

SocialBride



CHECKLISTS

NINE MONTHS AND EARLIER

- Announce your engagement
- Select a date for your wedding.
- Hire a professional wedding consultant
- Determine the type of wedding you want: location, formality, time of day, number of guests etc..
- Determine budget and how expenses will be shared
- Develop a record keeping system for payments made
- Consolidate all guest lists: bride's, groom's, family and organise as follow:
 - i) Those who must be invited
 - ii) Those who should be invited
 - iii) Those who would be nice to invite
- Decide if you want to include children among guests
- Select and reserve ceremony site
- Select and reserve your officiate
- Select and reserve reception site
- Select and order your bridal gown and headpiece
- Determine your colour scheme
- Send engagement notice with photograph to your local newspaper
- Buy a calendar and note all important activities: showers, luncheons, parties, get-togethers, etc
- If ceremony or reception is at home, arrange for home or garden improvements as needed.
- Order passport, visa, or birth certificate, if needed, for your honeymoon.
- Select and book photographer
- Select maid of honour, best man, bridesmaids and ushers (approx 1 usher per 50 guests)

SIX TO NINE MONTHS BEFORE WEDDING

- Select flower girl and ring bearer
- Give the wedding party their responsibilities
- Reserve wedding night bridal suite
- Select and book caterer, if needed
- Select and book ceremony musicians, book reception musicians or DJ
- Schedule fittings and delivery dates for yourself, attendants and flower girl
- Select and book videographer
- Select and book florist

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FOUR TO SIX MONTHS BEFORE WEDDING

- Start shopping for each other's wedding gifts
- Reserve rental items needed for ceremony and reception
- Finalise guest list
- Select and order wedding invitations, announcements, and other stationery such as thank-you notes, wedding programs, and seating cards.
- Address invitations or hire a calligrapher
- Set date, time, and location for your rehearsal dinner.
- Arrange accommodation for out-of-town guests.
- Start planning your honeymoon
- Select and book all miscellaneous services, i.e. gift attendants, valet parking, etc.
- Purchase shoes and accessories
- Register for wedding gifts

TWO TO FOUR MONTHS BEFORE WEDDING

- Select bakery and order wedding cake
- Order party favours
- Select and order room decorations
- Purchase honeymoon attire and luggage
- Select and book wedding day transport
- Shop for wedding rings and engrave them
- Consider having your teeth cleaned or bleached
- Consider writing a will or a prenuptial agreement
- Plan activities for out-of-town guests
- Purchase gifts for wedding attendants
- Review and update your gift registry

SIX TO EIGHT WEEKS BEFORE WEDDING

- Mail invitations. Include accommodation choices and map to assist guests in finding the ceremony and reception sites
- Maintain a record of RSVP's and all gifts received. Send thank-you notes upon receipt of gifts.
- Determine hairstyle and make-up
- Schedule to have your hair, make-up, and nails done the day of the wedding.
- Finalise shopping for wedding day accessories such as toasting glasses, ring pillow, guest book etc.
- Set up an area in your home or a table to display gifts as you receive them.
- Check requirements to change your name and address on your driver's license, insurance policies, medical aid, bank accounts, etc



SIX TO EIGHT WEEKS BEFORE WEDDING (CONT)

- Select and reserve wedding attire for groom, ushers, father of the bride, and ring bearer.
- Select a guest book attendant. Decide when and where to have guests sign in.
- Mail invitations to rehearsal dinner.
- Plan a luncheon or dinner with your bridesmaids. Give them their gifts at that time or at the rehearsal dinner.
- Find "something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue and a shining penny for your shoe."
- Finalize your menu, beverage, and alcohol order.
- Review and update your registry.

TWO TO SIX WEEKS BEFORE WEDDING.

- Confirm ceremony details with your officiate.
- Arrange final fitting of bridesmaids' dresses
- Have final fitting of your gown and headpiece.
- Finalise rehearsal dinner plans, arrange seating and write names on place cards, if desired.
- Make final floral selections.
- Make a detailed timeline for your wedding party.
- Make a detailed timeline for your service providers
- Confirm details with all service providers, including attire. Give them a copy of your wedding timeline.
- Start packing for your honeymoon.
- Finalise addressing and stamping announcements.
- Contact guests who haven't responded.
- Pick up rings and check for fit.
- Meet with photographer and confirm special photo's you want taken.
- Meet with videographer and confirm special events or people you want videotaped.
- Meet with musicians and confirm music to be played during special events, such as the first dance.
- Continue writing thank-you notes as gifts arrive
- Remind bridesmaids and ushers when and where to pick up their attire.
- Purchase the lipstick and nail polish you want your bridesmaids to wear.
- Determine ceremony seating for special guests. Give list to ushers.
- Plan reception room layout and seating with your reception manager or caterer. Write names on seat cards for arranged seating

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THE LAST WEEK

- Pick up wedding attire and make sure everything fits
- Do final guest count and notify your caterer or reception manager
- Gather everything you will need for the rehearsal and wedding day.
- Review the schedule of events and last minute arrangements with your service providers. Give them each a detailed timeline.
- Confirm all honeymoon reservations and accommodations. Pick up tickets' and travelers checks.
- Finish packing your suitcases for the honeymoon.
- Familiarise yourself with guest names. It will help during the reception.
- Notify the post office to hold your mail while you are away on your honeymoon.

THE REHEARSAL DAY

- Review list of things to bring to rehearsal (download the form)
- Put suitcases in getaway car
- Give your bridesmaids the lipstick, nail polish, and accessories you want them to wear on the wedding day.
- Give the best man the officiate's fee and any other cheques for the service providers. Instruct him to deliver these cheques the day of the wedding.
- Arrange for someone to bring accessories, such as flower basket, ring pillow, guest book and pen, toasting glasses, cake-cutting knife, and napkins to the ceremony and reception.
- Arrange for someone to mail announcements day after the wedding.
- Arrange with someone to return rental items, such as tuxedo's, slip, and cake pillars, after the wedding.
- Provide each member of your wedding party with detailed schedule of events/timelines for the wedding.
- Review ceremony seating with ushers.

THE WEDDING DAY

- Review list of things to bring to ceremony (download list)
- Give the Groom's ring to the Maid of Honour.
- Give the Bride's ring to the best man
- Simply follow your detailed schedule of events
- Relax and enjoy your wedding!!!

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