

The Bigger the Carat the Better the Wedding?

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**The Bigger the Carat the Better the Wedding?**

**By Donna Monday**

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Ahh . . . sweet romance.

The flowers. The chocolate. The late night whispers of "I love you."

For most people in love, the culmination of months of togetherness and special friendship comes down to one single moment: The marriage proposal – featuring a simple, but elegant, diamond engagement ring.

Of course, if you're a celebrity, a simple ring may not have enough wattage to suit your tastes. Thus, we see many celebrities sporting five-carat to seven-carat diamond studded engagement and wedding rings.

Well, if you can afford it, why not flaunt it, right?

Take for instance the recent marriages of Britney Spears and Star Jones. When Britney Spears got engaged to her former back up dancer, Kevin Federline, she promptly bought herself an awesome-looking five-carat diamond engagement ring. (Does anyone really believe that Kevin bought this for her on his dancer's salary?)

Britney bought herself the ring she felt she deserved - nothing wrong with that. Then, she and Kevin quickly made the leap to matrimony in a matter of months with a surprisingly nice (no lip kissing of Madonna) wedding ceremony.

As for Star Jones, it's not known whether her stunning seven-carat princess cut diamond ring was bought or donated, but she too happily skipped off to a wedding ceremony with all the trimmings.

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So, does all this extra diamond wattage mean that celebrities have a better wedding ceremony than everyone else?

Absolutely, not.

There's absolutely no proof that their multi-carat diamond rings and fancy wedding accommodations gave them any more satisfaction at the alter than Joe and Jane Doe's down right sparse nuptials in a run-down back yard.

Buying the biggest and fanciest diamond engagement ring on the planet doesn't guarantee anything but a nice piece of ice jewelry to show off to your family and friends. Other than that, celebrities have the same odds for a successful, happy union as the rest of us.

And that's the way it should be.

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Donna Monday

One special moment. One special ring.

### **Choosing Wedding Rings**

**By George Meszaros**

Wedding rings may or may not be selected the same time the engagement ring is purchased. The bride and groom usually mutually select wedding rings. Buying the wedding rings is a serious purchase, and it should be done with careful consideration. While the engagement ring is often a surprise purchase, the bride and groom make the purchase of the wedding rings together.

Brides and grooms often choose matching wedding rings. The groom's ring is usually wider and heavier than the bride's. Wedding bands are mostly made of yellow or white gold, but platinum is also popular. Platinum is very durable, but heavier than gold. If you want to have a platinum ring, be ready that it will be heavier than a gold ring.

Rings can take many different shapes and designs. A narrow ring is better fitting for a small hand than wider ring. A wide wedding band would be great for someone with longer fingers and a larger hand. You won't know until you see it. Make sure you try several different thicknesses. The most important characteristic of a wedding ring is comfort. Since you will be wearing it most of the time, you should make sure that it is comfortable. If you buy a ring that is too wide or too narrow or too heavy, you will not enjoy wearing it.

In an attempt to personalize them, wedding rings are often engraved with dates and names. In addition, wedding rings are often engraved with inscriptions such as "Truly, Madly, Deeply" and "Love Always." Before you decide on the inscription, make sure you understand how many characters will fit

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on the rings.

While wedding rings were usually simple gold bands in the past, they have become more ornate jewels in the present. Wedding rings can be any carat. In some countries wedding bands are mostly 22 carat, while other countries favor 18-carat gold.

If you are more adventurous, you and your fiancée may opt for a tattooed wedding ring. As it is true with tattoos in general, they are permanent, So, if there is any chance of you outgrowing the need to have a ring tattooed on your finger, you may want to pass on this one.

Author: George Meszaros with

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