

Bride's Wedding Checklist

12 Months Out or more...

- Find your "Soul Mate" and fall in love!
- One asks, the other says yes, and you both agree to get married!
- Read "Your Dream Wedding" or otherwise educate yourselves
- Tell the families, both of them
- Get a preliminary budget
- Pick an event date. Buy a Month-At-A-Glance calendar
- Select a consultant if you feel that you need one
- Select an Officiant, Minister, Clergyman/woman
- Prepare a Preliminary Guest List
- Select a ceremony location
- Select a reception location Design your menu
- Select an outside Caterer if your situation calls for it
- Select a Professional Photographer
- Select a Professional Videographer
- Entertainment Ceremony Music Reception Music M/C
- Buy a Wedding Gown Style Meeting Accessories
- Select Bridesmaids
- Bridesmaids Dresses Style meeting Accessories
- Select a Florist Ceremony Flowers Reception Flowers
 - Personal Flowers – Bride, Bridesmaids, Groom, Groomsmen, Family etc
- Select a Printer Invitations Thank You Notes
- Decide on Wedding Favors to be purchased or made
- Select a Bakery Tasting Anniversary Cake
 - Groom's Cake (Optional)
- Select a Makeup Artist / Hair Stylist for Wedding Day
- Select a Limousine Service Transportation Planning
- Establish a Bridal Registry
- Start planning your honeymoon Select a Travel Agent or Service
- Select Party Rental and contract all rental needs
- Shop for Engagement and Wedding Rings if needed
- Determine Legal Requirements for Marriage in your State and County
- Applications for Passports if needed

Six Months out, or more...

- "Pulse check" on all family and participating friends
- Fine tune your Guest List and confirm their Addresses
- Book Accommodations for out-of-town Guests
- Create Itinerary and Timeline for the Ceremony
- Create Itinerary and Timeline for Reception
- Confirm Orders for Invitations and Thank You Notes, etc.
- Schedule Rehearsal Plan Rehearsal Dinner and location
- Make reservations for Honeymoon Airlines Hotels
- Finalize Photo Request List with Photographer
 - Set a date with Photographer for Engagement Photo Session
- Finalize Music List for Ceremony with DJ or Ensemble
- Finalize Play List and Non-Play List for Reception with DJ or Band
- Finalize all Menus and Catering details
- Start working on any Thank You Speeches, Toasts and Acknowledgements

Two Months out, or more...

- Confirm Guest Addresses and Mail Invitations, Include Maps
- Finalize Guest List and determine Seating Arrangements for Reception
- Confirm Ceremony details with Officiant
- Confirm details with Ceremony Music Resource
- Confirm details with Reception Entertainment Resource
- Confirm details with Photographer and attend Engagement Photo Session
- Confirm details with Limousine Service
- Confirm all Wedding Accessories, including Cake Knife and Server, Candles, Guest Book,
- Confirm Honeymoon plans and arrangements.
- Finalize Bridal Registry
- Schedule test run with your Hair Stylist and Makeup Artist
- Confirm the Formal Wear rental orders for Groom and Groomsmen
- Confirm all Rental needs and orders
- Wedding Gown – final fitting session and alterations
- Bridesmaids' Dresses – fitting sessions and final alterations
- Select Thank You Gifts for both sets of Parents
- Select Gifts for Bridesmaids, Flower Girl(s), etc. and the Groom
- Photography - Engagement Photo Session
- Follow up on "out-of-town" guest accommodations and reservations

- Schedule Hair Stylist / Makeup Session for the day of the wedding
- Determine Wardrobe for all peripheral events – Rehearsal Dinner, Showers, Bachelorette Party, Luncheon, Trousseau, etc.
- Check Visas and Passports if you are traveling on your honeymoon

One Month, and counting...

- Get the Rings!!!
- Get Blood Tests and Medical Tests if needed
- Apply for your Marriage License
- Send in your Wedding Announcement to local newspaper
- Confirm Rehearsal and Rehearsal Dinner plans and arrangements
- Confirm that Rehearsal Attendees know the plan
- Pick up Wedding Dress
- Review Music Selections for Ceremony and Reception and update if needed
- Start packing for your Honeymoon
- If relocating, finalize plans for your move(s)
- Recheck all final plans with all vendors
- Review Guest Responses and Head Count
- Planning Meeting with all participants to review details
- Review Accommodations for out-of-town Guests
- Review Address change needs and make arrangements
- Estimate monthly bills and make advance payments if needed

One Week, and counting...

- Contact all Guests who have not RSVP'd
- Final Guest Count to Caterer and confirm all details for Reception
- Final Guest Count to Bakery, Rental Company, etc.
- Verify all Formal Wear plans
- Remind all participants of the Rehearsal and Wedding plans
- Prepare Wedding Gown (steam press) and Accessories for transporting
- Pack for your Honeymoon
- Have a Pedicure and Manicure (and Groom gets a Haircut)
- Finalize Speeches, Toasts and Acknowledgements
- Prepare any final checks for vendors and facilities
- Make sure that Groomsmen / Ushers are aware of their duties
- Make sure someone is assigned to move gifts to the proper location

The Day Before The Wedding...

- Check all personal preparations for the Wedding day and Honeymoon
- Check on all gifts to be given at the Rehearsal Dinner
- Review any last minute things that need attention
- Delegate any things that you can to other people to follow up for you
- Attend Rehearsal and Rehearsal Dinner
- Confirm arrival of Photographer and Videographer
- Get a good night sleep

The Wedding Day...

- Eat a good breakfast
- Hair and Makeup Session
- Bridesmaids arrive and join in festivities, Hair, Makeup, etc.
- Photographer takes Preparation Photos
- Get Dressed and head for the Ceremony in Limousine
- Enjoy your day!

Groom's Wedding Checklist

12 Months Out or more...

- Find your "Soul Mate" and fall in love!
- One asks, the other says yes, and you both agree to get married!
- Read "Your Dream Wedding" or otherwise educate yourself
- Meet with both sets of Parents and break the good news
- Get a preliminary budget
- Pick an event date with your fiancé
- Decide in advance to participate in any aspects that you can
- If you haven't already, head for the Ring Store with your fiancé'
- Attend the Florist meeting and commit to the purchase of the Bouquet
- Select your Groomsmen
- Select you Officiant with your fiancé
- Assist in selection of Ceremony and Reception location
- Assist in selection of Photographer, Videographer, and Entertainment sources, along with other vendors if your fiancé requires your input
- Commit to payment for Bride's Bouquet
- Select a Tuxedo shop for the Men's Formal Wear rentals
- Attend the Bakery meeting with your fiancé for cake taste testing
- Assist in the compilation of your Reception's Guest List
- Assist in the selection of a Limousine Company
- Start planning your Honeymoon
- Determine Legal Requirements for Marriage in your State
- Apply for Passports and Visas if needed

Six Months out or more...

- "Pulse check" on all family members and participating fiends
- Assist in fine-tuning the Guest List
- Assist in Booking of Accommodations for out-of-town Guests
- Make Reservations for Honeymoon Airlines Hotels
- Finalize Photo Request List with Photographer
 - Set a date with the Photographer for Engagement Photo Session
- Finalize Play List and Non-Play List for Reception with DJ or Band
- Finalize all Menus and Catering details
- Buy Thank You Gifts with Bride for both sets of Parents
- Shop for Groomsmen's gifts and Ring Bearer Gifts
- Start working on any Thank You Speeches, Toasts and Acknowledgements

Two Months out or more...

- Assist Bride with all preparations, including Invitations, Guest List, Ceremony and Reception Music, Officiant and Ceremony, Photographer, Limousine Company, etc.
- Confirm the Formal Wear rental orders for Groom, Groomsmen, Ring Bearer
- Photography - Engagement Photo Session
- Follow up on "out-of-town" Guest Accommodations and Reservations
- Check Visas and Passports if you are traveling on your Honeymoon
- Buy your Bride and the Groomsmen and Ring Bearer Gifts
- Buy your Parent-In-Laws a Gift
- Confirm orders for Formal Wear for Groom, Groomsmen and Ring Bearer

One Month out or more...

- Secure the Rings!
- Get Blood Tests and Medical Tests if needed
- Apply for your Marriage License
- Confirm Rehearsal and Rehearsal Dinner plans and arrangements
- Confirm that Rehearsal Attendees know the plan
- Start packing for your Honeymoon
- If relocating, finalize plans for your move
- Planning Meeting with all participants to review details
- Review Accommodations for out-of-town Guests
- Review Address change needs and make arrangements
- Estimate monthly bills and make advance payments if needed

One Week, and counting...

- Contact Guests who have not RSVP'd
- Verify Formal Wear from Tuxedo Rental
- Remind all participants of the Rehearsal and Wedding Plans
- Pack for Honeymoon
- Get a Hair Cut
- Finalize Speeches, Toasts and Acknowledgements
- Prepare any final checks for vendors and facilities
- Make sure that Groomsmen and Ushers are aware of their duties
- Make sure someone is assigned to move gifts to the proper location

The Day Before the Wedding

- Check all personal preparations for Wedding Day and Honeymoon
- Check all gifts to be given at the Rehearsal Dinner
- Make sure all Formal Wear – Tuxes are picked up
- Review any last minute things that need attention
- Attend Rehearsal and Rehearsal Dinner
- Get a good night sleep

The Wedding Day

- Eat a good breakfast
- Get dressed for the occasion
- Meet with the Best Man and start your day
- Don't forget the RINGS!
- Be on time!
- Enjoy your day!

Best Man's Checklist

From Six Months Prior or more, to the Wedding Day

- Educate yourself to the traditions of the Best Man concept
- Assist in getting Groomsmen, Ushers and Ring Bearer to Tux Shop
- Compose a Best Man's Toast and Speech for the Reception
- Assist in researching options for Honeymoon plans
- Select a Wedding Gift for the Bride and Groom
- Select a Personal Gift for the Groom
- Host the Bachelor Party for the Groom
- Coordinate Groomsmen and Ushers on Wedding Day
- Assist the Groom in Wedding Day preparations
- Assist in Groom's clothes selection and packing for Honeymoon
- Be a Moral Support the days prior to the Wedding and on the Wedding Day
- Hold the Ring(s) on the Wedding Day until the Ceremony
- Make sure that the Wedding License is secure and at the Ceremony
- Hold and give out final payments to Vendors
- Have some extra cash on hand, and a credit card
- Check that the Groom has Wedding Ring, Travel Tickets, Passport, Keys, Money/Travelers Checks, Checkbook, Credit Card
- Have spare Toothbrush and Toothpaste, Hair Brush, Hair Gel, Toothpicks, Deodorant, Eye Wash, Breath Mints, Aspirin, Band Aids, etc.
- Remember the gifts and the Reception Toast/Speech
- Drive the Groom to the Ceremony
- Stand with Groom at the Altar at the right time, or lead the Groomsmen
- Assist in getting Groomsmen to the Reception
- Give the Opening Toast at the Reception
- Alert Groomsmen as to any points in the Itinerary they need to participate in
- Keep track of the Event Timetable making sure everything is on time or close
- Make sure Wedding Gifts are transported to the proper destination
- Drive the Bride and Groom to their Wedding Night Hotel
- Assist with accommodations for vehicles left behind on Honeymoon
- Congratulate yourself on a job well done!

Maid / Matron of Honor's Checklist

From Six Months Prior, to the Wedding Day

- Educate yourself to the traditions of the Maid / Matron Of Honor concept
- Assist in getting Bridesmaids and Fitted for Dresses and Accessories
- Compose a Toast / Speech for the Reception if needed
- Assist in researching options for Honeymoon plans
- Offer to help the Bride with any tasks in preparation for the Wedding Day
- Select a Wedding Gift for the Bride and Groom
- Select a Personal Gift for the Bride
- Host / Co-Host the Bridal Shower
- Host / Co-Host the Bachelorette Party or Bride's Luncheon
- Assist in Bride's clothes selection and packing for Honeymoon
- Assist the Bride in Wedding Day preparations
- Assist in the Bridesmaids' preparations
- Act as Liaison between the Bride and everyone else when needed
- Be a Moral Support the days prior to the Wedding and on the Wedding Day
- Hold the Groom's Ring before the Ceremony
- Have spare Toothbrush and Toothpaste, Hair Brush, Blow Dryer, Hair Gel or Spray, Deodorant, Eye Wash, Breath Mints, Aspirin, & Personal Items
- Provide Transportation to Ceremony and Reception, if needed
- Organize the Bridesmaids to walk to the Altar, and follow
- Give the Second Toast at the Reception
- Alert Bridesmaids as to any points in the Itinerary they need to participate in
- Keep track of the Event Timetable making sure everything is on time or close
- Make sure that the Cake Table has Knife, Server, Plate and Napkins for the Cake Cutting
- Follow up on articles at the Reception – Cake Topper, Knife and Server, Bride's Bouquet, Purse, Toasting Glasses, etc.
- Assist Bride in changing out of her Wedding Gown and into Travel Clothes
- Organize the Wedding Couple's Exit from the – Bubbles, Rice, etc.
- See the Wedded Couple off, leaving the Reception
- Congratulate yourself on a job well done!

Bride's Parents Checklist

- Wedding Gown, Headpiece & Accessories
- Bridesmaid Bouquets
- Grandmother Corsages
- Ceremony/Reception Flowers
- Altar Baskets/Arches
- Canopy/Carpet
- Canopy/Carpet
- Kneeling Bench/Candelabras
- Rented Items for Wedding
- Rented Items for Reception
- Invitations/Announcements
- Wedding Programs
- Napkins/Matches/Printed Items
- Church Fee
- Musician/Soloist
- Church Janitor
- Reception Hall Fee
- Catered Reception/Professional Services
- Wedding Photography
- Videography
- Orchestra/Band/DJ
- Wedding Cake
- Wedding Favors
- Rice Bags, if allowed
- Wedding Breakfast
- Bridal Brunch
- Father of Bride Formal Wear

Special Note:

This list is designed for the purpose of conveying traditional responsibilities. In recent years trends have changed, and some of these items may not even be needed. There also may be more to add to the list. Some of the items may be part of a larger package that encompasses many needs. The list will be helpful to see what is packaged and what may need to be supplemented. Also bear in mind that this is a guide only, and each couple and associated families must determine how they will handle the expenses. Hence this list should not be looked upon as simply the obligatory expense schedule, but a collection of ideas that you may not want to overlook. From here, a series of discussions will follow during which the actual responsibilities will be determined. In this age, there is no right or wrong or concrete obligation, other than everyone trying to assist as best they can to help the Bride and Groom achieve their Dream Wedding!

Groom's Parents Checklist

- Groom's Cake
- Host the Rehearsal Dinner
- Father of Groom Formal Wear
- Boutonnieres for the Groom, best man, Groomsmen and fathers
- Bride's Bouquet, Bride's Going-Away Corsage, Corsages for Mothers and Grandmothers
- Marriage license
- Minister's fee
- Accommodations for Groomsmen, if required
- Accommodations for Groom's Parents (yourselves), if required
- Alcohol at the reception

Special Note:

This list is designed for the purpose of conveying traditional responsibilities. In recent years trends have changed, and some of these items may not even be needed. There also may be more to add to the list. The Groom in many cases pays for the Bride's Bouquet, personally. The Groom also usually pays for the Marriage License. The Flowers may be a part of a total package paid for by the Bride's Parents. Some of the items may be part of a larger package that encompasses many needs. The list will be helpful to see what is packaged and what may need to be supplemented. Also bear in mind that this is a guide only, and each couple and associated families must determine how they will handle the expenses. Hence this list should not be looked upon as simply the obligatory expense schedule, but a collection of ideas that you may not want to overlook. The items on this list function more as suggestions than rules. From here, a series of discussions will follow during which the actual responsibilities will be determined. In this age, there is no right or wrong or concrete obligation, other than everyone trying to assist as best they can to help the Bride and Groom achieve their Dream Wedding!