

Your Flower Style

Another great way to express your own personal style is with the use of flowers. While the notion of flowers at a wedding is anything but new, incorporating them in subtle yet meaningful ways has fast become the latest twist on a time honored tradition. Flowers, like gemstones, are linked to corresponding birth months and for this reason a lot can be said by simply introducing a few blooms here and there. By adding their birth flowers brides are creatively personalizing their gowns, bouquets and centerpieces – and this is just for starters. In addition, some couples have begun to use the flower that corresponds to their wedding month to symbolize the birth of their new life together as husband and wife. Check the chart below to locate your birth month and its representational flower.

January	Carnation
February	Violet
March	Daffodil
April	Daisy
May	Lily of the Valley
June	Rose
July	Larkspur
August	Gladiolus
September	Aster
October	Calendula
November	Chrysanthemum
December	Poinsettia

Once you begin to think in terms of those things that hold special meaning to you personalizing your choice of flowers can expand to include special memories that you and the groom share, special people, such as parents (moms especially will love this thoughtful little touch) and bride's maids too will be honored when you include their birth flower into their individual bouquets. As with every other decision you make for your wedding the ultimate is to be true to your own personal style. Remember, flowers speak the language of

love. So whether they are sewn beautifully into the plunging backline of your gown (my personal favorite) or just petals strewn about on a banquet table, their presence has the capacity to conjure happy memories of the past and even happier ones for the future.

Sharon Naylor's newest book is *What's Your Bridal Style*, co-written with Casey Cooper of Botanicals Inc. in Chicago. This book outlines the NEW first step in wedding planning, helping you to define your style before you talk to any of your wedding vendors. Look for it at www.sharonnaylor.net and www.botanicalschicago.com.