

**HOW ONE MAN TOOK AN AWKWARD SITUATION
AND MADE IT HILARIOUS AND PRACTICAL**



101 **USES FOR MY** **EX-WIFE'S** **WEDDING** **DRESS**

KEVIN COTTER
Author of the Famous Blog



DRESS USE #8:

FOOTREST

A preserved wedding dress still in its box makes a perfect footrest. There's still room for your remote control, plus, there is no need for a coaster under your beer. And no one nagging you to use one.



AFTER ONLY SIX YEARS OF COLLEGE, I WAS AWARDED A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN GENERAL BUSINESS. What set me apart from my fellow graduates was the emphasis in Spanish. With this highly specialized combination, I set my sights high and eventually landed my dream job. As you are now well aware, I'm a box salesman. Okay, technically I sell "cartons," which everyone knows is the correct term for a corrugated container. Not just that, I sell bags, tape, bubble wrap, labels, and more. I think this makes me a packaging expert. As painful as it was, I kept walking past that box in the closet trying to invite the pain, thinking that maybe having it hurt a whole lot all at once would make my recovery start sooner, like ripping off a Band-Aid. Unfortunately there is no quick and easy way to move on. I was going to have to let time heal my wounds, as the saying goes. That said, once I got used to having my ex-wife's wedding dress in the house, I began to really admire its packaging. My professional opinion is that this was one of the finest boxes I had ever seen. And I bet it cost far more than any box I ever sold. What a racket. First you pay for a high-priced gown, which you will wear exactly once. Then you have to pay a preservation specialist to put it in a special box, where it will do nothing but sit there, occupying precious shelf space for a lifetime.



DRESS USE #30:

ART CANVAS

When decorating, you might consider using a wedding dress as an art canvas. I really enjoy contemporary art, and a dress of this size certainly allowed me to express my creativity.



ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS I DID AFTER MY EX-WIFE'S DEPARTURE WASN'T TECHNICALLY DECORATING, BUT IT DID GO A LONG WAY TOWARD HELPING ME ASSERT MASTERSHIP OF MY DOMAIN. I took control of my space. I made a phone call. And changed my cable television service to DIRECTV. Complete with the NFL Ticket package. Because it was my first time switching over, the charge was waived, and the package would let me watch every football game, every week. That's right. All the football I could handle. All the time. Right there in the comfort of my newly decorated living room.



DRESS USE #77:

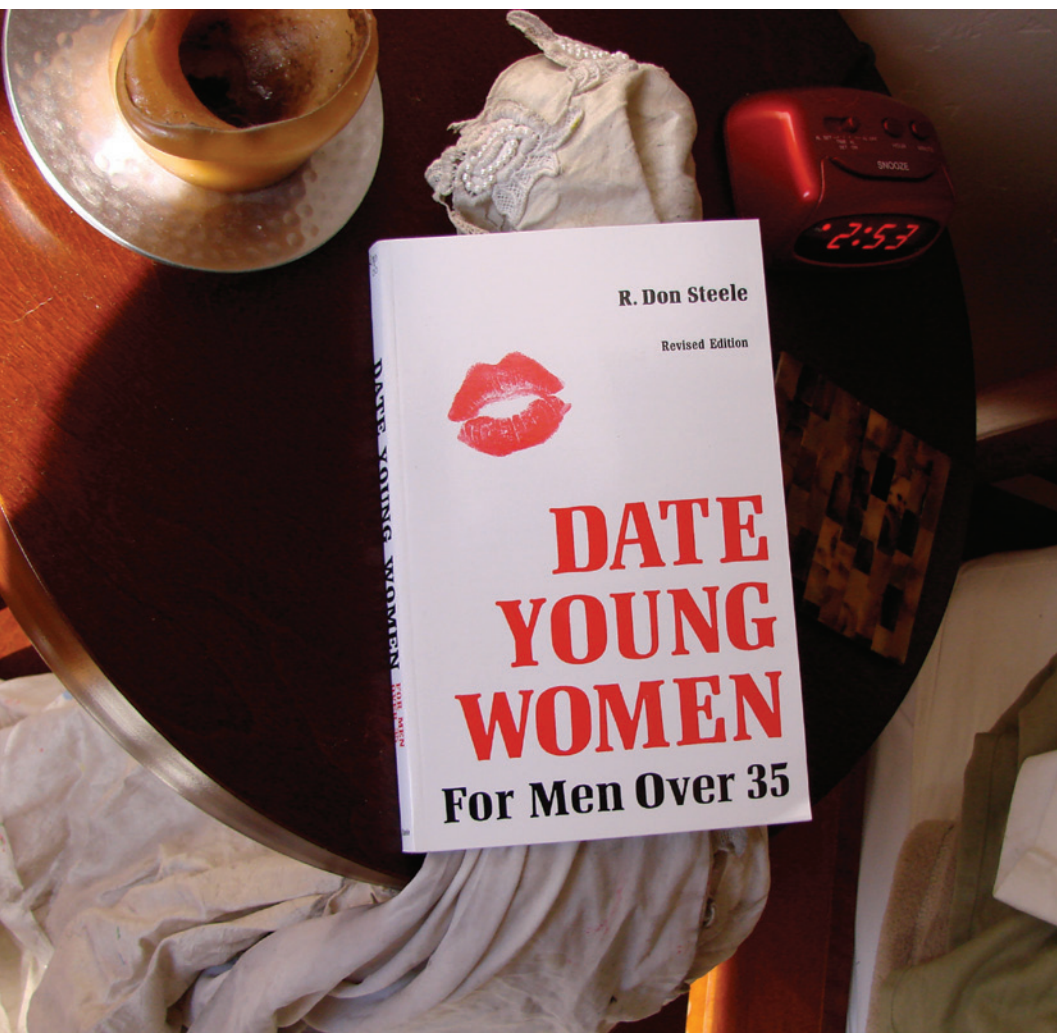
HALLOWEEN COSTUME



When I used my ex-wife's wedding dress as a Halloween costume, I was going for a caveman look. But everyone thought I looked like Moses. Either way, the good news is that it was large enough to double as a candy sack.

ALTHOUGH I GREW UP IN A VERY CATHOLIC FAMILY, I AM BLESSED TO HAVE PARENTS WHO WERE ABLE TO SUPPORT THEIR CHILDREN NO MATTER WHAT AND ARE THERE FOR US EVEN WHEN WE MAKE CHOICES THAT DIFFER FROM THEIR BELIEFS. After I discussed the annulment issue on my blog, a very nice lady suggested a book on the topic. My mother probably left skid marks in the driveway on her way to the bookstore that day. I know she would prefer that I went through with the process, and I even went so far as to get the necessary paperwork. But then I wonder, upon what grounds could I argue my case? I think anyone who saw me walking around Tucson with a giant wedding dress could rightly argue psychological incapacity.





DRESS USE #97:

BOOKMARK

When I found the perfect book to get me back in the game, I knew I needed a perfect bookmark. Guess what? A wedding dress makes a great page marker.



MY NEIGHBORHOOD CERTAINLY WASN'T GOING TO BE THE PLACE TO MEET THE LADIES. I live in the land of gray hair and small dogs. Retired people and fancy pups. A good safe place to raise kids, but seriously lacking in the single hot women I was hoping for. And as a box salesman, well, you can imagine how many available women I meet on an average workday. I'm not a bartender. I'm a paper man. That left me with Al Gore's Internet. I used to look down at people who used dating Web sites, thinking they must have issues. My sister Lisa mentioned that she thought it was a perfectly acceptable way for people to meet other people in this day and age. Since I respect her a lot, and she seemed to think it was a good idea, I decided to give it a shot. Besides, blue-haired grandmas and Chihuahuas are issues, aren't they?