

THE ULTIMATE WEDDING PLANNING *Checklist*



10-12 Months To Go...

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | WORK OUT YOUR BUDGET AND ESTABLISH YOUR TOP PRIORITIES. Determine where to save and where to splurge. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | GET YOUR CREATIVE JUICES FLOWING. Start browsing wedding inspiration on websites, social media, blogs, and magazines to explore and identify your wedding style and colors. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | COMPILE YOUR PRELIMINARY GUEST LIST. You'll need that guest count! |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | CHOOSE YOUR WEDDING PARTY. Who do you want by your side at the altar? Ask them now to give your attendants plenty of time to plan and prep. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | FIND A VENUE FOR YOUR CEREMONY AND/OR RECEPTION, AND RESERVE YOUR WEDDING DATE. This is huge. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | DO YOU NEED WEDDING INSURANCE? It's something to think about. Check with your venue about liability insurance and consider other options, like cancellation insurance. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | TELL EVERYONE TO SAVE THE DATE! Send out save-the-date cards 8-12 months in advance for a destination wedding, or 6-9 months in advance for a domestic wedding. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | CREATE A WEDDING WEBSITE. Let your invitees know about it by putting your website's URL on the save-the-date cards. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | SAY YES TO YOUR WEDDING DRESS (OR TUX!) and begin assembling the perfect accessories. Need inspiration? Attend a trunk show or wedding expo. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | CONSIDER HIRING A WEDDING PLANNER if you're already feeling overwhelmed. They're magical, we tell ya. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | BEGIN ASSEMBLING AN ALL-STAR WEDDING VENDOR TEAM. We'd start with: Caterer · Photographer · Officiant. <i>And when you hire a vendor, get all the details in writing!</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | START DREAMING UP YOUR HONEYMOON, IF YOU'RE TAKING ONE. It's a great way to mitigate wedding planning stress. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |

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6-9 Months To Go...

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | HIRE A FLORAL DESIGNER. Set up a time to go over flower types and design styles. They'll help you choose flower arrangements to fit your style, color scheme, and budget. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | DO A TASTING AND CHOOSE YOUR WEDDING CAKE WITH YOUR CAKE DESIGNER. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | HIRE THE DJ/ENTERTAINMENT FOR YOUR CEREMONY, COCKTAIL HOUR, AND RECEPTION. Work with them on the wedding playlist. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ORDER YOUR INVITATIONS. Discuss the style and wording of your wedding invitations with a Stationer or online invitation company. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | CREATE YOUR GIFT REGISTRY. (Don't forget to update your wedding website with the links!) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ARRANGE HOTEL ROOM BLOCKS for out-of-town guests and book your own suite for the wedding night. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | SHOP FOR BRIDESMAID / FLOWER GIRL DRESSES / GROOMSMEN SUITS. Give attendants clear instructions on how to place their orders. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ARRANGE AND BOOK ANY NECESSARY WEDDING-DAY TRANSPORTATION. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | GO OVER BRIDAL SHOWER AND/OR BACH PARTY DETAILS, as well as the guest list with the person(s) hosting the party. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | CONSIDER PREMARITAL COUNSELING. Make sure you and your fiancé are rock-solid through this wedding-planning journey, and prepared to face married life together. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |

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3-5 Months To Go...

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|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | BOOK THE REHEARSAL AND REHEARSAL DINNER LOCATION(S). If you're including entertainment or specialty décor / details, now's the time to lock in these elements. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PUT TOGETHER YOUR REHEARSAL DINNER GUEST LIST. This may include immediate family, the wedding party plus spouses, your Officiant, and others involved in the ceremony. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | MAKE CHILDCARE ARRANGEMENTS and / or plan wedding entertainment for your guests' kids. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | RESERVE ALL NECESSARY PARTY RENTALS AND LINENS. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ORDER WEDDING FAVORS FOR YOUR GUESTS or pick a charity to donate to in lieu of favors. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | FINALIZE THE WEDDING GUEST LIST. Get everyone's mailing address organized into a spreadsheet. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | CONFIRM YOUR INVITATION WORDING with the Stationer, and consider additional day-of stationery. Schedule a pickup or delivery date for your invites and other paper goods. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | DECIDE UPON YOUR CEREMONY READINGS AND VOWS. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | FINALIZE THE MENU, BEVERAGE, AND CATERING DETAILS with your venue and / or caterer. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | WORK ON THE TIMELINE OF THE WEDDING DAY AND RECEPTION FORMALITIES with your wedding coordinator and / or venue. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | DO A MAKEUP & HAIR TRIAL AND BOOK YOUR STYLISTS. Come up with your own beauty and fitness regimen to be camera-ready and confident for the big day. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | SHOP FOR AND PURCHASE YOUR WEDDING RINGS. Order engravings if desired. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | FINALIZE HONEYMOON PLANS AND OBTAIN ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS. (Are you sure your passports haven't expired?) |

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6-8 Weeks To Go...

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|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | SEND OUT YOUR INVITATIONS. Have a game plan for recording the RSVPs and meal choices. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | TALK TO YOUR VENUE COORDINATOR ABOUT A CONTINGENCY PLAN if you're hosting an outdoor wedding. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | TOUCH BASE WITH YOUR VENDORS TO CONFIRM WEDDING DATE, DEPOSITS, AND DETAILS. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | START RESEARCHING MARRIAGE LICENSE REQUIREMENTS AND NAME-CHANGE PAPERWORK, if applicable. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | BEGIN YOUR DRESS/ATTIRE FITTINGS. Be sure to buy the appropriate undergarments beforehand. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | CHECK THE STATUS OF WEDDING PARTY ATTIRE. Give the wedding party a nudge to make sure they've placed their orders / purchased necessary items. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | WRITE THANK-YOU CARDS FOR SHOWER GIFTS AND ANY EARLY WEDDING GIFTS RECEIVED. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | START ASSEMBLING WELCOME BAGS FOR YOUR GUESTS, if applicable. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |

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3-5 Weeks To Go...

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|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | SEND OUT REHEARSAL DINNER INVITATIONS. If your get-together will be informal, feel free to send an Evite. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | FINALIZE AND CONFIRM: WEDDING VOWS AND CEREMONY READINGS WITH YOUR OFFICIANT. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | FINALIZE AND CONFIRM: SHOT LIST WITH YOUR PHOTOGRAPHER AND/OR VIDEOGRAPHER. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | FINALIZE AND CONFIRM: SONG LIST FOR CEREMONY, COCKTAIL HOUR, AND RECEPTION WITH YOUR DJ AND/OR BAND / MUSICIANS. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | FINALIZE AND CONFIRM: TIMELINE FOR THE RECEPTION AND WHO'S GIVING THE TOASTS. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | FINALIZE AND CONFIRM: WEDDING NIGHT AND HONEYMOON ACCOMMODATIONS. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | OBTAIN MARRIAGE LICENSE AND COMPLETE NAME-CHANGE DOCUMENTS, if applicable. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PICK UP YOUR WEDDING RINGS AND PROOFREAD ANY ENGRAVING! |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | IF YOU'RE THE TRADITIONAL TYPE, DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING OLD, NEW, BORROWED, AND BLUE? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PURCHASE YOUR DAY-OF ACCESSORIES. This may include your guest book, toasting flutes, cake servers, unity candle, ring pillow, and all that good stuff. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | BUY GIFTS (OPTIONAL) FOR THE WEDDING PARTY, YOUR PARENTS, AND/OR YOUR PARTNER. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | HAVE YOUR FINAL DRESS/SUIT FITTING. Bring your shoes and accessories for the full impact. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | HUNT DOWN WHOEVER HASN'T RSVP'D YET. <i>Le sigh.</i> |

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1-2 Weeks To Go...

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|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | GIVE YOUR CATERER/VENUE THE FINAL GUEST COUNT. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ARRANGE SEATING AND CREATE THE SEATING CHART AND/OR PLACE CARDS. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PICK UP YOUR GOWN AND/OR SUIT. <i>Swoon.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | CONFIRM ARRIVAL TIMES AND FINALIZE THE WEDDING TIMELINE with vendors and the wedding party. Make sure your MOH or someone you trust has a copy, too. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | GO OVER PICKUP TIMES AND LOCATIONS WITH YOUR LIMOUSINE / TRANSPORTATION VENDORS. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | FINALIZE RECEPTION TABLES. Create the seating chart and / or place cards if you're having seating arrangements. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | HAND OVER WEDDING FAVORS, DÉCOR, PAPER, AND CEREMONY ITEMS TO YOUR ON-SITE COORDINATOR OR PLANNER. Include any special set-up instructions. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | PACK UP YOUR WEDDING-DAY EMERGENCY KIT. Fill a small bag with "just in case" items that can fix any issues—from ibuprofen and a sewing kit to an extra pair of contacts. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | CHECK THE WEATHER REPORT. If things look iffy on your wedding date, contact your venue to go over the contingency plan. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | START PACKING FOR YOUR HONEYMOON (See "weather report" above.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | IN DESPERATE NEED OF A FACIAL OR MASSAGE? Now's the time to squeeze one in. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |

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The Days Before...

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|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | MAKE SURE ALL WEDDING-DAY ITEMS ARE PACKED/LAID OUT AND READY TO GO. Don't forget the rings and marriage license! |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | FIGURE OUT TIPS AND FINAL PAYMENTS FOR VENDORS. Put them in clearly marked envelopes and give them to someone you trust to hand out over the course of the event. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ASSIGN SOMEONE TO PACK UP YOUR GIFTS/BELONGINGS AFTER THE RECEPTION. Don't forget the top tier of your cake for your first anniversary! |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ASSIGN SOMEONE TO RETURN ANY RENTAL ITEMS OR TUXEDOS THE DAY AFTER THE WEDDING, if needed. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | WRAP ANY GIFTS YOU'LL BE GIVING to your future spouse, family, or wedding party. Or simply write them heartfelt notes to open on the day-of. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | DROP OFF WELCOME BAGS TO GUEST HOTELS, if you're doing them. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ENJOY A MANI-PEDI. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ATTEND THE REHEARSAL AND DINNER. Now's the time to give out wedding party gifts. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | TRY TO GO TO BED EARLY. You need your beauty sleep tonight! |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | SET YOUR ALARM. Allow plenty of time to get ready on your big day. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | TAKE DEEP BREATHS. Stop to appreciate your soon-to-be spouse because the day you've been waiting for is finally here. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |

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Don't Forget...

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |