



BLACK TIE DEFINED

What to know before you go. All formal invitations will specify the type of formal wear that is expected. When you receive an invitation the host will indicate their dress preference.

The following is a quick reference guide to help take the guesswork out of what is appropriate attire for any special occasion:

BLACK TIE

This means a basic tuxedo. A bow tie or formal long tie is acceptable. Your personal style comes through in the accessories you choose.

BLACK TIE PREFERRED

This is an indication that a tuxedo is preferred, but not required. The right choice in this situation is to opt for the tuxedo. Tailcoats would be overkill here.

BLACK TIE OPTIONAL

Optional means just that, the host is giving you the option to wear a tuxedo or a dress suit. The choice is yours, but why not live a little and take this opportunity to dress to impress.

BLACK TIE INVITED

You get to choose tuxedo or dress suit? This type of occasion welcomes but does not command a tuxedo.

CREATIVE BLACK TIE

Let your imagination and sense of style guide you. Be creative as the invitation states – pair your favorite blue jeans with a tuxedo shirt and jacket. Accessories, well let's just say the only limitations is your imagination.

SEMI-FORMAL

Any style tuxedo or dinner jacket is perfect for this type of event. Knowing your host will help guide you as to what to how formal "semi" is.

WHITE TIE

Ultra formal, full dress with white tie expected and nothing less will do.