



Personal shopper **Camilla Yonge** (above) helps bride-to-be **Jo de la Salle** (right), 27, find a dress for her spring wedding. 'I find dress shapes so confusing,' says Jo. 'I just want something flattering that suits the spring season and my venue.'



Halterneck £1,325, **skirt** £2,160, **sash** £180, and **brooch** £390; all **Monique Lhuillier** at **Browns Bride**

Princess

“THIS WOULD MAKE A REALLY DRAMATIC ENTRANCE AND MINIMISES THE WAIST, ESPECIALLY WITH A SASH”

1 THE CUT: PRINCESS

First, Camilla explains that there are seven wedding dress shapes: princess, ballerina, A line, empire, column, short and fishtail, which all suit different body types. Then it's off to Browns Bride in London to start browsing. Spotting a princess cut by Monique Lhuillier, Jo's straight into the changing room. 'This shape is bold and attention-grabbing,' says Camilla. 'It's also very forgiving; it makes short brides look taller, conceals wide hips and flattens tummies. A satin sash really minimises the waist.' **JO'S VIEW:** 'I feel so tall and elegant! I know I'd make a really dramatic entrance in this dress.' **PERFECT FOR:** Most body shapes, including fuller figures.

2 THE CUT: FISHTAIL

Next, it's off to Johanna Hehir, to try on the sexiest style of all – the fishtail. 'Often cut on the bias, this style is gorgeously figure-hugging until the knee,



Dress £2,850, and **sash** £150; both **Johanna Hehir**

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Fishtail

then flares out to create a thirnee-siren silhouette,' says Camilla. 'Emphasising the bottom and hips, it's a great way to accentuate curves.'

JO'S VIEW: 'Beautiful. I feel very glamorous, but could I dance in it? It feels quite restrictive.' **PERFECT FOR:** An hourglass figure.

3 THE CUT: BALLERINA

Jo tries on another Johanna Hehir dress, this time a ballerina cut. 'This shape gives a whimsical, fairytale look,' explains Camilla. 'Netting and tulle skirts in soft pastel colours look really graceful and cute beneath a satin bodice. But you do need a delicate frame to pull this off, and some height – petite brides can disappear under all the layers!'

JO'S VIEW: 'I feel like I'm in a fairytale. It would be lovely for a beach wedding.'

PERFECT FOR: Younger brides with a small waist and slim hips.

4 THE CUT: COLUMN

Next stop is London Brides, where Jo tries on a column dress by Victoria Jane. 'Slim-fitted, with vertical seams, these dresses are striking, sophisticated and formal,' explains Camilla.



Dress £1,500 **Johanna Hehir**

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Ballerina