

Wedding planning checklist

12 MONTHS BEFORE

- Develop a budget
- Select a wedding date
- Select and book ceremony site
- Select and book reception site
- Select and order wedding dress
- Draft guest list
- Register for gifts
- Take engagement photos
- Announce engagement
- Throw an engagement party
- Select the wedding party
- Order passports, visas or birth certificates if needed for honeymoon or marriage license
- Hire a Wedding Planner

10 MONTHS BEFORE

- Select and book officiant
- Select and book caterer
- Select and book bakery
- Select and book florist
- Select and book photographer
- Select and book videographer
- Select and book stationer/designer
- Select and book music for ceremony
- Select and book music for reception

6-9 MONTHS BEFORE

- Determine colors, decorations, themes
- Select remaining wedding attendants (Ushers, Flower Girl, Ring Bearer, Bridal Attendant, Guest Book/Programs)
- Create wedding website
- Send save the dates
- Order bridesmaids' dresses
- Purchase wedding bands
- Plan Bachelor/Bachelorette parties

4-6 MONTHS BEFORE

- Reserve rental items needed for ceremony and reception
- Finalize guest list
- Plan rehearsal dinner
- Select and book accommodations for bridal suite and guest rooms
- Plan and book honeymoon
- Purchase shoes and accessories
- Begin to break in shoes
- Hair and makeup trials

2-4 MONTHS BEFORE

- Select and reserve attire for groom, groomsmen, ushers, fathers and ring bearer
- Select and book hair, makeup and nails services
- Select and order invitations
- Select and order room decorations
- Order party favors
- Determine if there will be a receiving line and how/where/when
- Select and book transportation
- Finalize rehearsal dinner plans
- Purchase honeymoon attire and luggage
- Check blood test and marriage license requirements
- Consider a will and/or prenuptial agreement
- Plan activities for out-of-town guests before and after the wedding
- Purchase gifts for wedding party
- Purchase gift for significant other
- Consider welcome gifts at the hotel for out of town guests

6-8 WEEKS BEFORE

- Mail invitations
- Maintain RSVP list and record of gifts received
- Obtain marriage license
- Write or decide on vows and ceremony
- Send wedding announcement to local paper
- Finalize menu, beverage and alcohol choices
- Finalize floral selections
- Purchase toasting glasses, ring pillow, guest book, etc.
- Begin tanning, if desired

1 MONTH BEFORE

- Make a detailed timeline for wedding party
- Make a detailed timeline for vendors
- Confirm ceremony details with officiant
- Determine ceremony seating for special guests, inform ushers
- Plan reception layout and seating with site manager and/or caterer
- Contact guests that haven't responded
- Select and order final printing needs like programs, seating cards, signage and thank you cards
- Final fitting for wedding dress
- Final fitting for bridesmaids' dresses
- Pick up rings and check for fit
- Confirm special photo requests with photographer/videographer
- Confirm music requests and needs with musicians/DJ

1 WEEK BEFORE

- Pickup wedding attire and check for fit
- Final headcount to vendors
- Finalize seating chart
- Get facials and waxings
- Confirm honeymoon reservations and accommodations
- Pack for honeymoon
- Arrange for post office to hold mail during honeymoon
- Determine last minute logistics like who will bring and clean up all accessories (flower basket, ring pillow, guest book, toasting glasses, cake cutting knife, favors, card box, gifts, etc)
- Arrange for return of rental items after wedding

2 DAYS BEFORE

- Have nails done
- Wrap Bridesmaids' and Groomsmen's gifts
- Write checks or arrange final payment for vendors
- Pack everything needed for wedding day/night

1 DAY BEFORE

- Wedding rehearsal
- Rehearsal dinner
- Give gifts to wedding party

THE DAY OF

- Get married and live happily ever after!

IMMEDIATELY AFTER

- Return rentals
- Clean wedding dress and consider archiving
- Name change paperwork and updating of all accounts
- Send thank yous

