

Wedding Planning Timeline

Wedding planning will put your organizational skills to the test. You'll likely spend over 250 hours on the phone, visiting with vendors and brainstorming.

This can be lots of fun! This approximate timeline will help you get started.

12 Months or More

- Select a wedding date and time
- Decide the size and formality
- Announce engagement
- Agree on a preliminary budget
- Decide on expenses sharing
- Schedule appt. with Officiant
- Start your wedding guest list
- Select your reception location

9-12 Months Before

- Choose bridal attendants
- Choose your color schemes
- Engagement photos taken
- Select your videographer
- Select tuxedos
- Select your florist
- Select professional caterer
- Select any musicians
- Shop for wedding rings

6-9 Months Before

- Select your dress and headpiece
- Select bridesmaids' dresses
- Plan your reception
- Choose honeymoon destination
- Meet with your reception MC
- Select wedding cake

4-6 Months Before

- Check into marriage license
- Meet with the florist/decorator
- Reserve any rental equipment
- Order invitations and stationary
- Select transportation services
- Reserve hotel rooms for guests

2-4 Months Before

- Research ceremony readings
- Decide upon a gift registry
- Make music selections

2-4 Months Before

- Order favors and decorations
- Help mothers with clothing
- Review vendor contracts
- Announcement in newspaper
- Arrange the rehearsal dinner
- Purchase your accessories
- Select gifts for attendants
- Finalize order with florist
- Preliminary hair and makeup

1-2 Months Before

- Mail out invitations
- Finalize details
- Buy marriage license
- Final dress fittings
- Select ceremony accessories: candle, ring pillow, guest book
- Select personal accessories: purse, garter, toasting flutes
- Make salon appointments

2 Weeks Before

- Finalize with entertainers
- Provide music you want
- Pick up your wedding rings
- Check fit and engravings
- Finalize guest count
- Change of name and address

1 Week Before

- Men pick up formal wear
- Prepare seating arrangements
- Verify marriage license is in order
- Confirm honeymoon reservations
- Inform caterer total guest count
- Finalize transportation
- Vendor payments to best man
- Confirm hotel/travel plans
- Confirm details with florist

1 Day Before

- Pack the bridal emergency bag
- Wedding rehearsal and dinner
- Exchange gifts with your fiancé
- Get a good night's rest

Day of Wedding

- Have a nice relaxed breakfast
- Allow two hours or more to dress
- Allow time for makeup and hair
- Photographs before ceremony
- Get rings and marriage license
- Relax and enjoy your special day

12 Months (Groom)

- Select and purchase bride's rings
- Discuss of financial obligations with fiancé and parents
- Decide budget, date guest count
- Choose and secure reception

6-9 Months (Groom)

- Make reservations for honeymoon
- Arrangements for out-of-town guests
- Arrange bridal party transportation
- Choose best man and attendants

1-2 Months (Groom)

- Set a date to get marriage license
- Confirm rehearsal dinner reservations
- Help fiancé address invitations

1 Week (Groom)

- Confirm time/place of rehearsal and dinner with attendants
- Pick up engraved rings

Wedding Day (Groom)

- Pick up formal wear
- Relax and enjoy the day