Wedding Planning Checklist

Use this as a general guideline for getting the biggest tasks taken care of before your big day. Have fun!

9-12 months before

- Set a budget and determine how costs will be divided.
- Select a date and reserve venue(s).
- Start the guest list to get your best cost estimate.
- Find an officiant.
- Start a separate folder for receipts.
- Select your wedding party.
- Hire a planner or day-of coordinator.

6-9 months before

- Find a caterer if the venue doesn't offer one.
- Book a florist, photographer, and DJ or band.
- Choose bridesmaids' attire.
- Register for gifts.
- Start planning your honeymoon.
- Select and order the bridal gown!
- Create a wedding website.
- Arrange transportation.

4-6 months before

- Finalize guest list.
- Send save-the-date announcements.
- Reserve any rental items needed for ceremony or reception.
- Shop for wedding invitations.
- Finalize a date, time, and location of rehearsal dinner.
- Choose ceremony readings and reach out to readers.
- Arrange room blocks at hotels for out-of-town guests.
- Meet with your officiant.

2-4 months before

- Mail invitations.
- Shop for your wedding rings.
- Order wedding cake.
- Obtain marriage license after 90-day mark.
- Find your makeup artist and hairstylist and make your day-of and trial-run appointments.
- Purchase favors and gifts for welcome baskets.

6-8 weeks before

- Send rehearsal dinner invitations.
- Reserve tuxedos for groomsmen.
- Finalize the menu and the flowers.
- Meet with vendors to work out details.

2-6 weeks before

- Print seating cards and programs.
- Create seating plan and wedding weekend time line.
- Have your final dress fitting.
- Write vows.
- Finalize all details and confirm with vendors.

1 week before

- Expect lots of last-minute things to come up, so try not to save anything that could have been finished sooner.
- Confirm arrival times with vendors and wedding party.
- Set aside checks or tips to distribute to vendors.
- Delegate tasks to wedding party.