

# you're married *now what?*

**W**ell, for starters, newlyweds, you could climb into a pumpkin-shaped carriage and ride off into the sunset for a lifetime of happily-ever-after. Or, as Tiffany & Co.'s new ad campaign recommends, "after the dance, after the cake, after today, after tomorrow" you might wallow in the timeless perfection of your four-carat princess-cut diamond ring. Or perhaps you'll heed the advice of author and "bride-psychologist" Allison Moir-Smith and find the nearest beach from where you can dissect the wedding, beginning with the question "Do you think your mom liked her nosegay?" (The answer, obviously, is no—your new mother-in-law would have preferred a tasteful orchid corsage, exactly like the one her exceedingly thoughtful daughter chose for her on *her* wedding day. Never mind.)

Forgive us for our lack of optimism but, as marvelously romantic as the above options might prove for a couple of days or even the full two-week honeymoon, once the confetti settles, reality inevitably crashes the wedding party. This isn't to say that you and your new spouse can expect to look at one other and suddenly wonder if you've made a god-awful mistake—no, we're referring to the sort of just-married reality that involves

*How to clean your dress.*

*Survive the next day.*

*Tackle the thank-you cards.*

*Assemble the photo album.*

*Combine two lives.*

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*Photographed by* **George Webber**