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**Hair Bows For Your Flower Girl**

**By Jessica Furtney**

My daughter, Emily (4 years old), was just recently in a wedding for my brother. She was a flower

girl. She was so happy and excited about having a part in her Uncle's big day, and it was very hard to keep her relatively calm, this being her first opportunity to be a flower girl. We searched for a flower girl dress and shoes and found frilly little socks, and then we needed to find a wreath for her hair. I did some serious searching on the internet and in many bridal stores that would specialize in items for a flower girl. I really couldn't find anything I liked, so we left it up to the bride. Our flower girl had found something she really liked, and I was thankful not to have to look any longer.

On that wedding day we went to the hair dressers to get her hair done in a special way. After the flower girl "do", we tried to get a very stiff wire crown to stay on top of her head. That wreath was not going to stay on that bouncy, excited little head of my daughter. Still, I was thankful to have something and to have not had to make it myself. It was a rather simple look for a flower girl, so I decided to dress it up with a big, white organza hair bow with tails and all. I put the hair bow on a French clip, thinking that that would help keep this wreath on her head. While we were at the hair dressers and trying to get it to stay on, I realized it needed two alligator clips on the front too. We did manage to get the wreath to stay on, but while I stood there and watched the hair dresser try to get the wreath on, it came to me that what our little flower girl really needed: something light, and simple, but pretty enough to make our girls feel special.

It was then that I came up with a wreath of ribbons in satin, organza, and other decorative ribbons that have been put on a ribbon wreath specifically designed for a flower girl. This made it far easier to either bobby pin to their hair, or even to tie on with a ribbon. We have come up with a light and beautiful hair accessory for any flower girl which can be made in all white, or with a few color accents to match whatever dress you desire. The key for flower girl hair accessories is to make them practical, and yet sophisticated. We tried to make one style that would accommodate any hair style. If the hair style for your flower girl is the "hair down" type of hair style, use our wreath as a headband. If the flower girl needs to have her hair piled in curls on top of her head, then the wreath of ribbons can be tied however tight you need and simply bobby pinned into the hair around the curls.

Jessica Furtney is the president of Bows For Best Friends

<http://www.bowsforbestfriends.com>

, a

company based in Simpsonville, SC that designs and manufactures high quality hair bows and hair accessories.

### **Selecting Hair Bows**

**By Jessica Furtney**

The possibilities are endless when it comes to hair bows. Some mothers like their daughter's hair bows to be as small as can be no matter how old they get, and some mother's like their daughter's hair bows just as big as we can make them no matter how little their daughter is. You can have hair bows with just a simple look to them with only four loops with one solid color, or you can have bows that are holding so many different styles and patterns that they can have about fifteen different ribbons in them. Some people like them to be as flat and close to their daughter's heads as possible, and some want the hair bows to stand up just as poofy as the ribbon will allow.

There are so many different kinds of ribbons being used in making hair bows. Here are just a few: grosgrain, organza, single faced satin, double faced satin, acetate, jacquards, velvet, sequin, ruffle, lace, marabou, frayed denim, sheers, metallic, polka dots, stripes, patterned, textured, stitched, printed, reversible, woven, checkered, plaids, glitter, gathered, frayed, and the list could go on I am sure. We haven't even talked about all of the extra things you can add to hair bows like appliqués, hand-painted ceramics, jewels, crystals, monograms initials, names, rickrack, buttons, and so many other things that people get creative with.

There are so many hair bows web sites and eBay auctions now, that it is hard to find that one hair bow you are looking for, and for the right price. Don't be afraid to try out a few different places, and try ordering just one hair bow from a few different places before you settle down on your favorite hair bow maker. Also, don't be afraid to ask the maker questions about their hair bows. Read all about how they make them and see if they put a lot of time and effort into making them in a boutique style and boutique quality. I would also encourage you to try different sizes as well. Just because your girl is little, doesn't mean she won't look just like a little princess in with larger hair bows. If she looks cute in pig tails or two pony tails, try getting two small hair bows or two medium sized hair bows. Read what the widths are on each site because what one company may call small another would call medium.

There are a large variety of hair bow sites now offering to share with you their secrets to making beautiful bows like they do. Look for instruction books, CDs and even DVDs. Once you start to make your daughter's, grand-daughter's, or niece's bows, you just might love it as much as we do.

Ribbons are back in style again, and everyone can't get enough of them! There are many sites now making it a lot easier to get fancy ribbon for a more reasonable price and better selection than any craft store could offer.

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