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A study on preferred accessories and standard measurements for constructing female wedding gowns

Ufuoma Blessed Agofure
Department of Vocational Education (Home Economics Unit), Delta State University, Abraka, Nigeria.
Juliana Ego Azonuche
Department of Vocational Education (Home Economics Unit), Delta State University, Abraka, Nigeria.

Corresponding Author: azonuchejulianaego@gmail.com

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Abstract

This paper applied a descriptive survey research approach to explore the preferences of female undergraduate students at Delta State University, Abraka, on coloured wedding gowns. A simple random sample of 100 respondents was taken out of a target population of 2,171 students. The sampling was done using a validated structured questionnaire that was administered to the subjects who were subject-matter experts. The questionnaires were filled in and submitted as a whole with a response rate of 100%. A quantitative analysis was used that utilized descriptive percentages to answer the research questions and mean values to summarize average body measurements. The findings showed that beads (60 %) and stones (56 %) were the most popular accessories in designing gowns, whereas flowers (46 %) and bow-tie (10 %) were relatively not popular with the respondents and therefore they thought beads and stones were more preferred due to their beauty, functionality and affordability. The research also found that the body measurements used in making the gown differed among three size groups (small, medium, large), where bust, waist, and hip and sleeve measurements were proportionately related to size. These results highlight the importance of having accurate anthropometric data to guarantee correct fit as well as improve the overall look of the garment. The research came to a conclusion that responsible choice of accessories and proper body measurements are key factors in creating well-fitting, aesthetically pleasing wedding dresses. These insights are recommended to designers to help them improve the quality and customer satisfaction of their products.

Introduction

The creation and production of the bride dress requires a careful balance between aesthetics, technical accuracy and ergonomic comfort, as well as the cultural meaning of ritualized dresses. The challenge of contemporarily producing bridal wear that fits numerically yet maintains the majestic look of bridal wear has been an ongoing challenge in the production of bridal wear. Measurement errors, differences in sizing systems, and imperfectly incorporated accessories often lead to the discomfort of wearers, cycle changes, increased manufacturing expenses, and unnecessary material waste. At the same time, modern brides expect customization, high-quality workmanship, technological advancement, and eco-friendly style. These necessities render it imperative to combine standardized anthropometric measurement algorithms with responsible choice of accessories and novel design approaches.

Wedding gowns are dominated by accessories in visual consistency and symbolic reverberation. Traditionally, the bride is framed with veils and headpieces, which enhance the shape of the gown. The veil length and volume are the elements, which influence the visual balance and proportion and tiaras, combs, floral crowns and embellished pins are used to support the ceremonial beauty. These aspects enhance the emotional and luxury fascination behind bridal fashion whereby clothes are not merely appreciated due to their practical value but also symbolism and experience (Joy et al., 2012). Belts and sashes are also common because of their ability to shape the waistline

and enhance body figures. Made of satin, silk, lace or embellished with crystal work, they serve as structural, as well as aesthetic additions, especially to the flowing silhouettes, like A-line and ball gowns. The jewelry choice also varies according to the characteristics of the gown; deep or open necklines can be combined with a necklace, but elaborate bodices are traditionally combined with simple earrings or bracelets so as not to clash with the rest of the dress. Jewelry, in turn, supports the image of sophistication and exclusivity of luxury ceremonial clothing (Joy et al., 2012).

Practical accessories are also used to mold gowns and general comfort. Glove and removable sleeves also provide a sense of stylistic flexibility, enabling the bride to change her look between the ceremony and reception. Footwear affects the posture, movement and hemline measurement, making heel height an essential fitting factor. Basic underwear, including structured bras, corsetry, petticoats, and seamless shapewear, defines the accuracy of silhouette and the drapeback of fabric. These internal factors cannot be neglected to attain the desired garment construction and comfort to the wearer.

The integration of the accessory is being increasingly affected by technological advances. New smart fabrics and wearable ingredients are good examples of how performance-enhancement and multifunctional clothing are made possible by innovation ecosystems. Modern textile engineering has now made it possible to fully decorate items with energy-gathering or reacting capabilities, so demonstrating the widening scope of fashion technology (Chen et al., 2026; Zeng et al., 2024). The construction of wedding gowns is still based on accurate anthropometric measurement. Basic measurements of the circumference include busted, waist, and hips that define the shape of garments and the balance of their structures. At the fullest point of the chest, the natural crevice of the torso, and the broadest lower-body junction the bust, waist, and hip measurements are made. Those dimensions determine how the body is shaped in terms of the contour of the bodice and the volume of skirt (Gupta, 2014).

Vertical measurements of length are also necessary. Shoulder-to-bust, shoulder-to-waist, waist-to-hip, sleeve length, hollow-to-hem measurements are used to make sure that the parts of the garment are placed correctly and to prevent the garment design lines distortion. Mobility and visual symmetry are supported by proportional accuracy (Gupta, recibse 2014). Structural measurements and width, such as shoulder width, back width, armhole depth and neck circumference, also have an additional impact on comfort and range of motion. There are also body posture and shape differences that should be taken into account. The variations in the torso length, spinal curvature and stance influence the pattern drafting and balance of garments. Due to anthropometry, generalized size charts are frequently used with poor fit, and custom measurement systems are required (Gupta, 2014). To make the experience comfortable and stylish, ease allowances have been provided. Wearing ease allows breathing and movement room, whereas design ease allows the fullness of style. The bridal corsetry, which is organized, demands the management of both positive and negative ease.

Digital innovations are currently improving the accuracy of measurements with virtual fitting technologies. Three-dimensional body scanning, digital avatars and simulation systems allow designers to check the fit prior to actual production. These tools minimize the loops of the alteration, enhance consumer satisfaction, and facilitate the remote customization (Lee and Xu, 2020). Bridalwear construction is becoming increasingly concerned with sustainability. The bridal gowns are usually layered with fabric, heavily adorned and rarely reused, which consumes resources. Elimination of measurement error may lead to replicas and wastage of textiles. Sustainability focuses on the efficient use of materials, modularity in the design of accessories, and lifecycle accountability (Niinimaki et al., 2020). Ethical luxury ideals also encourage emotional stability and longevity, which corresponds to symbolic permanence of wedding dresses (Joy et al., 2012).

The rationale behind the given research lies in the necessity to relate cultural meaning, material practice, and systematic design standards to a coherent body of scholarly research. Clothing, particularly ceremonial dressing, is not only utilitarian but it defines identity, tradition, and social values. Philosophical thought about society and human expression focuses on material culture as a

channel in which history and sense are conveyed, but the study of apparel construction hardly incorporates these humanistic viewpoints into technical garment construction (Chukwu et al., 2025). It results in a disjuncture between cultural symbolism and material production information.

Besides, institutional practices and worker systems are also studied to exemplify that structured processes are more effective at enhancing performance and output, although such standardization of processes is not consistently the case in specialized fashion manufacturing like bridalwear, in which measurement accuracy and coordination of accessories are uneven (Muogbo et al., 2025). It is also projected through historical and social research on African interactions, indicating that the manner in which dress and material presentation are constructed contributes to shaping identity and how other cultures perceive oneself, which dictates the need to construct garments in an accurate and culturally correct way (Molokwu et al., 2023). Research on national development issues highlights how creativity and instability of countries disorient creative industries and high-quality production sectors, which promotes the need to build standardized technical knowledge that supports local craftsmanship (Ezeogidi et al., 2020). Also, the study of sustainability emphasizes responsible production systems, but the design of apparel accessories and measurement efficiency are under-researched in the context of sustainability (Muogbo et al., 2025). This paper is thus valid in establishing the relationship between cultural meaning, standardization of measurement and sustainable production practices in bridal garment manufacturing.

Objectives

1. Determine some accessories used for making female wedding gowns.
2. Determine the average measurement for constructing wedding gowns for or females.

Research Questions

1. What are the most preferred accessories for female wedding gowns?
2. What is the average measurement for constructing wedding for female?

Method

The study followed a descriptive survey design because it intended to arouse the curiosity of young people about the aesthetic and cultural importance of coloured wedding gowns to the female gender. The study sample population was the entire population (N 2,171) of female undergraduate students at Delta State University, Abraka. A simple random sampling technique was used to sample 100 respondents, through numbering of slips 1-150, folding, mixing and distributing them within the departments, those respondents whose numbers 1-100 were drawn were invited to participate.

The main data-collection tool was a questionnaire designed on the basis of research questions to gain the preferences of the participants. The supervising researcher, two departmental lecturers, and a professional tailor all went through the first draft and helped in refining it, and their input was incorporated into the final copy. Distribution Logistics: Distributive logistics entailed 100 copies of the questionnaire, which were distributed personally with the help of research assistants. The process of completion and retrieval was done on the spot to provide a complete response set. Simple percentages of categorical preferences and means of continuous anthropometric variables were calculated in data analysis.

Results

Research Question 1: What Types of Accessories do you Prefer to Use in Designing Female Wedding Gown?

Table 1: Respondents' Preferred Accessories for Designing Female Wedding Gowns

S/N	Accessories for Making Wedding Gown	YES	YES%	NO	NO%
1.	Stones	56	56	44	44
2.	Flowers	46	46	54	54
3.	Beads	60	60	40	40
4.	Beat-tie	10	10	90	90

Table 1 shows that 56% of the respondents choose stones, 44% rejected stones, 4% choose flowers, while 54% rejected it. 60% choose beads while 40% rejected it. 10% choose boat-tie, while 90% rejected it. It therefore means that majority of the respondents preferred stones and beads for designing wedding gowns. Because stones and beads look fine on cloths, it adds more beauty to dresses, there are already made design stones that are easy to gum to dresses, it does not take much time to gum and they are very cheap.

Research Question 2: What is the Average Measurement for Constructing Female Wedding Gown?

Table 2: Average Measurements for Female Wedding Gown Construction by Size Category (in Inches)

S/N	ITEM	SMALL SIZE	MEDIUM SIZE	LARGE SIZE
1.	Bust	34	40	45
2.	Half length	53	55	58
3.	Full length	14	16	8
4.	Shoulder	4	16	8
5.	Sleeve	4	5	6
6.	Waist	29	32	36
7.	Hip	36	40	45
6.	Round arm	12	14	16

Measurements are in inches

Table 2 shows that the average measurement for a small body figure are: 35, Half length 14, Full length 53, Shoulder 14, Sleeve 4, Waist 29, Hip 36 and round arm 14. Lastly, measurement for large body figure are: bust 45, Half-length 20, shoulder 18, sleeve 6, waist 36, Hip 45 and round arm 16. Therefore, this means that body measurement in different females are in three sizes of small, medium and large.

Discussion

The evidence showed that most of the female undergraduates preferred coloured wedding dresses due to their affordability, beauty, uniqueness, and recyclability, which is unlike the white gowns, which are worn once. This is congruent with recent studies who suggest a consumer trend of sustainable, multifunctional fashion (Niinimaki et al., 2020; Joy et al., 2022). Moreover, the ball gown

shapes became the most popular, as they were comfortable, multi-purpose, and timeless. Available sources confirm a strong impact of garment fit and design on wearer satisfaction and confidence (Lee and Hu, 2020).

The net fabrics also dominated the materials selection because of their lightness, durability and adaptability to all climatic conditions. The latest research in the field of textiles indicates that there is an increased need to develop breathable, lightweight fabrics to improve comfort and performance (Chen et al., 2026). Moreover, the fact that most accessories were beads and stones supports the results that ornamental decorations increase aesthetic quality and consumer perception (Zeng et al., 2024). The accuracy in body measurement presented in the study justifies its importance in the design of well-fitting clothes which is consistent with anthropometric research indicating that correct measurement is a key element in ensuring the best fit, comfort and appearance of well-fitting clothing (Gupta, 2014).

Conclusion

The analysis proved that beads and stones are the most desired items when it comes to female wedding dress accessories as they carry both aesthetic and economical values and can be easily applied, as opposed to flowers and bow-ties. These patterns are indicative of modern fashion trends that put emphasis on elaborate detailing in the design of garments. In addition, the study confirmed the critical nature of correct body measurement when designing high-fitting gowns, and categorizing sizes into small, medium and large size emphasized the importance of precision in the tailoring of garments to achieve comfort and aesthetics. Finally, this paper shows that voluntary accessory selection and careful anthropometry are the key factors to successful attainment of beautiful, practical, and satisfying wedding dress designs.

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