



*The Happy
Bride's Bouquet*

OH, IT'S BEAUTIFUL! THIS HAPPY BRIDE WANTED
HER CAKE TO REFLECT THE GORGEOUS FLOWERS
AND DELICATE FERNS IN HER WONDERFUL BOUQUET.



LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT THIS ONE. WE MADE THE CAKE SQUARE—AND SQUARE BECAUSE IT'S DIFFERENT, BUT STILL CONVENTIONAL, WHICH IS WHAT MOST BRIDES WANT.

Every bride is different, and finding the perfect cake for each one is like figuring out which hairdo will complement her features best. The bride who ordered this scrumptious cake was such a happy bride—she was not what we call a difficult lady (and you do get difficult ladies). She was just divine. The bouquets were very clean and very beautiful in shades of soft pink, but when we talked, she told me she wanted something that was like a garden and a bit earthy to pick up the feeling of the maidenhair fern in her bouquet. It's delicate and fragile, just like the bride, who was very young, very beautiful, and very delicate.

So we filled her cake bouquet with all the prettiest sugar flowers—roses, orchids, peonies, and hydrangeas, with purple sugar irises here and there. It turned out as gorgeous and approachable as the girl herself and worked well in the party room with its long, long table.

If you look closely at the photos, you can see people staring at the cake. Guests photographed themselves next to it, and you can see a woman in blue with a look on her face that says, “I wish it were mine!” I try to make every cake so personalized that a bride will look at it and say, “This isn't A, B, or C—this is mine.”

Left to right: The square cake with its tempting sugar flowers and lace cutouts copies the look of the embroidery on the bride's wedding gown. Fresh pink flowers were used in the place settings. A bridesmaid's bouquet holds roses, maidenhair ferns, and hydrangea. I like long tables; if you dine at a table like this, you have six people you can talk to very easily—one on either side of you and four across. With a big round table, you have to shout, but with this kind of setup, you can speak to almost everyone.



In Love with Lace

ANYTHING CAN BE INSPIRING!
I OFTEN ASK A BRIDE TO SEND
ME A SWATCH OF FABRIC OR LACE
FROM HER GOWN TO HELP ME
DESIGN THE TEXTURE OF THE
ICING WHEN I PREPARE A
SKETCH FOR HER CAKE.





AT A SIMPLE OUTDOOR WEDDING, THE SUN WAS SHINING, THE BRIDE WAS BEAUTIFUL, AND PALE BLUE WAS THE ORDER OF THE DAY.

The young bride, who had exquisite taste, adored the lace on her strapless gown and liked the idea of having it as the detail on the wedding cake. Lace is beautiful, and when it's done in buttercream, it translates into a beautiful finish on the cake. (Yes, these details are buttercream on buttercream, so people can actually eat it.) And since pale blue was one of the themes of the party—the bridesmaids all wore that shade—we chose it as the border on the cake. Blue and white has a lovely feeling to it, doesn't it? It's a very simple but very elegant look. It's not overdone.

As you can see, the little take-home gifts were also deliciously unpretentious. Everything came together in this wedding, from gown to cake to giveaways—and how nice that Mother Nature provided the matching blue sky.

Left to right: After the ceremony, guests took their places at tables set up outside. Lacy vines and flowers decorate the four-tiered cake with small bouquets of white sugar roses and rosebuds. A bouquet of deep pink roses looks fresh and appealing. Iced cookies wrapped in cellophane and tied with a blue ribbon carried out the color scheme.