

Wedding Planning CHECKLIST

Is there anything more satisfying than checking wedding planning items off your list? Use these handy to-dos each step of the way, but remember: Everyone plans differently. You don't have to go in this order if another way works better for you.

Newly Engaged:

- Talk with your partner about your wedding vision.
- Create a budget. Include anyone that is helping to pay for the wedding in the process.
- Put together a tentative guest list that aligns with your budget.
- Get a wedding planner or spreadsheet to organize important info from vendors.
- Select your wedding party.
- Narrow in on a few potential dates and make sure all of your key people are available.
- Research venues and ceremony spaces. Reach out for quotes and tour a few locations.

Getting Down to Business:

- Book your venue and ceremony space. Celebrate: You have a date!
- If it's not included in your venue package, book your caterer.
- Book your photographer and/or videographer.
- Book a wedding planner and/or day-of coordinator.
- Start researching other types of vendors: music, florist, attire, rentals, officiants, etc.
- Go to a few bridal salons and try on a variety of styles to see what you like best!
- Say yes to the dress!
- Take engagement photos. If you can, try to do this with your wedding photographer.
- Start gathering a list of guest addresses.
- Prep your wedding website, add and update as you go!
- Send out your save the dates! Traveling guests will need more advance notice (ideally 8–10 months).

The Sweet Middle

- If you haven't already, finalize all your vendor bookings.
- Meet with wedding officiant and plan ceremony. Complete any wedding prep courses.
- Reserve a room block for out-of-town guests. If your wedding is during a major event or holiday, do this even earlier (8–10 months out)! Don't forget to book your own hotel rooms too.
- Make your wedding registry. Dream of your life post-wedding!
- Finalize your color scheme.
- Go shopping for bridesmaid dresses and groomsmen attire. <3
- If you're ordering a cake, decide on design and flavor with your baker (A tasty task).
- Research and order wedding favors and/or welcome bags.
- Gather inspiration on your favorite hair and makeup looks. Book your stylists.
- Book rehearsal dinner venue.



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- Book your honeymoon! Tell your hotels it's your honeymoon. You might get upgraded!
- Book transportation to and from venue and ceremony spaces if you're offering it.
- Order your wedding ring bands.
- Order wedding invites.
- Work with your florist to identify your flower arrangements.
- Make the wedding music playlist (and "do not play" list). Best done with a drink in hand.
- Schedule alterations and fitting appointments once the attire comes in.

A Few Months Before

- Mail your invites (2–4 months in advance).
- Finalize ceremony and reception timelines. Share the schedule with all of your vendors.
- Buy wedding decor, signs and accessories.
- Order gifts for bridal party and family.
- Finalize your menu with the caterer and order menu cards.
- Write wedding vows, review ceremony details with officiant and decide on final program content.
- Finalize seating charts.
- Apply for a marriage license.

The Month Before

- Do your final dress fitting.
- Pick up your wedding bands.
- Confirm all honeymoon reservations and pack.
- Call all of your vendors and confirm schedules.
- Pick up your marriage license.
- Give a final head count to the caterer
- Do your final beauty and hair treatments. Keep with your classic look; no experimenting!
- Have final payments and cash tips ready for all vendors.
- Send any readers scripts of the readings.

Day Before

- Make sure all of your wedding essentials are packed and ready for the big day.
- Deliver welcome bags to the hotels.

Day Of

- Eat a big breakfast.
- Give your phone to a loved one so they can take pics. You won't want it anyway.
- Take a deep breath and enjoy every moment of your special day!

