

## **Plus-Size Wedding Gowns**

Your wedding day, no matter how far away it might be, should be one of the happiest days of your life. Hopefully you'll be showing children and grandchildren your photos for decades; you the blushing bride, smiling and oozing effortless beauty, standing proud next to your husband. You'll recount how all eyes were on you, how you felt like a princess, how much everyone complimented your stunning dress...

Ah The Dress of all dresses. If we're being honest ladies... this outfit, the one that you'll only ever wear once in your life, is probably the one thing that'll cause you the most stress, especially if you're a curvaceous, plus-size lady. You want beauty, style, elegance... you definitely don't want to look like a giant snowball!

Speaking with specialists in the industry meant we were able to find out exactly how plus-size brides to be were catered for in the UK. Many said that standard bridal wear stores ignored plus-size women altogether; only going up to a size 16 on the rail. One business woman even commented how some places would ask the larger ladies to just hold up a much smaller dress against their bodies to decide which dress they most liked!

It's no wonder that over recent years more and more plus-size bridal wear companies are popping up. After speaking to more than 30 UK retailers we'd like to announce our personal favourite. As always we judge these companies on a variety of criteria including availability, style, size, website and customer service.

The company that came out top: Heavenly Bodies, whose strap line reads "Where every body is beautiful". Their fantastic website initially impressed us. Browse through a wide range of bridal gowns, all showing front, back and detail images of each dress. We also love that Heavenly Bodies use plus-size models in their photos! Hoorah!

Specialising in sizes 16-34, Heavenly Bodies say *"Most High Street stores will sell you a larger size, but it is highly unlikely that they will have a range of dresses for you to try on in the larger sizes... At Heavenly Bodies Bridal we think that you deserve the opportunity to make your choice based on having tried on a wide variety of dresses."*

This brings us onto the store itself. Based in Catford London Heavenly Bodies works on appointment only consultations, ensuring each customer receives the time and service they deserve when choosing their wedding gown. You get one-to-one attention from the Heavenly Bodies team, plus privacy to try on as many

dresses as you desire. They will also cater for any alterations you may need before your big day!

Heavenly Bodies also scores highly on value for money, their collection ranges from £400-£1000 per dress! Leaving you with some spare cash to spend when visiting London.

Lastly if all of the above hasn't quite convinced you Heavenly Bodies is the right choice have a read of these testimonials from newly married plus-size brides all having chosen a gown from the Heavenly Bodies collection.

*"I just wanted to let you know that we had a wonderful wedding day... The dress looked amazing! Thank you for making my dress buying experience so personal and stress free." **Clare***

*"Firstly I would like to thank you for a wonderful day yesterday, you made me feel relaxed, comfortable and most of all a bride!" **Lucy N***

*"Can I just thank you for a lovely day at your wonderful studio last week. The time flew by I hadn't realised how long we had been there when we left, nearly 3 hours!! I have been to so many bridal shops all over Kent and London and have never had such a wonderful experience." **Rose Scoones***

All in all we feel that Heavenly Bodies is everything plus-size bridal wear should be. They are undoubtedly professionals and will strive to meet your every need... how blissfully refreshing.