

Dictionary age-air

AHAVA (ä hä' vä)
noun
a. Hebrew for Love

AHAVA Photography
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noun
a. Baltimore-Washington's Premier Jewish Event Photographers for Weddings and Mitzvahs.

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editor's letter

Tradition, Tradition!

Tradition dictates that brides don "something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue" for their nuptials. Each item mentioned in the poem, which dates back to the Victorian era, represents a good luck token for the bride, said to ensure a happy union. In this issue of Simchahs we explore modern ways to incorporate these traditions into a wedding.

For those in search of "something old," thought to represent continuity with the bride's family and the past, local jewelers share their expertise on shopping for a one-of-a-kind antique engagement ring.

"Something new" symbolizes optimism and hope for the bride's new life ahead. In this issue we arm you with *new* tips on everything from the Sephardic tradition of henna tattoos to how to pick the perfect wedding band.

In the past "something borrowed" has typically been an item from a happily married friend or family member whose good fortune is supposed to carry over to the new bride. The borrowed item is also a reminder that the bride can depend on her friends and family.

While a bride-to-be may be able to depend on the support of her loved ones in a crisis, many extraneous circumstances are beyond control. To mitigate the risk, many families are now opting to purchase wedding insurance to protect their substantial financial investment. In this issue we examine insurance plans which provide coverage for everything from cancellations due to inclement weather, illness or injury, as well as other wedding-related costs including gowns, tuxedos and honeymoons, with the added benefit of providing peace of mind.

While brides have worn "something blue" to symbolize love, modesty and fidelity, with more and more families opting for green celebrations, "something green" seems much more apropos. From recyclable invitations to locally sourced food, we give you the latest information on how to leave the lightest carbon footprint and start your marriage off on the right path.

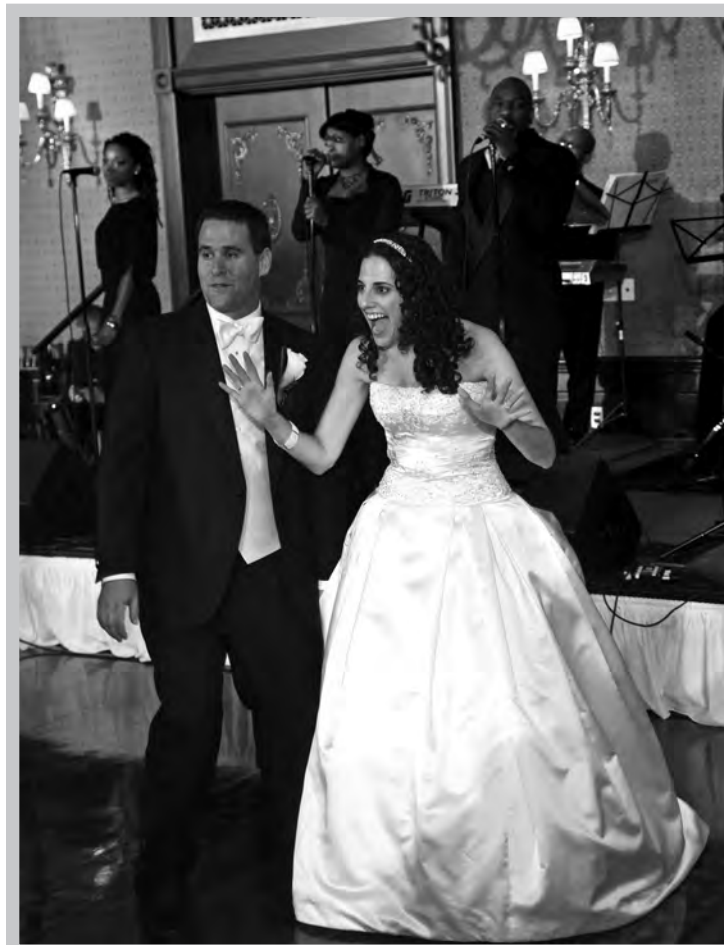
Laurie Legum

Laurie Legum
Editor



PHOTO: KIRSTEN BECKERMAN

PHOTO PROVIDED: SHLOMO COHEN



Lisa and Josh Levine dance to the sound of Urban Gorilla.

inside...

- 4 *Henna In Judaism*
The ritual's roots in Judaism
- 6 *Goldilocks And The Three Wedding Bands*
Tips on finding the right band
- 10 *Thank Your Lucky Stars*
Thank-you card etiquette
- 12 *A Diamond In The Rough*
How to find the perfect estate engagement ring
- 14 *Wedding Insurance: Friend Or Foe?*
Is wedding insurance worth the extra cost?
- 16 *Green Bar Mitzvahs*
How to plan a green celebration
- 18 *Bringing Home Baby*
How to prepare for the new arrival
- 22 *Post-Maternity Wear*
Comfy clothes for new moms

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