

Wedding Ready

By Ali Maleski

Quick Gift Ideas!

Simple embroidered bridal accessories can be stored and cherished for several generations. Embellish ready-made accessories or make your own and add embroidered freestanding lace.

Supplies

- ◆ Ready-made gloves, two garters and headband
- ◆ Ready-made crystal veiling attached to comb
- ◆ Mesh or heavyweight water-soluble stabilizer
- ◆ Embroidery, bobbin and monofilament thread
- ◆ Hand sewing and beading needle
- ◆ Fast-drying glue or glue gun
- ◆ Hot-fix crystals
- ◆ Opalescent beads
- ◆ Lace embroidery design of your choice approximately 1" diameter

Embroidery

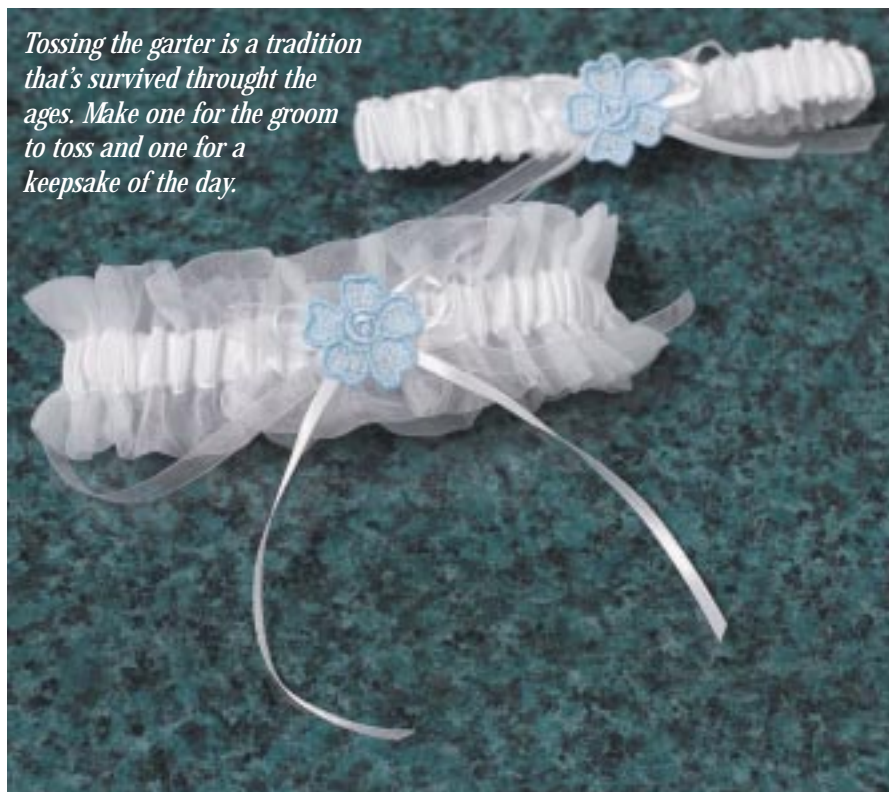
- ◆ Using embroidery software or on-screen editing, combine designs to fit a medium size hoop. If a larger hoop isn't available, re-hoop as needed to complete the appropriate number of designs.
- ◆ Hoop one to two layers of stabilizer and embroider the designs. Embroider multiple hoopings of designs—a minimum of 30 1" designs depending on the number desired to embellish the accessories. *Note:* Embroider two designs with blue embroidery thread.



Surprise a bride-to-be with pretty wedding accessories. A freestanding lace embroidery design made in multiples and added to a ready-made base makes these gifts quick and easy.



Tossing the garter is a tradition that's survived through the ages. Make one for the groom to toss and one for a keepsake of the day.



- ◆ Un-hoop and trim close to each design to remove the bulk of the stabilizer.
- ◆ Fill a bowl with tepid water and submerge the designs to remove the remaining stabilizer. Repeat until all of the stabilizer has been removed from the designs. Change water often. Let the designs dry thoroughly.
- ◆ Steam-press the designs from the wrong side using a press cloth to soften.

Gloves

- ◆ Using the hand beading needle and monofilament thread, sew opalescent beads to the center of six designs.
- ◆ Keep the supplied cardboard support inside the gloves. Using a hand sewing needle, sew three designs to the center of each glove. Take short stitches on top of the designs and travel under the designs to secure the designs to the gloves. The cardboard helps to keep the gloves flat and makes the sewing quick without catching any other part of the gloves. Remove the cardboard when finished.

Garters

- ◆ There are two garters—one for the groom to toss and one to treasure as a keepsake.

- ◆ Remove any unwanted ready-made embellishments on the garters.
- ◆ Glue or hand stitch the blue designs to the center of each garter. Be generous with the glue if necessary.

Headband & veil

- ◆ Use fusible crystals and the appropriate tool to embellish the center of each remaining design.
- ◆ Glue or hand sew the designs onto the headband as desired.
- ◆ Fuse crystals to open areas of the headband.
- ◆ Steam the veiling to remove unwanted wrinkles.
- ◆ Place the veiling attached comb into the bride's hair, place the headband over the veiling. The veiling can be removed after the ceremony for the brides' comfort. ❧

Ali Maleski enjoys writing creative articles on sewing and embroidery for an assortment of industry magazines and companies.

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