



Burlington Shoes manager Dwayne Edwards (c) and saleswoman show off fashionable pumps with removable bows. The shoes feature 4" heels and come in an array of 11 springtime colors.

## Higher Heels And Removable Bows

### Are Latest Fashions In Women's Footwear

By Audrey C. Lodato  
Post Staff Writer

Higher heels and removable bows are the latest fashion news in women's footwear, according to Dwayne Edwards, manager of Burlington Shoes in Outlet Square. Recently arrived from Atlanta, Edwards remarks that many shoe stores don't merchandise for high fashion, but instead feature styles that are a bit more traditional or conservative. However, he adds, Charlotte is right on top of fashion changes. "For a city of its size, it's a bit faster than other areas," he comments. He believes this is because many residents are from other places and "they're used to New York fashion."

The higher heels Edwards says are so fashionable are three to four inches. The conservative two-inch heel is the most popular height for pumps and career shoes. "With 55 percent of Charlotte's women working, two-inch heels are very popular here," he notes.

Shoes that come with their own removable bows prove quite versatile. A party shoe can be transformed into a pump suitable for the office the next morning by simply removing the bow.

Commenting that pumps are always in fashion, Edwards adds, "If you have them in 20 colors, you need 40." The season's fashion colors range from

shades of reds and pinks to lilac, blue, turquoise, yellow, and of course, the basics of black, white, and grey. "Yellow is big this spring," he points out. "Also pink...anything pastel."

Other good fashion footwear bets include ankle wraps (as the name suggests, a strap or tie wraps around the ankle), which are very fashionable with floral prints and light summery dresses; dressy thongs; and patent. "Patent has been fabulous," Edwards remarks.

In casual footwear, "It's a toss-up between canvas and leather," the shoe manager states. Casual shoes and sandals come in "every color of the rainbow" and a wide variety of heel styles.

For formal occasions, many women like to dye

their shoes to match their gowns. "Years ago, ladies preferred to dye their shoes," he recalls. "That's become very popular again." Shoes for dyeing can be of such fabrics as oeu de soie, crepe, or satin. At Edwards' store, "We dye them, with bags to match, to any shade."

Color-coordinated bags add just the right finishing touch to less formal occasions as well, and can be purchased in the same pretty pastel shades as this spring and summer's shoes. Another popular item mentioned by Edwards is the metal mesh bag. "They have been real popular," he notes.

Topping off that special look women want to achieve is one more accessory item, the hat. Very popular for spring and summer is the wide array

of straw styles. With such a selection to choose from, each woman is almost certain to find at least one that is "her."



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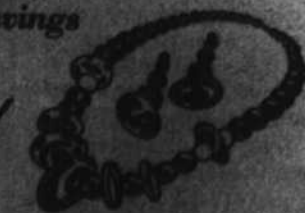
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