

YOUR 12-MONTH Wedding planner

BROUGHT TO
YOU BY

**Wedding
ideas**

Thomson WEDDINGS

Get your planning off to a flying start with our handy month-by-month guide...



12 MONTHS

- Tell everyone you're engaged
- Set a budget and have the money talk with your family
- Choose what type of ceremony you want – religious, civil, humanist – and decide the theme
- Speak to the minister or registrar to set a time and a date for the ceremony
- Draw up a rough guest list
- Start researching and visiting possible wedding venues
- Buy your wedding insurance

11 MONTHS

- Send out your save the date cards
- Make your first appointment to try on wedding dresses
- Book a caterer if you're having a reception
- Book your photographer and videographer for the day
- Book your band or DJ for the evening reception
- Book your florist
- Decide on a may-have reception item and book it
- Begin your beauty and fitness regime

10 MONTHS

- Discuss your groom's outfit and what the best man and ushers will wear on the day
- Select your bridesmaids, flower girls and pageboys
- Choose and order your wedding gown. You will need to allow at least six months if you're having a made-to-measure gown, or a manufacturer's gown that has to be altered

Ask your fiancé to research honeymoon destinations – at www.thomson.co.uk/weddings



7 MONTHS

- Book the wedding transport
- Book a car to take you to the airport if you're leaving for the honeymoon straight after the ceremony
- Order your wedding cake and think about how you're going to decorate it. Fresh or sugar flowers? A cake topper? Ribbons?
- Choose and order your favours, or buy all the different elements if you've decided to make them yourself
- Start thinking about bridesmaid accessories and thank you gifts

6 MONTHS

- Set up your gift list
- Think about which hairdresser and make-up artist you're going to have, or go to a department store and get some make-up tips from the beauty counters
- Purchase the accessories and gifts for the attendants
- Ask your fiancé to organise the suits and get all the guys together for fittings
- Confirm and proof read your order of service



If you're doing your own hair and beauty get tips from the beauty counters



The order you send invitations the better and don't be afraid to show RSVPs

5 MONTHS

- Find your shoes and accessories and take these to your dress fittings
- Purchase your wedding underwear – your dress shop assistant should be able to tell you which type of bra or braque you need
- Arrange a fitting session with your caterer or venue
- Book your hairdresser and discuss possible styles
- Go shopping for your honeymoon clothes

4 MONTHS

- Remind your fiancé to book the first night hotel if it's different to your venue
- Delegate the job of taking presents home and keeping them safe until you return from your honeymoon
- Discuss hen and stag party plans with the bridesmaid and best man
- Check if you need visas or inoculations for your honeymoon
- Check the budget



When planning your flowers, think that up as soon as you can as it depends

9 MONTHS

- Meet with your florist to discuss bouquets, buttonholes, table centres and decorations
- Confirm your menu choices with your venue or caterer
- Choose and order your bridesmaid dresses
- Start thinking about a first dance song and whether you'll have a professionally choreographed routine
- Create a budget spread sheet and make a note of when and how your suppliers need to be paid

8 MONTHS

- Order your invitations, envelopes and extras in case you make a mistake
- Order the rest of your stationery – orders of service, place cards, table plans and thank you cards
- Discuss your readings with your minister or registrar – civil ceremonies don't allow any religious readings or music
- If you're making your own stationery, get everything you need now and start putting them together so you're less likely to change your colour

3 MONTHS

- Have a hair and make-up trial – log on to www.weddingdealing.com for some celeb inspired hairstyle ideas
- Book any hair colour treatments
- Send out your invitations and be clear about the RSVP date and address. Also ask for any dietary requirements and tell your caterer
- Choose and buy both your wedding rings
- Confirm everything with your suppliers – dates, times, costs

2 MONTHS

- Try on your whole outfit to see if you've gotten anything
- Create your something old, new, borrowed and blue and a silver accessory for your shoe
- Book all your pre-wedding beauty treatments and try out false fans
- Check unanswered invitations
- Finalise your seating plan and rewrite place cards if people have dropped out
- Check your fiancé's wedding and honeymoon clothes and check your luggage allowance

1 MONTH

- Chase the RSVP stragglers
- Give your photographer a shot list of must-take photographs
- Let the venue know final numbers for the ceremony and reception
- Order your honeymoon money
- Start writing your thank you cards as gifts are received
- Have your final dress fitting
- Go on your hen and stag parties
- Discuss the playlist with your DJ
- Give your maid of honour, the best man and your co-ordinator the mobile phone numbers of all the suppliers involved with the day