

THE *timetable*

Careful planning will enable you to truly enjoy every moment of your wedding day. Arrangements for a large formal wedding should ideally begin at least 8-12 months in advance; however, many beautiful weddings are put together in considerably less time. The important thing is to follow a timetable; read the articles in this guide; and let your contracted suppliers help you. Share the planning duties with your fiancé, your families, and your attendants — much of the fun is doing it together!

SIX TO TWELVE MONTHS

- Decide budget; discuss sharing of expenses.
- Decide type of wedding. formal semi-formal informal
- Select wedding coordinator.
- Choose location of ceremony.
_____ PHONE _____
- Discuss alternative dates with clergy or officiator.
- Decide size of wedding party, choose attendants.
- Select gown style and accessories.
SHOP _____ PHONE _____
- Select attendants' apparel.
SHOP _____ PHONE _____
- Choose reception facility.
_____ PHONE _____
- Select caterer. (see article)
_____ PHONE _____
- Plan details of reception. (see article)
- Select photographer. (see article)
_____ PHONE _____
- Have engagement photos taken.
DATE _____ PHONE _____
- Select music for reception. (see article)
_____ PHONE _____
- Select videographer. (see article)
_____ PHONE _____
- Select florist/decorator. (see article)
_____ PHONE _____
- Compile invitation list.
- Discuss gown colors and styles with mothers of bride & groom.

FOUR TO SIX MONTHS

- Select men's formal wear; order.
_____ PHONE _____
- Select ceremony musicians and music.
_____ PHONE _____
- Make honeymoon plans.
TRAVEL AGENT _____ PHONE _____
- Decide on new living arrangement: buying, renting, or leasing?
- Register gift preferences with one or more bridal registries.
REGISTRIES: _____, _____, _____

- Order save-the-date cards, invitations, programs, napkins, etc.

STATIONER _____

DEL. DATE _____ PHONE _____

- Send save-the-date cards.
- Prepare and print map to include with invitations.
- Set aside hotel rooms for out-of-town guests.
- Buy wedding rings; order engraving.

TWO TO FOUR MONTHS

- Reserve rental items.
- Arrange rehearsal dinner. _____ PHONE _____
- Shop for trousseau and apparel for honeymoon; prenuptial parties.
- Reserve limousine, carriage, trolley, or coach transportation.
- Address wedding invitations; consider professional calligrapher.
- Review florists arrangements, finalize order.
- Review and finalize décor.
- Buy attendants' gifts and your gifts for each other.
- Experiment with hairstyles and makeup changes.
- Buy bride's and attendants' shoes—send to dyer, if necessary.
- Order wedding and groom's cakes.

ONE TO TWO MONTHS

- Schedule appointments for hair stylist, facial, manicure, massage.
- Invite wedding party and guests to rehearsal dinner.
- Mail invitations four to six weeks before wedding.
- Call all your contacted services to confirm arrangements.
- Final bridal fitting. DATE _____ TIME _____
- Final attendants' fittings. DATE _____ TIME _____
- Confirm honeymoon trip reservations.
- Select ceremony accessories.
- Arrange bridesmaids' brunch or luncheon.

DETAILS _____

TWO WEEKS

- Review reception seating and order place cards.
- Confirm out-of-town guests lodging with reserved hotels.
- Confirm wedding party transportation and arrival times.
- Record gifts as you receive them; write thank you notes.
- Arrange for gown cleaning and bouquet preservation after wedding.
- Buy marriage license.

ONE TO TWO WEEKS

- Pick up wedding rings, check engravings and sizings.
- Final consultations with wedding professionals.
- Give final guest count to reception facility and caterer.
- Remind men to pick up formal wear and shoes. Check for fit.
- Make a wedding day itinerary and give everyone copies at rehearsal dinner.
- Relax the day before; keep personal appointments; finish honeymoon packing.