

Wedding Plan Time Table

Careful planning will enable you to truly enjoy every moment of your wedding day. Arrangements for a large formal wedding ideally begin at least 8 to 12 months in advance. However, many beautiful weddings are put together in considerably less time. Follow a timetable, read articles in this guide, and allow your wedding professionals to assist you. It can be much more fun when you share the planning with your fiancé, your families, and your attendants.

Twelve months

- _____ Begin interviewing potential reception locations
- _____ Select a wedding coordinator

Six to twelve months

- _____ Create a budget and discuss sharing of expenses

What type of wedding? Formal, semi-formal or informal?

- _____ Choose location of ceremony
- _____ Compile combined family's guest list
- _____ Contract your reception location
- _____ Interview caterers, sample foods, decide on menu

Plan all details of reception

- _____ Shop and select gown, veil and accessories
- _____ Select attendants' apparel
- _____ Interview and select a photographer
- _____ Interview and select a florist
- _____ Schedule engagement photo session
- _____ Interview and select a videographer
- _____ Select ceremony musicians and music Select type of music for reception
- _____ Consult your travel agent about honeymoon plans

Four to six months

- _____ Select and order men's formal wear
- _____ Order invitations, personal stationery and wedding programs.
- _____ Professionally prepare and print map (include in invitation)
- _____ Secure reservations for honeymoon
- _____ Shop for wedding rings
- _____ Register gift preferences with one or more bridal registries
- _____ Decide on new living arrangement
- _____ Begin to plan home decorating, colors, etc.
- _____ Schedule physical exams and update immunizations
- _____ Reserve limousine, carriage, trolley or coach transportation
- _____ Select make-up artist
- _____ Reserve hotel rooms for out-of-town guests

Two to four month

- _____ Reserve rental items; candelabra, arches, linens, etc.
- _____ Send local newspaper wedding announcement! Photograph
- _____ Shop for trousseau wardrobe for honeymoon. Parties
- _____ Arrange professional addressing of invitations Plan attendants gifts; gifts for each other
- _____ Plan attendants 'gifts: gifts for each other
- _____ Review floral and decorating arrangements and finalize
- _____ Experiment with hairstyles and make-up with veil/ hat
- _____ Buy all wedding party shoes at the same time, send to dyer
- _____ Sample and order wedding and groom's cakes

One to two months

- _____ Mail invitations four to six weeks before wedding
- _____ Send activity information to out-of-town guests from Convention Bureau and/or local Chamber of Commerce
- _____ Confirm all professional services in writing Final gown fitting
- _____ Final attendants' fitting
- _____ Make reservations for rehearsal dinner
- _____ Schedule bridal portrait (remember make-up artist)
- _____ Arrange ice sculptures
- _____ Make reservations for bridesmaid's brunch/ luncheon
- _____ Confirm honeymoon reservations, select luggage
- _____ Select reception decorations; balloons, candies, etc.
- _____ Select ceremony accessories; unity candle, ring pillow, etc.
- _____ Secure marriage license.
- _____ Schedule appointments for hair stylist, facial, massage, and pedicure and manicure, make-up artist

Two weeks

- _____ Record gifts as you receive them; write thank you notes invite wedding party and guests to rehearsal dinner
- _____ Confirm time and wedding rehearsal schedule with everyone
- _____ Review reception seating;
- _____ Order place cards from calligrapher
- _____ Confirm wedding party transportation and arrival times
- _____ Confirm out of town guests lodging with reserved hotels
- _____ Schedule caterer for gift opening party

_____ Arrange for professional gown and bouquet preservation

_____ Arrange name/address changes on bank account, credit cards, driver's license, social security and utilities

_____ Move your personal and mutual belongings to new home

One to two weeks

_____ Pick up wedding rings, check sizes and engravings

_____ Final consultations, wedding consultant, florist, musicians, photograph, video, decorators, Rental Company, etc.

_____ Final guest count to reception facility and caterer

_____ Remind men to pick up formal wear/ shoes and check for fit

_____ Complete a wedding day schedule, including schedule from photographer, give everyone a copy at rehearsal dinner

_____ Relax the day before; keep personal appointments, finish honeymoon packing. Your planning is complete. Your day will be wonderful!