

# bridal checklist

notes

## 12 MONTHS OR MORE *before your wedding*

- Set a date, time and location for your ceremony and reception
- Determine a theme or feel you want your wedding day to have
- Determine your budget and shared expenses
- Create a new email address, so all wedding traffic will be in one place
- Officially announce your engagement
- Interview wedding consultants / planners
- Interview / research photographers and videographers
- Select your ceremony officiant or clergy
- Have your engagement photos taken
- Create a custom hashtag, as you document your process
- TIP: choose something shorter and unique to avoid running out of characters or getting mixed in with someone else's special day!**
- Attend a bridal show

## 10-12 MONTHS *before your wedding*

- Choose your attendants; confirm their availability
- Research and reserve your reception site
- Start shopping for your gown. Remember to schedule fittings when you order
- Start compiling your guest list
- TIP: include requests from parents; decide if children will be invited**
- Send engagement photo and announcement to local papers
- Arrange for premarital counseling, if required
- Decide on entertainment (Band / DJ / soloist / etc.)
- Research florists and their availability
- Research and reserve your caterers
- TIP: it is a good plan to have an idea of a menu and budget**
- Reserve any specialty rental items you may need such as tents, chairs, etc.
- Begin thinking where you'd like to honeymoon
- Plan your engagement party

## 6-9 MONTHS *before your wedding*

- Set up your gift registry
- Begin planning your rehearsal dinner
- Shop for and order mother's / bridesmaid's / flower girl dresses
- Decide on the groom's and groomsmen attire, as well as the ring bearer
- Finalize the guest list; send the list to your calligrapher/stationer
- Order your invitations and other stationery needs
- Send Save-the-Dates
- Select ceremony music and readings
- Start planning the menu for your reception
- Research bakeries for your wedding cake or other dessert options
- Research marriage license requirements for your state
- Block hotel rooms / accommodations for your out-of-town guests
- Research and plan activities for your guests
- Reserve your transportation needs; keep in mind out-of-town guests or guests with special needs
- Order any other specialty items that you desire; such as ice sculptures that are not inclusive in your catering package



ourHashtag

#

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## 3-6 MONTHS *before your wedding*

- Research and reserve your rehearsal dinner site
- Shop for bridal accessories (jewelry / shoes / lingerie / veil / headpiece / etc.)
- Shop for bridesmaids' accessories
- Make an appointments for trial hair and make-up
- Confirm delivery of bridal and bridesmaids' attire
- Send your invitations to arrive 8 weeks before your ceremony
- Choose your ceremony participants, readers, greeters, etc.
- Confirm the ceremony details with your officiant & your vows
- Discuss living arrangements
- Make hotel reservations for your wedding night if you are staying in town
- Review any special documents needed for your honeymoon
- Finalize and book your honeymoon

## 2 MONTHS *before your wedding*

- Schedule your wedding day appointments (hair / make-up / nails / etc.)
- Shop for wedding bands
- Purchase gifts for your bridal party, etc.
- Have bridal gown and bridal party fittings
- Have groom schedule fittings with the formal wear company and finalize any special accessories needed to complete the look
- Design your wedding program
- Have your wedding programs printed
- Finalize rehearsal dinner plans and order invites
- Finalize and confirm the menu for the reception
- Plan the bachelor / bachelorette party / bridal shower / bridal luncheon; be sure to give the host / hostess your guest list

## 1 MONTHS *before your wedding*

- Finalize your jewelry and Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Something Blue
- Pick up wedding rings
- Pick up marriage license
- TIP: be sure to check your state's requirements*
- Purchase a guest book and pen
- Send rehearsal dinner invitations
- Write thank-you notes for showers, parties and any gifts received
- Have your bridal portrait taken
- Contact guests who haven't RSVP'd
- Set up a seating chart
- Meet with your photographer to confirm any required photos that you want
- Meet with your videographer to go over any additional services you require
- Have final consultation with your DJ or band to review flow of the reception and your "play / do not play" list
- Have final consultation with your florist
- Plan and schedule wedding day responsibilities
- Finalize all details with hired professionals; have all agreements in writing
- Have final consultation with your baker
- Plan for wedding gown preservation
- Confirm honeymoon reservations

intro 
  venues 
  attire 
  papergoods 
  details 
  food & catering 
  misc. 
  special offers

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## 2 WEEKS *before your wedding*

- Have final fittings for formal wear / bridesmaid attire / wedding dress
- Have groom get his final pre-wedding haircut
- Give guest list to printer or calligrapher for name cards at reception
- Start working on those wedding day speeches; best man, too!
- Determine if you will have a receiving line and who will stand in it
- Give final number and seating arrangement to the caterer
- Confirm your transportation details regarding pick up and drop-off times and locations
- Pick up honeymoon tickets and traveler's checks
- Practice walking & dancing in your wedding shoes
- Choose a family member or friend to collect and return any rented items / clothing after the wedding

## WEEK-OF *your wedding*

- Confirm final payments for vendors and write checks; for convenience, place the checks in marked envelopes
- Pack for your honeymoon
- Pamper yourself with a massage, manicure, pedicure, etc.

## THE DAY BEFORE *your wedding*

- Attend rehearsal and dinner
- Pack your wedding day items to take with you: veil / shoes / jewelry / make-up / etc.
- Prepare a bride's emergency kit
- Bring the marriage license to the rehearsal for your officiant
- Give gifts to attendants
- Enlist a friend or family member to drive you around for last minute errands so you can relax
- Drop off guest book & pen at reception site
- Make sure everyone has their list / schedule for the big day
- Give checks you have written and the wedding bands to best man

## YOUR WEDDING DAY

- Get your hair and make-up done, take your time getting dressed
- Eat a good breakfast
- Go over your checklist and make sure you have everything you need
- Enjoy the day!

## AFTER YOUR WEDDING

- Have your mom or a bridesmaid pick up your wedding dress & personal items
- Have the best man collect and return the formal wear
- Have your gown preserved
- Complete and mail thank you notes to guests, attendants and vendors
- Have your bouquet preserved
- Have a family member pick up and freeze the top layer of your wedding cake
- Complete name change requirements
- Enjoy growing old together!