

Wedding Planning Timeline Checklist

Wedding planning timeline provides you with a simplified wedding details checklist that will help you in your quest to plan the perfect wedding without forgetting any of the little details.

9-12 MONTHS BEFORE THE WEDDING

- Announce your engagement to friends and family.
- Arrange for parents to get together and meet each other if they haven't already.
- Pick a special date to begin your lives together.
- Discuss what your budget will be and who'll be contributing what to the event.
- Interview wedding planners if you're using one.
- Pick the ceremony site and meet with the officiant.
- Work on the guest list to get a rough head count.
- Visit reception sites and reserve one.
- Begin shopping for your wedding gown.
- If you want to drop a few pounds for the wedding start now.

6-9 MONTHS BEFORE THE WEDDING

- Choose the members of your wedding party.
- Select a DJ.**
- Select a caterer.
- Enroll in a bridal registry.
- Order your wedding gown.
- Shop for bridesmaid's dresses.
- Pick a photographer and videographer.
- Hire a florist.
- Start thinking about where you'd like to go for your honeymoon.
- Send out save-the-date cards, especially if your wedding is on a holiday weekend.

4-6 MONTHS BEFORE THE WEDDING

- Order wedding stationary (place cards, thank you cards, etc.)
- Shop for the perfect wedding cake.
- Hire your wedding-day transportation (carriage, limousine, etc.)
- Book your favorite hair stylist and makeup artist.
- Check on hotels for any out-of-town guests.
- Finalize the guest list.
- Get definite plans for your honeymoon, make airline and hotel arrangements.
- Plan the rehearsal dinner.

2-4 MONTHS BEFORE THE WEDDING

- Purchase the marriage license from your cities county clerk.
- Order tuxedos for the groom and groomsmen.
- Meet with the caterer to go over menus, wine selections, etc.
- Order the wedding cake.
- Select wedding ceremony and reception music.
- If you plan on writing your own vows start writing them now.

4-8 WEEKS BEFORE THE WEDDING

- Mail wedding invitations 6 to 8 weeks ahead of your wedding date.
- Do a hair and make up run through with your wedding veil on.

2-4 WEEKS BEFORE THE WEDDING

- Work on the seating arrangements for the reception.
- Confirm details with the photographer, florist, and other vendors.
- Have your final wedding dress fitting.
- Write your rehearsal-dinner toast.
- Purchase gifts for the wedding attendants.
- Compile a list of all the wedding vendors and wedding party. Carry this list with you everywhere you go just in case.

1 WEEK BEFORE THE WEDDING

- Place any amounts due on the wedding day in envelopes for easy distribution.
- Give the caterer a final head count.
- Find a trustworthy person to take the cake knife, toasting glasses, etc. to the reception.
- Get final beauty treatments (manicure, facial, massage, waxing, brow shaping, etc.).
- Pack for the honeymoon.

THE DAY BEFORE THE WEDDING

- Get something old – symbolizes continuity with the bride's family and the past.
- Get something new – means optimism and hope for the bride's new life ahead
- Get something borrowed – an item from a happily married friend or family member, whose good fortune in marriage is supposed to carry over to the new bride.
- Get something blue – to symbolize love, modesty, and fidelity.
- And a silver sixpence in her shoe – represents wealth and financial security. For optimum fortune, the sixpence should be in the left shoe. These days, a dime or copper penny can be substituted.

THE DAY OF THE WEDDING

- Relax and remain calm.
- Remember to eat something. You may be so busy with things that you forget.
- Allow yourself at least two hours to get dressed.
- Enjoy yourself at this once in a lifetime event!