

Plan the perfect day

Planning your wedding should be a fun affair. So here's your indispensable planner to ensure the run up to your big day is hassle-free! Why not print out our top guide when visiting www.the-weddingplanner.com?



Your countdown checklist

Things to do now!

- Tell relatives and friends you are engaged
- Place an announcement in your local newspaper
- Open a wedding bank account
- Organise wedding insurance
- Set a budget and decide who's paying for what
- Choose your best man, ushers and bridesmaids

6-12 months to go

- Set a date
- Decide the type of wedding you want
- Hire a wedding co-ordinator, if needed
- Arrange the first meeting with your priest, minister or rabbi, or, if you're having a civil ceremony, book the registrar
- Decide on the number of guests you're inviting
- Book transport
- Visit possible reception venues, book your favourite
- Book cars, photographer and videographer
- Book a florist and discuss ideas
- Order your stationery
- Bride chooses her outfit
- Bridesmaids choose their outfits
- Plan and book the honeymoon (book time off work)
- Book a band, DJ or musicians
- Send out save the date cards
- Begin a beauty routine
- Book a Toastmaster

4-6 months to go

- Confirm arrangements with your minister and discuss the service
- If the wedding is in a church other than the Church of England, give notice of the marriage to the superintendent registrar
- Groom to organise suits for himself and best man
- Choose and purchase your wedding rings
- Order your wedding cake
- Choose your gift list company
- Make a first draft of the invitation
- Reserve rental equipment, such as marquee
- Buy wedding day lingerie
- Choose & book favours
- Reserve accommodation for guests who need it
- Organise dress fittings

2-4 months to go

- Send out invitations, including gift list info
- Finalise honeymoon plans, check passports are up to date and travel insurance plus vaccinations and visas
- Buy a going away outfit
- Write personalised vows, if necessary
- Schedule a rehearsal time and dinner
- Buy a guest book
- Have order of service sheets printed
- Book first night hotel
- Confirm booking, if marrying in a register office
- Organise hen and stag parties

1-2 months to go

- Choose gifts for the wedding party
- Chase unanswered invitations and draw up final list
- Confirm numbers with venue
- Finalise transport
- Remind groom, best man and father to write speeches
- Buy marriage licence
- Send list of must-have shots to photographer

1 week to go

- Pack for your honeymoon
- Final hair and make-up practice, manicure and pedicure
- Wear-in wedding shoes at home
- Arrange for cake to be delivered to venue
- Hold rehearsal with wedding party

On the day

Give yourself plenty of time to get ready in the morning, preferably with your bridesmaids. If you've booked a hair and make-up session, wear a top that you can take off without ruining your new do (a cardigan is ideal). Make sure someone has been assigned the role of collecting and handing out the bouquets and buttonholes to the wedding party. Finally, relax and smile, it's your wedding day!

Budget Planner

Your Budget

Wedding rings	<input type="text"/>
Dress	<input type="text"/>
Shoes	<input type="text"/>
Veil	<input type="text"/>
Jewellery	<input type="text"/>
Lingerie	<input type="text"/>
Hair & Make-up	<input type="text"/>
Groom's Outfit	<input type="text"/>
Best man/Usher's Outfits	<input type="text"/>
Bridesmaid Outfits	<input type="text"/>
Transport	<input type="text"/>
Registrar/Church fees	<input type="text"/>
Stationery	<input type="text"/>
Photography	<input type="text"/>
Video	<input type="text"/>
Flowers	<input type="text"/>
Cake	<input type="text"/>
Reception venue hire	<input type="text"/>
Reception decoration	<input type="text"/>
Catering	<input type="text"/>
Drinks/Bar	<input type="text"/>
Entertainment	<input type="text"/>
Dance Lessons	<input type="text"/>
Thank you gifts	<input type="text"/>
First night hotel	<input type="text"/>
Honeymoon	<input type="text"/>