

# Philippines Wedding Tradition, Culture and Beliefs

---

**Philippines and the Filipinos** are very well known for the unique traditions and styles. Also, Filipinos and the older folks do have many **beliefs or superstitions at certain actions, ideas and things**.

Regarding with the old tradition and superstitions, the **Filipino style wedding** or **Philippines wedding** have its own share. Some of this beliefs or traditions are still being practiced today while some are totally ignored or not considered due to the modernization and change of generations.

Here are the most common beliefs that pertains to Philippine style wedding.

Brides shouldn't try on her wedding dress before the wedding day or the wedding will not push through.

Knives and other sharp and pointed objects are said to be a bad choice for wedding gifts for this will lead to a broken marriage.

Giving "arinola" (chamberpot) as wedding gift is believed to bring good luck to newlyweds.

Altar-bound couples are accident-prone and therefore must avoid long drives or traveling before their wedding day for safety.

The groom who sits ahead of his bride during the wedding ceremony will be a henpecked husband.

If it rains during the wedding, it means prosperity and happiness for the newlyweds.

A flame extinguished on one of the wedding candles means the one on which side has the unlit candle, will die ahead of the other.

Throwing rice confetti at the newlyweds will bring them prosperity all their life.

The groom must arrive before the bride at the church to avoid bad luck.

It is considered bad luck for two siblings to marry on the same year.

Breaking something during the reception brings good luck to the newlyweds.

The bride should step on the groom's foot while walking towards the altar if she wants him to agree to her every whim.

A bride who wears pearls on her wedding will be an unhappy wife experiencing many heartaches and tears.

An unmarried woman who follows the footsteps (literally) of the newlyweds will marry soon.

Dropping the wedding ring, the veil or the arrhae during the ceremony spells unhappiness for the couple.

In early Filipino custom, the groom-to-be threw his spear at the front steps of his intended's home, a sign that she has been spoken for. These days, a ring suffices as the symbol of engagement.

The engagement also do have its own story. After the couple has decided to marry, the first thing that should be done is called "pamamanhikan". This is a process wherein the groom and his parents visit the bride's family to ask for her hand in marriage. Plans, discussions and other issues regarding the wedding and the soon to be wed takes place at this time. "Pamamanhikan" also comes along with "paninilbihan", where the suitor renders service to his future wife's family to gain their approval.

Ref.: <http://weddingsinthesky.blogspot.com/2009/06/philippines-wedding-tradition-culture.html>