



GEMMA  
SARGENT  
BESPOKE  
BRIDAL



BRIDAL  
ALTERATIONS  
PRICE GUIDE  
2025

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## **FOREWARD**

With over 15 years' industry experience, Gemma Sargent is an expert in designing, making, altering and re-styling bridal gowns. She offers a service that is second to none and has the ability to perform complex changes to your dress that you perhaps never even imagined would be possible. From simple adjustments to the fit of your dress to completely re-styling to transform it into the dress of your dreams, Gemma provides a comprehensive range of services to suit your needs and prides herself in doing everything possible to guarantee that you are delighted with the final outcome.

Gemma understands that your wedding day is one of the most special and memorable days of your life and that your bridal gown plays a crucial part in this and is of the utmost of importance to you and your confidence on your big day. No matter the style or design of your dress, how big or small the alterations you require, she will ensure that your gown is adjusted to perfection, working to provide you with options that are both appropriate and respectful to the original garment design and its construction. Gemma also understands that the process of having your dress fitted can sometimes seem and feel a little daunting and so, with that in mind, private one-to-one fittings are provided from the studio to ensure that your experience is relaxed, professional and enjoyable. You are also more than welcome to bring along a few guests with you to your appointments if you would like to.

## **INTRODUCTION TO BRIDAL ALTERATIONS**

Bridal gown alterations necessitate a great deal of expertise and experience in fitting, sewing and design due to the often complex and detailed construction of bridal gowns themselves. Each bridal dress requires an expert eye with ability to assess how best it should be fitted to the given individual and tailored to achieve the perfect fit whilst preserving the integrity of its design and construction. Additionally, each dress presents its own unique challenges with delicate fabrics and complex embellishments to name just a few. Furthermore, each bride has their own unique form and their own unique expectation of how they wish their dress to fit and feel on their big day; both of which must be carefully considered and respected when determining the best way to proceed with each individual bridal alteration journey. At every stage of fitting effective communication between fitter and bride is key to ensure that all expectations are met and the desired outcome achieved – a perfect fit.

## **UNDERSTANDING BRIDAL ALTERATION COSTS**

The aforementioned is inevitably why bridal alteration costs can be considerable and are higher than those often associated with the tailoring of most everyday-wear garments. The exact cost for any given bridal alterations order will be largely dependent on the dress/garment itself (its construction, detailing, fabric etc.), the number of alterations needing to be made, the complexity of the work involved and the time needed to perform the adjustments. For example, dresses comprising multiple layers, extensive corsetry, lace hems and extensive beading will incur high alteration costs due to the additional time needed to complete the alterations.

After purchasing your bridal gown, you may be eager at this early stage to determine an exact cost for your bridal alterations to help with wedding budget planning. However, all wedding dresses are different, as can be the alterations and the individual bride's requirements. As such, whilst we are more than happy to initially advise over email, as best we can, we are unable to provide an accurate quote until we have seen your dress in person, discussed things with you, determined the exact nature of the alterations and assessed exactly what will be involved in completing the adjustments for you. With this in mind, we advise that you contact the studio as soon as you have purchased your dress to book a consultation. This initial consultation is free of charge and you will be given a tailored quote for your bridal alterations. You are under no obligation to proceed with your order at this stage.

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## BRIDAL ALTERATIONS PRICE GUIDE 2025

Our prices are calculated based on an hourly studio rate intended to cover all business overheads and to ensure that a fair wage is paid and representative of the quality of service, level of skill and expertise received throughout the process. With this in mind, we do not offer a cap on bridal alterations – to do so would be unethical and promote exploitative work practices. Each order is priced individually based on the exact nature of the work involved and any related materials that may be required.

The prices detailed below are given as a guide for bridal alteration labour costs and are inclusive of administrative time, fitting time and sewing time. Please note that all prices indicated are exclusive of material and notion costs. Please also note that for orders exceeding £350.00 a complimentary dress steaming is provided upon completion of your order.

### BRIDAL HEMS\*

### Prices From

(All hems are adjusted with the existing hem finishes restored/replaced where appropriate to ensure that the integrity of the dress design is maintained once shortened)

Shorten plain straight/narrow dress with loose lining layer	£70.00
Shorten plain full/A-line dress with loose lining layer or bagged lining	£105.00
Shorten plain straight/narrow dress with bagged lining and horsehair braid	£80.00
Shorten plain full/A-line dress with bagged lining and horsehair braid	£120.00
Shorten circular chiffon/organza hem (narrow/double turned hem) with loose lining layer	£120.00
Shorten un-beaded lace hem with shallow scallop (straight/narrow dress)	£90.00
Shorten un-beaded lace hem with shallow scallop (wide/A-line dress)	£120.00
Shorten beaded lace hem with shallow scallop (straight/narrow dress)	£130.00
Shorten beaded lace hem with shallow scallop (wide/A-line dress)	£160.00
Shorten hem from waist seam (requires centre back fastening removal and replacement)	£180.00
Shorten additional lining layer	£35.00
Shorten petticoat layer	£15.00

### BUSTLES

### Prices From

(includes demonstration time)

Over-bustle	£25.00
Under-bustle	£25.00
Tabs add to train edge	£25.00
3-point bustle (over or under)	£65.00
6-point bustle (over or under)	£95.00

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**STRAPS**

**Prices From**

Shorten plain straps	£25.00
Shorten beaded/embellished straps	£50.00
Lift shoulders (plain, without sleeves)	£50.00
Lift shoulders (plain, with sleeves)	£75.00
Lift shoulders (beaded/embellished, without sleeves)	£70.00
Lift shoulders (beaded/embellished, with sleeves)	£95.00

**SLEEVES**

**Prices From**

Shorten sleeve hems, plain sleeves	£40.00
Shorten sleeve hems, beaded/embellished	£60.00
Shorten sleeve hems with cuffs	£80.00
Suppress sleeves, plain sleeves	£40.00
Suppress sleeves, beaded/embellished/fastenings	£80.00
Create and add gussets to underarms (to facilitate increased movement)	£80.00

**NECKLINES**

**Prices From**

Re-shape neckline, basic re-shape, bagged plain fabric	£50.00
Re-shape neckline, basic re-shape, bagged with embellishment/boning	£80.00
Re-shape neckline, extensive re-shape, bagged plain fabric	£80.00
Re-shape neckline, extensive re-shape, bagged with embellishment/boning	£120.00

**BODICES\*\***

**Prices From**

Suppress/take-in plain darts (1 pair)	£30.00
Suppress/take-in side seams/bust seams/create bust dart, plain fabric dress***	£40.00
Suppress/take-in side seams/bust seams/create bust dart, plain fabric dress with lining***	£60.00
Suppress/take-in side seams/bust seams/create bust dart, plain fabric dress with lining and boning***	£75.00
Suppress/take-in side seams/bust seams/create bust dart, embellished dress (E.g., with beading/lace) requiring removal and replacement of embellishments to permit alterations***	£95.00
Suppress/take-in over zip at centre back, plain dress	£95.00
Suppress/take-in over zip at centre back, plain dress with buttons and loops	£125.00
Suppress/take-in over zip at centre back, dress with embellishments	£125.00
Suppress/take-in over zip at centre back, dress with embellishments, buttons and loops	£145.00
Insert bust cups	£30.00

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**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Prices From**

Zip replacement, plain dress	£80.00
Zip replacement, plain dress with buttons and loops	£110.00
Zip replacement, embellished dress	£110.00
Zip replacement, embellished dress with buttons and loops	£130.00
Create lace up/corset style back and add to dress to replace existing fastenings	£120.00
Create spaghetti/straight/plain style straps and add to dress	£50.00
Create and add custom style straps/sleeves and add to dress (E.g., Bardot style straps/sleeves)	£95.00
Add boning (2 pieces) E.g., to side seams	£25.00
Remove boning (2 pieces)	£15.00
Remove bust cups	£15.00
Add existing sash/belt to dress	£40.00
Add hook and eye/button	£3.00
Create fabric covered buttons (each)	£3.00
Secure loose beading/add beading	£40.00/hour
Add appliques/lace	£40.00/hour
Dress Steaming	£25.00

**ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE**

**Prices From**

Bridal Dress Bag, breathable with gusset and carry strap	£15.00
Dress Bag, PVC, full length with gusset	£12.50
Jupon Underskirts:	
- 133 (A-line, single hoop)	£60.00
- 116 (A-line, double hoop)	£65.00
- 167 (A-line, front split)	£105.00
- 190 (mermaid/fishtail)	£90.00

\* Based on shortening/levelling front skirt only and blending into existing train shape – please note that shortening and/or re-shaping the train/back skirt will require additional time and will thus incur higher alteration costs to facilitate.

\*\* On occasion it may be possible to “let-out” or up-size a dress (typically up to two dress sizes depending on the style and construction) however, this is dependent on the design, exact nature of the up-sizing required and the seam quality and seam allowance present. Please note that, due to the often delicate nature of bridal and evening wear fabric and the likelihood that up-sizing may expose needle marks and colour variances, we do not advise or encourage upsizing wherever possible. As such, prices for this type of bridal alteration work have not been included in this pricing guide and we would strongly advise that you contact the studio as soon as possible and make an appointment to discuss the nature of your alterations, their feasibility and likely costings.

\*\*\* Please note, that the prices indicated here are for bodice suppression only; i.e., from the over bust, bust and finishing at the waist line. Alterations which are considerable in nature and require the dress to be completely down-sized and thus the skirt adjusted too will require additional time and will thus incur higher alteration costs due to their complexity.

**Please email or call the studio directly to book an appointment and discuss your requirements with us and we will be more than happy to help and advise you:**

Email: [studio@gemmasargent.com](mailto:studio@gemmasargent.com)

Telephone: 07927 119 402