



**BRIDAL
TOP TIPS
FOR THE
FLOWER GIRL**



HOW TO GET YOUR TIMING JUST RIGHT

BY DAWN CLARKE

So, you've chosen to create magical memories and having a bespoke flower girl dress created for your special day means the dress will not only fit beautifully but it will complement you, the Groom and Bridesmaids. After all, this is your day, your choices, your way!

We all know children grow rapidly but don't leave the organising until the last minute. By contacting The Children's Couturier (that's me) four to six months before your wedding day and talking

through your plans will ensure we can pencil the booking in for you, discuss designs and embellishments.

Three months before the event, we take the final measurements, create a toile, make alterations and create the dress in plenty of time without any growth spurt worries!



FABRIC & COLOUR

Children have such sensitive skin and often allergies too!

Talk with the parent and ask if they are sensitive to certain fibres, such as wool or whether they have allergies such as eczema. After all, the last thing you want is a miserable flower girl because the fabric is itchy and making her skin sore.

Also, think about heat, avoid manmade fabrics such as polyester or mixed fabrics with a high percentage of polyester as this will retain the heat. We know children get hot and bothered really easily.

Think about colour choices too - would you prefer the flower girl to be in the same colour as the other bridesmaids or perhaps a similar colour to your dress with pops of colour picked out from the bridesmaids or grooms outfits. For example, a ribbon around the waist, or perhaps covered buttons in the same colour as the grooms cravats or bow ties.



STYLE

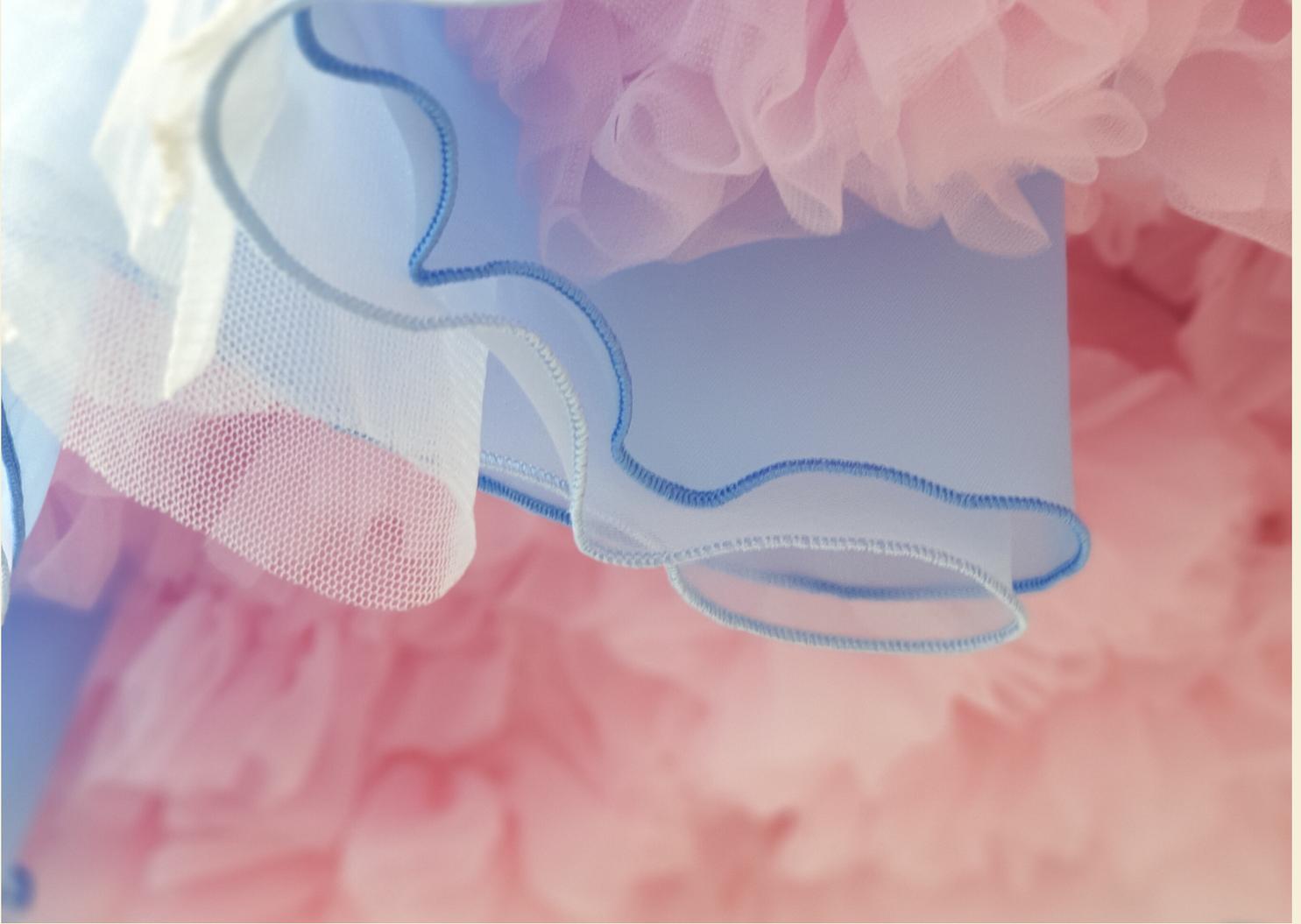
Remember the golden rule, this is your day and it is your choice of style!

Be mindful that it complements your gown - you don't have to choose the same style as the adult bridesmaids, after all, they are tiny children!

Before talking about dresses with your bridesmaids and family, be prepared. Ensure that your gown is sorted first, then pick three different styles that you like and work together to choose which one they would prefer.

At Dawn Clarke Designs we work with you, so we could easily create, in advance, a mood board for you with three design ideas to complement your gown, with fabric colour swatches and embellishments that you could share with the flower girl, helping them feel fully involved!

Hope over to our [website](#) and email me to have an informal chat.



CREATE A NEW MEMORY

Why not think about creating new memories?

An easy way to do this is to think sustainably.

Talk to Parents, Grandparents and see if they have an outfit they love, or loved and is no longer being worn. Can it be de-constructed and created into a new family heirloom? If you think it can, or want to double check, we can help.

Or alternatively, why not have you and your partner's initials embroidered with the date of your wedding inside the lining of the flower girl dress, or even your dress to create a new family heirloom keepsake?

And the flower girl will feel oh so special too!



PREPARATION

Many choose not to involve the flower girls until the Wedding Day, but you have to remember they are tiny children.

Put yourselves in their shoes - no rehearsal, just arrive on the day and walk in front of everyone! That's a big ask!

As a former primary school teacher and qualified Montessori teacher, I recall many school assembly and celebration events where the children were shy and froze on the spot. But, always remember children are amazing and if you give them confidence and an

opportunity they will shine! Here are some ideas to help:-

- Rehearse at home and at the Church/Wedding Ceremony location.
- Talk and walk them through the ceremony, give them confidence - explain that this is a big day and that you have chosen them because they are so grown up and you know they can do this for you. Listen to them and encourage them to let you know if they are worried about anything.
- Give them something to hold - a basket of petals, a posy of flowers, a flower wand.



PREPARATION

- Even a cuddly toy, with a ribbon around the neck in co-ordinating colours can work! You can always turn it around and explain that the cuddly toy is really nervous and that they need the flower girls help to show them what to do on the day!
- You can even use the cuddly toy as a way to communicate with you too!
- Ask for a bridesmaid, groomsman, page boy or ring bearer to walk down the aisle with them.



PHOTOGRAPHS & ENTERTAINMENT

Photographs

Children get tired easily, so arrange with the photographer, in advance, to

a) take photographs with the children first, so that they look their best

and

b) can go off and play!

Entertainment

During the speeches/photographs you may want to keep the flower girls occupied with some entertainment or activities.

There are some fabulous nannies or children's entertainers you can hire, which also means parents get some time off too!



ENTERTAINMENT IDEAS

- Colouring pencils with pictures. (Avoid felt tip pens!)
- Stickers & Sticker books
- Books - consider pop up books for younger readers with lots of pictures. (Not all children are confident readers)
- Children's magazines
- Games
- DVD's
- Toys
- Audio Stories

Also, consider a quiet area for them, such as a tent where they can lay on the cushions and have a few quiet moments to re-charge their batteries.

Young children are only able to give their full concentration for 10 - 20 minutes, so be mindful that they may need lots of choice to keep them happy bunnies!



SNACKS & DRINKS

Children need to keep hydrated, so lots of little non-sugary drinks or water are essential to be available for them.

Also, have a selection of snacks, such as small pieces of fruit, carrot sticks, cucumber, raisins etc. to keep energy levels up!

(Always check with the parents/guardians in advance for allergies)



Dawn Clarke
DESIGNS

GET IN TOUCH

I hope the above has given you some helpful tips for your flower girl.

We are always here, at [Dawn Clarke Designs](#), to help you create the perfect flower girl outfit.

Wishing you a wonderful day sprinkled with laughter and new memories.

With my warmest wishes.

Dawn

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