

TIPS FOR ATTENDING A BRIDAL SHOW

BEFORE THE SHOW

Register Online

By registering for a show in advance, you and your wedding planning team will save valuable time at show check-in. In addition, you create your own personalized **My Bridal Suite**, where you can keep track all of your wedding vendors, stay on budget and manage your guest list. At show check-in you will receive a welcome bag containing special offers and information from our sponsors. **Register today!**

Create A Wedding Email

We recommend creating an email address specifically for your wedding; like mywedding@gmail.com or mywedding@yahoo.com. Email addresses like .edu or .gov may be blocked. Creating a temporary email specifically for your wedding will help keep your life less cluttered during your wedding planning process. You'll be receiving a lot of valuable information and most of your communication with vendors will be via email. You definitely don't want to miss anything important you're waiting for in the mix of your personal emails or by heading straight to spam.

Create A Show-Going Plan

If you've already started your wedding planning then congratulations, you're off to a great start! Our shows are a great tool for couples that are just starting or that are looking for a few last items to check off their list. In order to be confident and productive at the shows, we strongly suggest that you sit down with your wedding planning team and decide which vendors to target. Who do you still need to book to make your big day a success? If you're just beginning, decide on your top categories and look to meet these vendors at the show.

Come Prepared With Questions

The show is your chance to ask the vendors everything, so don't be shy. Come armed and ready with a list of questions. Need help? Download our exclusive online Vendor Interview page.

Bring The Important Stuff

Remember the shows are to connect you with your perfect wedding vendors! Items that you should definitely make sure you have on hand are:

- **Your wallet** - checkbook and/or credit card. Many vendors offer show specials if you sign with them that day, so be prepared.
- **Calendar** - You may want to meet with a vendor at another time outside of the show to discuss things further. Bring your calendar to schedule future meetings immediately.
- **Labels or Stamps** - Pretty much every vendor that you speak with will ask you for your information to be entered into drawings or to send you follow-up information. Be sure to bring pre-printed address labels; we recommend template Avery 5160, or a self-inking stamp. Either way, include: your name, contact information (phone or email), and wedding date.
- **Planner** - Your wedding planner/organizer should be one of your "go-to" items during your planning process! You can keep track of your budget, booked vendors, meetings on your calendar and so much more! During the show, reference the complimentary **Dream It • Plan It • Live It™ Wedding Organizer** you received at check-in to keep track of all of the amazing vendors and inspiration you find!

DURING THE SHOW

Bring Your Significant Other, Family and Support Team

Planning your wedding is one of the most exciting things you'll do in your life. Bring the people whose opinions you value the most. Your wedding planning team should provide support, input and suggestions and should be who truly know what is most important to you and your significant other! Bring your fiancé; guys tend to have the most fun at the shows and really start to get involved in the wedding planning process. Our shows offer something for everyone. Everyone feels included, contributing ideas and suggestions.

Stay As Long As You Like

Other than meeting new vendors and gaining knowledge, our shows are just FUN! Plan for plenty of time to meet your prospective vendors, taste the food, wedding cake, beverages, and of course, watch the fashion shows. On average, our couples will spend about 3 hours at the show. You're going to be doing a lot of walking, talking and collecting material, so we also suggest that you wear comfortable shoes and clothing.

Come Hands Free

At the show you will receive a welcome bag to help you collect literature and detailed information on the vendors that you meet. Coming to the show completely hands free is strongly recommended. The last thing that you want to do is juggle your coat, a bag, and your purse, while filling out information and navigating through the aisles.

Engage With The Vendors & Ask Lots Of Questions

This is your chance! Don't be shy! After all, that's what they're here for. Our vendors want to help you, so find out everything you need or want to know to make your wedding perfect. Make sure you collect any information that you gather from the vendors and keep it in your welcome bag.

Take Lots Of Pictures

This is the best place to capture images and inspiration. We love Pinterest and our show is just like Pinterest, but live! So get inspired, aim and shoot! But, don't forget to also capture all of the memories of you and your wedding planning team at the show...you'll enjoy looking back on them later.

Stay For A Fashion Show

The fashion shows are a must see. You'll have a chance to get a sneak peak at some of the latest wedding fashions for you and your entire bridal party. Not only will you see the latest fashions, you can also get a glimpse at your entire look with hair, makeup, jewelry, attire and flowers. Along, with seeing some great fashions, get interactive with the **thumbs up - thumbs down** page from your **Dream It • Plan It • Live It™ Wedding Organizer** to let us know which looks you're liking. Don't miss out on some of the amazing on-stage giveaways! The on-stage contests and giveaways are definitely a must see and a must do! Besides, who doesn't love winning free stuff?

Parking/ATM/Restaurant

Parking for the shows is free. There is an ATM located inside the restaurant of the Jim Graham Building. You'll definitely get to sample so much amazing food and desserts but if you need to take a break and go over everything you've seen or gathered, feel free to do it at the Murphy House Restaurant located just inside the entrance doors. This is a cash-only restaurant so make sure you bring cash or visit their ATM.

AFTER THE SHOW

Relax

You just attended a bridal show and kick started your wedding planning in the best way possible! You've made your planning so much easier by avoiding endless hours of phone calls, meetings and appointments. Now kick up your feet and read through the materials you collected. Browse through all of the pictures you took.

Start Organizing

Now that you're home and have had a chance to relax and reflect on the show, you can begin to sort through all of the materials you collected. We recommend organizing it by categories. Some vendors have time sensitive offers and promotions; so don't put it off too long. Trust us this will make you feel so good, we love organization!

Schedule Follow-Up Meetings

Ok, now that you've organized all of your materials, start to narrow down your vendor categories to those that really stood out to you. Schedule follow-up meetings to go over any other questions or concerns you may have thought of since the show. Don't forget to use the calendar in you **Dream It • Plan It • Live It™ Wedding Organizer**.

Keep Planning

When you registered for the show you created your own personalized **My Bridal Suite**. Here you can keep track of your wedding vendors, stay on budget and manage your guest list. Refer to your **Dream It • Plan It • Live It™ Wedding Organizer** and utilize the exclusive online downloads to complete the binder. Two tools, one plan; Forever Bridal.