

Your 12-Month Wedding Planning Guide

Use this handy checklist to help you plan a wedding filled with wonderful, stress-free memories!

12+ months *before*

- Announce your engagement.
- Set a date for your wedding.
- Decide on budget and expense sharing.
- Identify your wedding style and color palette.
- Find a venue for your ceremony and reception, and reserve your date.
- Determine number of guests.
- Research and book your photographer and videographer.
- Consider hiring a wedding planner.
- Begin shopping for your wedding gown.
- Have engagement pictures taken.

10-12 months *before*

- Choose your wedding party.
- Book your DJ or reception band, and ceremony musician.
- Register for wedding gifts.
- Research airline, hotel and rental car reservations for out-of-town guests.

8-10 months *before*

- Select and order bridesmaids' gowns and groom's/groomsmen's attire.
- Taste a variety of wedding cakes and select a baker; place cake order and arrange for delivery.
- Book your florist.
- Book your caterer.
- Decide on food and beverage to be served at reception.
- Coordinate with vendors to incorporate your theme/style into all aspects of your wedding.
- Reserve rental items for ceremony and reception.
- Select music for ceremony and reception.
- Purchase wedding invitations, stationery, table and escort cards and thank-you notes.
- Purchase bridal accessories: jewelry, lingerie, etc.
- Discuss the type of honeymoon you want, and research potential destinations.

6-8 months *before*

- Purchase your wedding rings. Order engraving.
- Negotiate rates and book a block of hotel rooms for out-of-town guests.
- Arrange wedding-night accommodations for the two of you.
- Send save-the-date announcements.
- Select ceremony readings and write personal vows.
- Ask relatives and friends to help at wedding and reception.

4-6 months *before*

- Determine order of wedding day events.
- Have programs printed for the ceremony.
- Book rehearsal dinner venue.
- Book a stylist for your wedding day hair and makeup.
- Update or add items to your bridal registry, if needed.
- Purchase wedding shoes; begin breaking them in.
- Finalize honeymoon plans.

2-4 months *before*

- Purchase gifts for all wedding party members and your parents.
- Arrange transportation for bride and groom from the ceremony site to the reception.
- Purchase ceremony accessories (unity candle, guest book, ring pillow, etc.).
- Shop for wedding favors.
- Create hotel information cards and maps to include with wedding invitations.
- Start addressing envelopes.

6-8 weeks *before*

- Go to final gown fitting; arrange for pickup or delivery.
- Mail wedding invitations.
- Get your marriage license.
- Send rehearsal dinner invitations.
- Write thank-you notes as you receive gifts.
- Purchase a gift for your spouse-to-be.

4-6 weeks *before*

- Confirm floral order and arrange for delivery times.
- Give photographer and videographer your "must have" shot list.
- Arrange for transportation to and from the airport.
- Create welcome bags for out-of-town guests.
- Finalize honeymoon plans.

2-4 weeks *before*

- Contact guests who have not RSVP'd.
- Submit final guest count to the caterer.
- Review final details and timetables with all vendors.

1 week *before*

- Pick up your wedding dress.
- Write and mail a note to both sets of parents, thanking them for their love and support.
- Put together wedding day emergency kit (aspirin, bobby pins, safety pins, mints, etc.).
- Begin packing for the honeymoon.

1 day *before*

- Get a manicure and pedicure.
- Pack things to take to the wedding site.
- Give your marriage license to your officiant now so you don't have to worry about it in the morning.
- Rehearse the wedding and attend the rehearsal dinner.
- Give attendants their gifts at the rehearsal dinner.
- Find a quiet moment to exchange wedding gifts with your fiancé.

Wedding Day

- Eat a good breakfast.
- Get your hair and makeup done.
- Hand off your rings to someone you trust and make sure they arrive at the ceremony safely.
- Relax and enjoy your day!