

WEDDING WORKBOOK

In this eight-page section, you will find worksheets to help you plan and organize the many important details that will make up your wedding, from the budget to the guest list to the music and flowers. *Start with the timeline* below, and set deadlines for yourselves. If you have fewer than six months to plan your wedding, don't panic; just get started as soon as possible. And never allow the details to overshadow the joy of the event.

six or more months ahead

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Think about the type of wedding you want—formal or informal, big or small—and the time of year you want it to take place. | <input type="checkbox"/> Book officiant. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Set budget. | <input type="checkbox"/> Book caterer. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hire wedding coordinator, if desired. | <input type="checkbox"/> Order wedding cake. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Compile guest list, and organize addresses. | <input type="checkbox"/> Book florist. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finalize wedding date. | <input type="checkbox"/> Book music for ceremony and reception. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve ceremony and reception sites. | <input type="checkbox"/> Book photographer and videographer. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Choose attendants. | <input type="checkbox"/> Plan and book honeymoon. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Order dress and accessories, including veil and shoes. | <input type="checkbox"/> Send save-the-date cards, if using. |

four to six months ahead

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve rental equipment, such as tables, chairs, and tents. | <input type="checkbox"/> Buy stockings and any special lingerie your dress requires. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arrange transportation for the wedding day. | <input type="checkbox"/> Choose favors. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Order stationery, including invitations and thank-you notes; book calligrapher, if using. | <input type="checkbox"/> Book a room for wedding night. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Register for gifts. | <input type="checkbox"/> Choose gifts for wedding party. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase wedding rings. | <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve accommodations for out-of-town guests. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase or reserve groom's attire. | <input type="checkbox"/> Sign up for dance lessons. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Choose attendants' attire. | |

two to four months ahead

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discuss details of menu with caterer. | <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule rehearsal time and rehearsal dinner. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discuss service with officiant. | <input type="checkbox"/> Try out makeup and hairstyle. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Choose readings for ceremony. | <input type="checkbox"/> Mail invitations. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Write your wedding vows, if you choose. | <input type="checkbox"/> Write thank-you notes as gifts arrive. |

Continued on the next page

one to two months ahead

- Buy guest book.
- Have programs printed.
- If your state requires blood tests, make appointments.
- Obtain marriage license, and request certified copies.
- If you intend to change your name, prepare the necessary documents.
- Send change-of-address information to post office.
- Contact local newspapers about publishing wedding announcement.

two weeks ahead

- Have final dress fitting with shoes, accessories, and lingerie.
- Begin seating plan, and write place cards.
- Notify caterer of guest count.
- Write toasts for rehearsal dinner and wedding reception.
- Address announcements.
- Break in wedding shoes at home.
- Designate someone to look after your home while you are on your honeymoon.
- Find out where your guests will be staying, if you plan to deliver welcome notes or gifts to their rooms.

one week ahead

- Finalize seating plan.
- Assign specific responsibilities, such as handing out corsages and boutonnieres, to members of your wedding party.
- Pick up dress or have it delivered.
- Confirm details with caterer.
- Confirm honeymoon arrangements, and give your itinerary to a friend or family member in case of emergency.
- Pack for honeymoon.
- Update caterer with final guest and vendor meal counts.

one day ahead

- Confirm transportation arrangements for ceremony and reception.
- Give announcements to an attendant for mailing after the wedding.
- Have manicure and pedicure.
- Rehearse ceremony.
- Hold rehearsal dinner; give gifts to wedding party. If you choose, give gifts to parents to thank them for their support.
- Prepare tip and payment envelopes for officiant and vendors, and make arrangements for someone to distribute them.

your wedding day

- Relax, and enjoy yourselves!

notes

BUDGET PLANNER

Before you plan your wedding, *know how much you can spend* and what you want to spend it on. As a general guideline, allot approximately 50 percent of your budget to the reception (location, food, and beverages). Then allot about 10 percent each to flowers, photography, attire, and music. The final 10 percent goes to stationery, favors, and other details.

<i>ceremony and reception</i>	_____	Ceremony location fee	<i>flowers</i>	_____	Ceremony decorations	
	_____	Officiant's fee		_____	Bride's bouquet	
	_____	Marriage license		_____	Maid of honor's and bridesmaids' bouquets	
	_____	Reception-site fee		_____	Flower girl's accessories	
	_____	Food		_____	Corsages	
	_____	Cake		_____	Boutonnieres	
	_____	Bar		_____	Reception centerpieces and decorations	
	_____	Rentals		_____	subtotal _____	
	_____	Couple's transportation		<hr/>		
	_____	Guests' transportation and parking		<i>attire</i>	_____	Bride's dress
	_____	Tips and coat check			_____	Headpiece and veil
_____	subtotal _____	_____	Bride's shoes			
<hr/>			_____		Lingerie	
<i>photography</i>	_____	Photographer's fee	_____		Jewelry and accessories	
	_____	Engagement portrait	_____		Hair and makeup	
	_____	Wedding album	_____		Groom's tuxedo or suit	
	_____	Parents' albums	_____		Groom's shoes	
	_____	Additional prints	_____		Groom's accessories	
	_____	Videography	_____		Bride's and groom's rings	
_____	subtotal _____	_____	subtotal _____			
<hr/>			<hr/>			
<i>music</i>	_____	Ceremony music	<i>gifts, favors, and extras</i>	_____	Maid of honor's gift	
	_____	Cocktail-hour music		_____	Bridesmaids' gifts	
	_____	Reception music		_____	Best man's gift	
_____	subtotal _____	_____		Groomsmen's gifts		
<hr/>				_____	Child attendants' gifts	
<i>stationery</i>	_____	Save-the-date cards		_____	Bride's parents' gifts	
	_____	Invitations and envelopes		_____	Groom's parents' gifts	
	_____	Programs		_____	Guest-room gifts	
	_____	Seating cards, place cards, and menu cards		_____	Favors	
	_____	Thank-you notes		_____	Ring pillow	
	_____	Postage	_____	Guest book		
	_____	Calligraphy	_____	subtotal _____		
	_____	Announcements	<hr/>			
	_____	subtotal _____	_____	<i>total</i> _____		
<hr/>			<hr/>			

GUEST-LIST PLANNER

Once you've *finalized the list* for your wedding, use this planner to keep track of pertinent information such as phone numbers, addresses, who has responded, and how many thank-you notes you owe. Photocopy this page as many times as you need to.

Name(s) _____	_____	Save-the-date card sent
Address _____	_____	Invitation sent
_____	_____	R.S.V.P. received
Telephone number _____	_____	Thank-you sent
E-mail address _____		
Gift _____		Number attending _____
Name(s) _____	_____	Save-the-date card sent
Address _____	_____	Invitation sent
_____	_____	R.S.V.P. received
Telephone number _____	_____	Thank-you sent
E-mail address _____		
Gift _____		Number attending _____
Name(s) _____	_____	Save-the-date card sent
Address _____	_____	Invitation sent
_____	_____	R.S.V.P. received
Telephone number _____	_____	Thank-you sent
E-mail address _____		
Gift _____		Number attending _____
Name(s) _____	_____	Save-the-date card sent
Address _____	_____	Invitation sent
_____	_____	R.S.V.P. received
Telephone number _____	_____	Thank-you sent
E-mail address _____		
Gift _____		Number attending _____

total guests this page _____

PHOTOGRAPHY PLANNER

To ensure that your photographer captures all *the most important moments* of your wedding on film, provide him or her with a list of specific events and names of important guests to photograph. Then designate a close friend or relative to help the photographer locate the people on it. Discuss which shots should be in color and which in black and white.

portraits

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bride | <input type="checkbox"/> Bride with parents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Groom | <input type="checkbox"/> Groom with parents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bride and groom | <input type="checkbox"/> Bride and groom with bride's parents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bride, with detail of back of dress | <input type="checkbox"/> Bride and groom with bride's family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Groom with best man | <input type="checkbox"/> Bride and groom with groom's parents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Groom with groomsmen | <input type="checkbox"/> Bride and groom with groom's family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bride with maid of honor | <input type="checkbox"/> Bride and groom with both sets of parents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bride with bridesmaids | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ring bearer with flower girl | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entire wedding party | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |

prewedding

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bride and attendants getting ready | <input type="checkbox"/> Bride leaving for ceremony |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Groom and attendants getting ready | <input type="checkbox"/> Groom leaving for ceremony |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mother or maid of honor helping bride get ready | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reception site being set up | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |

ceremony

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Signs directing guests to wedding | <input type="checkbox"/> Special guests watching ceremony |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wedding programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Wedding kiss |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ceremony site, with guests arriving | <input type="checkbox"/> Bride and groom leading recessional |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ushers escorting special guests to their seats | <input type="checkbox"/> Guests throwing rice or flower petals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Both sets of parents entering | <input type="checkbox"/> Signing of wedding certificate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Groom walking down the aisle or awaiting bride | <input type="checkbox"/> Bride's and groom's hands displaying rings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bridal party at ceremony spot, awaiting bride | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child attendants walking down the aisle | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bride walking down the aisle | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |

reception

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friends signing guest book | <input type="checkbox"/> Bride dancing with her father |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Guests at cocktail hour | <input type="checkbox"/> Groom dancing with his mother |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reception site, set for dinner | <input type="checkbox"/> Guests dancing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seating-cards display | <input type="checkbox"/> Favors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Centerpieces | <input type="checkbox"/> Wedding cake |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Place settings | <input type="checkbox"/> Bride and groom cutting the cake |
| <input type="checkbox"/> People giving toasts | <input type="checkbox"/> Bride and groom departing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bride and groom listening to toasts | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Group pictures of guests at each table | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bride and groom's first dance | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |

MUSIC PLANNER

Fill in this page with *your song choices*, and give a copy to musicians and deejays so they know what to play and when. It's a good idea to make a note of specific songs you don't want to hear as well. Will your bandleader also act as master of ceremonies at the reception? If so, be sure to discuss what you would like him or her to say.

		<i>song</i>	<i>performed by</i>	<i>start time</i>
<i>ceremony</i>	Prelude			
	Processional			
	Ceremony			
	Recessional			
<i>reception</i>		<i>song</i>	<i>performed by</i>	<i>start time</i>
	Cocktail hour			
	Couple's first dance			
	Bride & father's dance			
	Groom & mother's dance			
	Guests' first dance			
	Dinner			
	Dancing			
	Cake cutting			
Other special requests				
Last dance				
"Don't play" list				
<i>other</i>	Announcements, dedications, and toasts			

FLOWER PLANNER

It's easier to talk with your florist—and stay within your *budget for flowers*—if you begin with a complete list of the arrangements you want. We've included a list of flowers by season to get you started.

wedding party

	<i>description</i>
Bride's bouquet	
Bride's headpiece	
Maid of honor's bouquet	
Bridesmaids' bouquets	
Flower girl's headpiece and basket	
Groom's boutonniere	
Best man's and groomsmen's boutonnieres	
Ring bearer's boutonniere	
Mothers' corsages	
Other special guests' corsages	
Fathers' boutonnieres	
Other special guests' boutonnieres	
Other	

ceremony

	<i>description</i>
Aisle runner	
Pew or chair decorations	
Altar or huppa arrangements	
Candles and holders	
Other	

reception

	<i>description</i>
Entryway arrangements	
Bar decorations	
Dining-table centerpieces	
Bride's and groom's chair decorations	
Buffet-table decorations	
Cake and cake-table decorations	
Powder-room arrangements	
Other	

flowers by season

<i>year-round</i>	<i>spring</i>		<i>summer</i>		<i>fall</i>	<i>winter</i>
Calla lily	Cherry blossom	Lily-of-the-valley	Astilbe	Lady's mantle	Autumn leaves	Amaryllis
Carnation	Daffodil	Muscari	Cosmos	Larkspur	Chrysanthemum	Anemone
Freesia	Dogwood	Peony	Dahlia	Marigold	Dahlia	Evergreen
Gardenia	Forsythia	Quince	Daisy	Scabiosa	Hydrangea	Forced bulbs
Lily	Hellebore	Sweet pea	Delphinium	Snapdragon	Seasonal berries	Paper-white
Orchid	Hyacinth	Tulip	Garden rose	Violet	Sunflower	Poinsettia
Ranunculus	Lilac	Viburnum	Gladiolus	Zinnia		
Rose			Hollyhock			
Stephanotis						

RECEPTION SEATING PLANNER

Use this worksheet along with your guest list to decide *who will sit with whom* at the reception. Give it to your calligrapher, or whoever is creating your seating cards, and to your caterer. If you will assign places at each table, sketch out the shapes and configuration of the tables, and transfer the names to your drawing. Photocopy this page as many times as you need to.

table no. _____

table no. _____

table no. _____

table no. _____

table no. _____

table no. _____
