



12 Month Wedding Checklist

8-12 Months before

- Select a wedding date
- Formally announce your engagement and introduce both families
- Decide whom you would like in your wedding party and ask each person to participate
- Decide on a wedding budget
- Hire a wedding planner coordinator (optional)
- Purchase bridal magazines and start a "Wedding File". Collect tear sheets of dresses, flowers etc.
- Start shopping for a wedding dress (must allow time for alterations and fittings)
 - Reminder: Don't forget to bring a pair of stockings, a strapless bra, shoes and a hair clip to each appointment
 - Attend bridal shows
- Register for wedding gifts
- Choose an officiate or Clergyman/woman
- Shop for a videographer and photographer
- Choose a florist
- Choose a DJ\Band
- Purchase a notebook in which to store your wedding information
- Research locations for ceremony, rehearsal dinner and reception
 - Agree and reserve a wedding location and time
 - Send deposit
 - Agree and reserve a reception site
 - Send deposit
- Choose caterer
- Determine your wedding theme, style and color scheme
- Choose a beautiful place for your honeymoon
 - Apply for passports if needed
- Make a rough-guest list with a maximum number of guests in mind

- Schedule appointments at Bridal Salon's for you and your wedding party

7 Months before

- Place your final order for:
 - Wedding Gown
 - Veil
 - Shoes
 - Other
- Begin shopping for bridesmaids' dresses
- Interview cake designers, sample cake flavours
 - Select and place an order for your cake
 - Purchase Cake topper
 - Cake Knife

6 Months before

- Go shopping for invitations, calligraphy & thank you cards
 - Review invitation options
 - Order invitations
 - Purchase thank you cards (useful for engagement and wedding gifts)
- Fine-tune guest list
- Place final order for bridesmaids' gowns and any accessories
- Have the mother-in-laws co-ordinate and select their dresses
- Reserve any rental equipment that may be needed for the wedding day
 - Flatware
 - Chairs and Covers
 - Glassware
 - Tents
 - Cups, saucers, spoons
 - Champagne flutes
 - Serving trays, punch bowls, etc.
 - Tables and Linens
 - Napkins
 - Dinner ware
- Finalize your gift registry (You can request stores send gift cards and not the actual gifts until after the wedding)
- Book a limousine company for transportation on your wedding day

5 Months before

- Review and finalize the overall budget
- Select floral arrangements for:

- Bride's bouquet
- Pew Bows(optional)
- Centerpieces
- Boutonnieres
- Throw away Bouquet
- Head pieces
- Aisle runner
- Alter arrangements
- Corsages
- Bridesmaids Bouquets
- Archway
- Finalize all decorations
- Mail any outstanding deposits to vendors
- Shop for and purchase wedding rings
- Select the grooms' wedding attire
 - Get tuxedo measurements for all the groomsmen
 - Place order for tuxedo's

4 Months before

- Submit menu and beverage selections to the hotel or caterer
- Begin music selections for the ceremony.
 - Processional song for the groom, parents and attendants
 - Bride-Groom 'First Dance'
 - Recessional song
- Decide on whom you would like to be the M.C. and verify that they are available and willing
- Interview and hire any additional management staff and babysitters (optional)
 - Bartenders (if not provided)
 - Servers (if necessary)
- Purchase Guest book, sign-in pen
- Purchase a gift for the groom\bride
- Research and reserve rehearsal dinner location
- Place your final order for party favours
- Schedule tests for makeup and hair
- Meet with the stationer and select and order:
 - Menus
 - table numbers
 - Place cards
 - any other accessories
 - several identical pens for your thank you cards
 - plenty of stamps

- Finalize the date, time and place of the wedding rehearsal and rehearsal dinner
 - Make a guest list for the rehearsal dinner
- Attend your first appointment with the wedding officiate to review details for the ceremony
- Begin putting together a rough schedule for the weekend of the wedding
 - Ceremony
 - Cutting of the cake (optional)
 - Speeches (optional)
 - Bride-groom dance (optional)
 - Ect...
 - Bachelor/Bachelorette Party
 - Gift Opening
- Select any special readings and choose readers if necessary
- Begin writing personalized vows, if applicable
- Finalize all arrangements for makeup, hair, nails, etc.

3 Months before

- Determine who will be giving speeches at the rehearsal party and the reception
- Schedule an appointment for a food tasting
- Set up an appointment to see a sample of your floral centerpieces if applicable
- Begin writing thank-you notes as wedding gifts arrive. It's easier if you keep them up to date
- Book and reserve your bridal preparation suite
- Finalize the date and time of the rehearsal and dinner
- Finalize your plans for the honeymoon with your travel agent
- Schedule your first fitting for your wedding gown and your groom's tuxedo or suit.
 - Reminder: Remember to bring your panty-hose, shoes, bra, hair accessories, jewelry, camera and best friend

8 Weeks before

- Purchase gifts for:
 - Each other (Bride/Groom)
 - Wedding party attendants
 - Your parents and In-laws
- Order rehearsal dinner invitations
- Finalize music selections
- Finalize the ceremony readings and songs to be performed (if applicable)

- Mail all wedding invitations
- Finalize your selections for the cocktail hour and reception songs. Review them with your band/DJ
- Apply for a marriage license
- Purchase all wedding accessories including
 - Ring pillow
 - Goblets
 - Garter belt
 - Candles, ect...
- Visit your photographer for the Bridal Portrait

6 Weeks before

- Submit the wedding program information to a stationer
- Finalize all details with your caterer, florist and musicians
- Finalize all transportation, including any special plans for your family and bridal party
- Finalize your schedule for the wedding day with your wedding venue contact, band\DJ, MC and wedding coordinator, if applicable
- Finalize the wedding ceremony processional and recessional information with your wedding coordinator or wedding venue contact
- Prepare a photo and a video shot list, naming important family and guests. Include one's relationship to you.
- Pick up the wedding rings (making sure they are sized and engraved)
- Finalize your jewelry selection, including:
 - something old
 - something new
 - something borrowed
 - something blue
- Schedule a final test makeup and hair session with your stylists. Bring your veil.
- Attend to business and legal details. Get the necessary forms to change names on your:
 - social security card
 - driver's license
 - insurance and medical plans

- bank accounts, ect..

4 Weeks before

- Schedule your second bridal gown fitting
- Mail your rehearsal dinner invitations
- Schedule a final meeting with your officiate to discuss the ceremony
- Confirm your final appointment with your makeup artist and hair stylist
- Give all musicians the lists of music for the ceremony and reception
- Practice your "First Dance" with your music (wearing your bridal shoes)
- Appoint a family member or friend to gather the gifts at the end of the reception for delivery to the proper location
- Confirm transportation for wedding party

3 weeks before

- Reconfirm your hotel room for the wedding night.
- Reconfirm your bride's dressing room with your hotel or ceremony location (if applicable)
- Send final confirmation for all your honeymoon reservations
- Finalize the wedding day timeline and fax, mail or e-mail to all appropriate vendors.
- Call them to make sure they understand all the information and feel comfortable with the arrangements you have made
- Submit final numbers to rental companies, the florist and the reception venue managers
- Mail your wedding day schedules. Make sure each wedding day participant is aware of the day's activities and their role
- Finalize your seating arrangements (making sure you involve both sets of parents)

2 Weeks before

- Send final payment to all vendors
- Prepare a toast for your wedding reception
- Finalize the vows you have written for the ceremony
- Have any hair treatments done - highlights, trim etc. (Don't wait until two days before the wedding!)

1 Week before

- Make sure to confide in at least one person to assist you with your errands the last week prior to your wedding

- Confirm the whereabouts of your guest book and pen, cake knife and lifter, champagne flutes etc. and put them together in one box
- Confirm the whereabouts of your marriage license and wedding rings and put them in a box or bag marked "Ceremony".
- Pick up your bridal gown and veil and make sure all of your accessories are together.
 - Also make sure the wedding dress is covered with a protective bag and stuffed with tissue to preserve its shape
- Pick up the bridal party outfits and bring them to the bridal dressing room on the day before the wedding, if possible
- Pick up the groom's outfit and make sure all of his accessories are together
- Get groom a haircut
- Confirm all appointment times for hair, makeup, nails, etc.
- Get a facial (Don't wait until two days before the wedding!)
- Write any final thank-you notes to bridal party members or parents
- Attend the bachelor and bachelorette parties, if applicable
- Pack your wedding night and day-after clothes
- Prepare all your outfits, including the rehearsal dinner, wedding day and post-wedding brunch
- Prepare and pack for your honeymoon
- Arrange transportation to your hair and makeup appointments
- Give your marriage license to the officiate
- Arrange who will return any rental items that must be returned after the wedding
- Reconfirm transportation for the entire wedding party

On the Wedding Day

- Eat a well-balanced breakfast. You have a big day ahead of you, and some brides have been known to faint because they forget to eat
- Drink lots of water and refrain from an excess of caffeine and alcohol
- Take a lavender bath - it's very relaxing
- Remember to wear a button-down shirt for your hair and makeup appointments
- Give the Wedding bands to the Best Man and Maid of Honour
- Take a deep breath and enjoy - remember this is your day!