



BESPOKE

At Emma Guard Design we specialize in creating unique bespoke garments, which fit to your custom measurements. We look forward to creating your dream dress for your special day, below are some answers to the most common questions we get asked and a little more information about the design process.

Before your initial appointment we recommend trying different styles to help understand which shapes best compliment your body. Once you have an idea in mind we can start to brainstorm designs. This is a very exciting experience where we will work together to decide the intricate details of your dress.

The price depends on the final design chosen. Made to measure prices start from £2,500 for bridalwear, this doesn't include material costs. Materials and lace can be as expensive or inexpensive as you'd like. Let us know if you are working to a budget and we can suggest different options.

INITIAL CONSULTATION – Initial Design and Sketch - Decide Design, Style, Fabrics, Colours. Take Measurements.

During your first visit, we will work together to discuss your bespoke design and decide shape, details, final design and finishing touches. Initially, we will look at styles which compliment your body shape. We recommend bringing a couple of your favourite garments, which you love to wear as these will help to decipher key necklines, styles and colour choices.

Please bring any imagery of designs/details you like, we can always use images from Pinterest and other platforms, to help evolve your design.

We will start to sketch out a couple of design ideas, once happy with a final design we can look at fabrics. We have plenty of fabric sample books, which either have a small sample or a photocopy of the fabric. However we can always out-source fabric – this may incur a small sample charge.

This first sketch is a great starting point, however minor adjustments can be made to the design during the process.

From here we will take your body measurements, at this point we would need to know if there will be any weight fluctuations so we know for future fittings.

An estimated cost will be given, there is no pressure at this point to go ahead you are more than welcome to have a think about your design and come back to us. Once happy with the design we will take a 50% deposit.

We always like to find out more about your wedding day to make sure your dress will match your surroundings, so we will ask you some questions about your special day.

THE PROCESS

We usually for a minimum of six months prior to your wedding date to start the process. After the initial design appointment there will be 5/6 fittings to create your dress.



We plan to have your dress finished at the latest three/four weeks before your wedding date. Depending on how involved you want to be throughout the process we can adjust the appointments.

1. MOCK BODY FIT (16 Weeks) -First Calico Mock For Initial Body Shape. Discuss Final Necklines/Lengths/Bodice Shape.

For your first fitting, a dress is made to your body measurements in a calico fabric, this is called a 'Toile'. This mock is used to get your initial body shape and is based loosely on the final design.

2. FIRST FULL CALICO MOCK (14 Weeks) – Your design in calico. Main point for any changes to design

This will be the first full calico mock of your dress. It will be used to analyse the design and check that you are happy. At this point small adjustments can be made to the design for example - the sleeve length, neckline adjustments etc.

Photos will be taken throughout the process but these are purely for our reference and will go no further without your permission.

3. FINAL CALICO TOILE (12 weeks) – Full Calico Dress

This will be the final fitting in calico, before the dress is made in the 'real' fabrics. This is the last chance for any design changes. At this point a final decision must be made on the fabric.

Changes after the calico fit are charged based on the wedding dress alterations price list.

4. FIRST FABRIC FIT (SHELL ONLY) – (9 Weeks) – Shell Only

This is an exciting point where your dress finally starts to come to life in the 'true' fabrics - but as a note this may only be the lining or outer shell of the dress.

At this point we can place the lace embellishment and talk over any other details/finishes. The hem of the dress will be left raw until the final appointment. You must bring your shoes to this appointment so we can pin the hem length. We can check the movement of your dress and also make sure you have room to sit in your dress.

5. FINAL FABRIC FIT – (4-6 Weeks) – Finished Dress

The final appointment will be your finished dress in the final fabrics you have chosen. We will supply a wedding dress bag for you to protect your dress.

If further appointments/changes are made to the dress after this point they are charged depending on adjustments to the dress.

THE FITTINGS

It is important that the correct underwear/shapewear is worn at every fitting; this should be the underwear you plan to wear on your wedding day. We suggest nude seamless underwear. We recommend to keep makeup to a minimum for the fittings



as it may transfer to the dress. Shoes are not essential for the first few fittings so these can be purchased nearer the wedding date; however a rough heel height is needed when measurements are first taken.

BESPOKE PIECES

Not only do we create bespoke dresses but a range of accessories too including veils, wedding belts, garters, beaded head pieces.

“Something Old... Something Blue” – Let us know if you would like to add a special detail to your dress, maybe a blue bow, or a small pocket for something special.

We also alter formal and casual wear alterations.

AFTER YOUR WEDDING

We would be more than happy to make small repairs on your wedding dress to restore it. We can also recommend a good dry cleaners – “Richard’s” on South Farm Road in Worthing. If you are taking it to a dry cleaners make sure they are aware that the garment is hand-made and very delicate.

YOUR TIMELINE

1. Mock Body Fit – 16 Weeks
2. First Full Calico Mock – 14 Weeks
3. Final Calico Toile – 12 Weeks
4. First Fabric Fit (Shell) – 9 Weeks
5. Final Fabric Fit – 6 Weeks

Wedding Date

If you have any further questions about the design process, please do not hesitate to contact. We are often very busy in the studio (especially in summer), however we will respond to all question as soon as possible.

We ask if you could sign below to confirm you understand the process

Name : **Signature :**

Date :