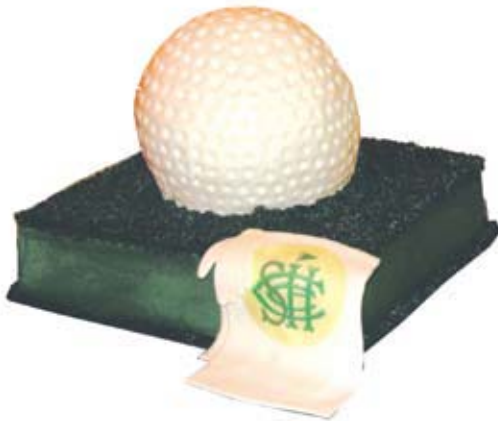


Grooms' cakes by Serendipity Bakery



Murray's favorite groom's cakes looks like a grilled cheese sandwich. She says that the groom didn't like grilled cheese until he met his bride.

Tip: For a bride to get the wedding cake of her dreams, she should meet with a baker at least six months in advance – further in advance if she is planning for the busy wedding time of spring or October. “When I set up a consultation, I suggest that the bride first look through magazines to get a feel for the cakes. This helps her to decide if she wants a simple cake or an ornate one,” say Seckinger.

“Brides are bringing pictures in more and more of the cakes they want because of the hundreds of Web sites featuring wedding cakes,” says Bell. He rarely creates an original design. “But some brides still just tell me to make it pretty,” says Bell.

Bakers typically meet with the bride and groom to review wedding cakes they have done and to sample wedding cake flavors.

At Sugarbakers, Murray says that she is careful not to influence the bride and groom with her personal preference, even though the bride and groom frequently ask for her opinion. “The cake has to be what the bride wants,” says Murray.



Sometimes a bride brings a picture of the exact cake that she wants Sugarbakers to make. “We’ve made cakes to look exactly like the cake in the picture and the bride has cried when she’s seen the cake,” says Murray. She adds, “When a bride sheds a tear when she sees her cake, that’s a good thing. It’s a tear of joy.” ■

