of shorts for summer or tropical climates.

#### **TOPS:**

Again, you will probably buy a tee shirt or two on your travels. Take lightweight shirts for tropical destinations—four or five should do it. Take a light blazer for cool evenings. In fall or winter, take long-sleeved shirts, plus a cardigan.

#### **OTHERS:**

Same thing—underwear, toiletries, any medications, bathing suit, eyeglasses, etc.

#### **AND FINALLY:**

If traveling abroad, don't forget your passports!