

Bowties 101

Over time we have stereotyped bowties to the extent that it is solely associated with weddings and the groom, and quite rarely his entourage. The fear factor is prevalent over making a faux pas, the risk of being termed a 'geek' and being laughed at for the 'eccentric' style.

This is simply preposterous! People (at least those with some sense of fashion trends) will not judge you, rather they would come running at you, showering you with compliments, ogling at that houndstooth bowtie of yours and going gaga over your remarkable dress sense.

DO IT YOURSELF

Before we get further. Repeat after me — "I solemnly swear that I will never, even in times of desperation, wear pre-tied bowties!"

Now please, don't go up to someone and lie to them saying that you tied the bowtie yourself, because clearly that symmetry is next to impossible to achieve. Tying a bowtie is an art form and this definitely adds a touch of panache to your grooming. Moreover, it helps you carry yourself with confidence because you may have just accomplished a mammoth task — tying a bow-tie correctly; cheers!

WHICH ONES TO WEAR?

Here's a quick tip, when it comes to tuxedos, you match the material of the bow-tie to that of the lapel. Mostly, the material is satin or silk and hence, you match it likewise. For other wears, choose cotton, linen or any other material. It should be such that it goes well with your jacket and the weather.



Another piece of advice -- make sure you wear a bowtie that is of the right size. The ones that are too large will make your head look big, while small ones will simply look bad with the outfit. So try them out before buying one.

HOW TO STYLE THEM?

You can of course wear a bowtie with a tuxedo, but you can also don it with blazers of darker shades. Jackets can be worn with khakis or slacks and this will allow you to pull off a slightly casual look. If you want to

wear one to work, choose a double breasted suit. To dress them down, wear with sweaters.

When it comes to matching bow ties with your outfit, the rules are the same as for a necktie. Bow ties are perfect to wear in summer instead of neckties since it only covers the neck region, allowing you to stay cool as it increases the breathability.

As far as the Bangladeshi fashion scene is concerned, bow ties are one of the most under-rated accessories in a man's ward-

robe. Wear them more often because these will only help you to stand out and accentuate your style.

If you are looking for a store that offers a good selection of bow ties, chances are you will be disappointed. Most of these stores sell pre-tied versions and only at places like Dapper Bespoke at Police Plaza in Gulshan-1, and Zurhem in Baridhara can tend to your desire for self tied ones.

By Ali Sakhi Khan

Photo: Collected

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