

# THE *ultimate* WEDDING PLANNING CHECKLIST

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*We'll show you how to plan your wedding  
quickly and easily--whether it be a destination  
wedding or an elopement.  
We've got you covered.*

# THE LONG ENGAGEMENT

*If you're planning a wedding that's at least 1 year away, consider yourself lucky! Most wedding planning doesn't need to be done until you're about 12 months out, so sit back, relax and just take it all in. You've got nothin' but time.*

## As Soon as You Get Engaged

*Start with the easy stuff*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Come up with your budget and start saving      | <input type="checkbox"/> Start gathering ideas in a swipe file |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Choose a date (or 2-3 so you have wiggle room) | <input type="checkbox"/> Make a rough draft of the guest list  |

## 12 – 16 Months Before

*Begin making some of the bigger decisions*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Create your wedding mood board              | <input type="checkbox"/> Research photographers, florists, and caterers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tour your top venues and put down a deposit | <input type="checkbox"/> Have an engagement party                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Start dress shopping                        |   |

## 9 – 12 Months Before

*Now you really need to start planning*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Choose your wedding party                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Book the officiant                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hire the photographer and videographer        | <input type="checkbox"/> Hire the band, caterers and bar tenders |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve a block of hotel rooms                | <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase your wedding dress             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Create your wedding registry                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Launch your wedding website             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finalize your guest list and gather addresses | <input type="checkbox"/> Get engagement photos taken             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Order save the dates                          |  |

## 7-8 Months Before

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Select and purchase your invitations | <input type="checkbox"/> Meet with the officiant to plan the ceremony |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Send out your save the dates         | <input type="checkbox"/> Start composing a day-of timeline            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Start planning the honeymoon         | <input type="checkbox"/> Meet with and book the florist               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arrange transportation               | <input type="checkbox"/> Shop for bridesmaids' dresses                |

## 5-6 Months Before

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book the rehearsal & rehearsal dinner venues | <input type="checkbox"/> Book hair and makeup artists           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule cake tastings and order the cake    | <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase wedding shoes and accessories |

### 3-4 Months Before

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finalize the menu and flowers | <input type="checkbox"/> Choose your readings                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Order wedding favors          | <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase your lingerie                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Print menu cards and programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Finalize the order of ceremony and reception |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase the rings            | <input type="checkbox"/> Send your event schedule to the vendors      |

### 2 Months Before

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meet with the photographer                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Ask vendors any remaining questions   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Review the playlist with the band or deejay | <input type="checkbox"/> Have your bachelorette party          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Send out the invitations                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Submit newspaper wedding announcement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase thank you cards (for early gifts)  |  |

### 1 Month Before

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Record all your RSVPs                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Have your last (hopefully!) dress fitting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Get your marriage license               | <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase alcohol                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mail rehearsal dinner invitations       | <input type="checkbox"/> Send as many final payments as possible   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Confirm times for hair and makeup       | <input type="checkbox"/> Create seating assignments                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Email directions to all shuttle drivers | <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase bridesmaids' gifts               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Write your wedding vows                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Get your hair cut and colored             |

### Week of the Wedding

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delegate small wedding day tasks         | <input type="checkbox"/> Reconfirm arrival times with vendors          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Send a timeline to the bridal party      | <input type="checkbox"/> Confirm details with the photographer         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pick up your dress                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Send the final guest count to the caterer     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Break in your shoes                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Assemble and deliver the welcome baskets      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pack day-of and wedding night essentials | <input type="checkbox"/> Pack a suitcase for the honeymoon             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Write a note to the groom                | <input type="checkbox"/> Get a massage to relieve some of that stress! |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Confirm any weather-related backup plans | <input type="checkbox"/> Get a manicure and pedicure                   |

# THE SHORT ENGAGEMENT

*This checklist is for those of you planning a wedding in 6 months or less. Although short engagements require hard work and a little more organization than longer engagements, this checklist helps you hit all the key dates and milestones you need to make your big day go off without a hitch.*

## As Soon as You Get Engaged

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Come up with your budget and start saving | <input type="checkbox"/> Create your wedding mood board        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Choose a date                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Make a rough draft of the guest list  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Send out your save the dates              | <input type="checkbox"/> Start shopping for your wedding dress |

## 5 Months Before

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Order your invitations                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Start shopping for groom's attire          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tour your top venues and put down a deposit   | <input type="checkbox"/> Have an engagement party                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hire the photographer and videographer        | <input type="checkbox"/> Book the officiant                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Choose your wedding party                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Hire the band, caterers and bar tenders    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve a block of hotel rooms                | <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase your dress, shoes and accessories |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Create your wedding registry                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Launch your wedding website                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finalize your guest list and gather addresses | <input type="checkbox"/> Get engagement photos taken                |

## 4 Months Before

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book flights and hotel for the honeymoon     | <input type="checkbox"/> Meet with the officiant to plan the ceremony |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book hair and makeup artists                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Start composing a day-of timeline            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Start planning the honeymoon                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Meet with and book the florist               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arrange transportation                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Shop for bridesmaids' dresses                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book the rehearsal & rehearsal dinner venues | <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule cake tastings and order the cake    |

## 3 Months Before

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finalize the menu and flowers | <input type="checkbox"/> Choose your readings                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Order wedding favors          | <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase your lingerie                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Print menu cards and programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Finalize the order of ceremony and reception |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase the rings            | <input type="checkbox"/> Send your event schedule to the vendors      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Get your marriage license     | <input type="checkbox"/> Write your vows                              |

## 2 Months Before

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meet with the photographer                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Ask vendors any remaining questions   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Review the playlist with the band or deejay | <input type="checkbox"/> Have your bachelorette party          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Send out the invitations                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Submit newspaper wedding announcement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase thank you cards (for early gifts)  |  |

## 1 Month Before

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Record all your RSVPs                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Have your last (hopefully!) dress fitting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Get your marriage license               | <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase alcohol                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mail rehearsal dinner invitations       | <input type="checkbox"/> Send as many final payments as possible   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Confirm times for hair and makeup       | <input type="checkbox"/> Create seating assignments                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Email directions to all shuttle drivers | <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase bridesmaids' gifts               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Write your wedding vows                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Get your hair cut and colored             |

## Week of the Wedding

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delegate small wedding day tasks         | <input type="checkbox"/> Reconfirm arrival times with vendors          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Send a timeline to the bridal party      | <input type="checkbox"/> Confirm details with the photographer         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pick up your dress                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Send the final guest count to the caterer     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Break in your shoes                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Assemble and deliver the welcome baskets      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pack day-of and wedding night essentials | <input type="checkbox"/> Pack a suitcase for the honeymoon             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Write a note to the groom                | <input type="checkbox"/> Get a massage to relieve some of that stress! |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Confirm any weather-related backup plans | <input type="checkbox"/> Get a manicure and pedicure                   |

# THE DESTINATION WEDDING

*Destination weddings require a little more planning and smidge more organization than traditional, close-to-home weddings. Be sure to give yourself extra time (and a little wine!) to get everything done with as little stress as possible.*

## As Soon as You Get Engaged

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Come up with your budget and start saving      | <input type="checkbox"/> Start looking for a destination wedding venue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Choose a date (or 2-3 so you have wiggle room) | <input type="checkbox"/> Make a rough draft of the guest list          |

## 12 – 16 Months Before

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Create your wedding mood board              | <input type="checkbox"/> Research marriage requirements in your location |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contract a wedding venue & schedule a visit | <input type="checkbox"/> Have an engagement party                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Start dress shopping                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Select an on-site wedding planner               |

## 9 – 12 Months Before

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Choose your wedding party                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Work with your location to find a caterer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contract a photographer and videographer      | <input type="checkbox"/> Order save the dates                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve a block of hotel rooms                | <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase your wedding dress               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Create your wedding registry                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Launch your wedding website               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finalize your guest list and gather addresses | <input type="checkbox"/> Get engagement photos taken               |

## 7-8 Months Before

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Select and purchase your invitations  | <input type="checkbox"/> Select an officiant                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Send out your save the dates          | <input type="checkbox"/> Start composing a day-of timeline       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book florist and musicians            | <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve block of hotel rooms for guests |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Begin researching honeymoon locations | <input type="checkbox"/> Shop for bridesmaids' dresses           |

## 5-6 Months Before

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make arrangements for rehearsal dinner | <input type="checkbox"/> Book hair and makeup artists        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Order the cake                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Choose formalwear for the groomsmen |

### 3-4 Months Before

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finalize the menu and flowers     | <input type="checkbox"/> Choose your readings                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Order wedding favors              | <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase your lingerie                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase the rings                | <input type="checkbox"/> Finalize the order of ceremony and reception |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book airfare for your wedding     | <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase bridal shoes and accessories        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Obtain passports and get vaccines | <input type="checkbox"/> Book any necessary rentals                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book airfare for your wedding     | <input type="checkbox"/> Choose and order invitations                 |

### 2 Months Before

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Come up with the reception playlist | <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase reception decorations             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finalize details with all vendors   | <input type="checkbox"/> Have your bachelorette party               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Send out the invitations            | <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase thank you cards (for early gifts) |

### 1 Month Before

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Record all your RSVPs             | <input type="checkbox"/> Have your last (hopefully!) dress fitting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Get your marriage license         | <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare day-of tips and cash payments     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mail rehearsal dinner invitations | <input type="checkbox"/> Send as many final payments as possible   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Confirm times for hair and makeup | <input type="checkbox"/> Create seating assignments                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Get your hair cut and colored     | <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase bridesmaids' gifts               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Write your wedding vows           |  |

### Week of the Wedding

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delegate small wedding day tasks         | <input type="checkbox"/> Do a walk-through of your venue            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Send a timeline to the bridal party      | <input type="checkbox"/> Confirm details with the photographer      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Confirm flight and hotel bookings        | <input type="checkbox"/> Send the final guest count to the caterer  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Get your marriage license                | <input type="checkbox"/> Assemble and deliver the welcome baskets   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pack day-of and wedding night essentials | <input type="checkbox"/> Pack a suitcase for the honeymoon          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Write a note to the groom                | <input type="checkbox"/> Have your dress steamed to remove wrinkles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Confirm any weather-related backup plans | <input type="checkbox"/> Get a manicure and pedicure                |

# THE ELOPEMENT

*While you might think of elopements as being the ultimate fuss-free wedding, they still require some planning. Here are all the things you might possibly need to do before the big day.*

## 6 Months Before

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Come up with your budget and start saving | <input type="checkbox"/> Choose a location for your elopement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Choose a date                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Start researching elopement packages |

## 5 Months Before

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Start shopping for your dress     | <input type="checkbox"/> Put down the deposit on a package, if necessary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Find your venue                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Make travel arrangements to/from the wedding    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hire the photographer             | <input type="checkbox"/> Book the officiant                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Start shopping for groom's attire | <input type="checkbox"/> Create a wedding registry (optional)            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Get engagement photos taken       |  |

## 4 Months Before

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book flights and hotel for the honeymoon | <input type="checkbox"/> Ask your witness to be a part of your wedding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase hair and makeup supplies        | <input type="checkbox"/> Start planning the honeymoon                  |

## 3 Months Before

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase your dress, shoes and accessories | <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase your lingerie and a garter                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase the rings                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase a wedding gift for your spouse-to-be                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Start to collect ideas for hair and makeup | <input type="checkbox"/> Get your marriage license (if not getting married at the courthouse) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase groom's attire                    |   |

## 2 Months Before

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meet with the photographer                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Have your bachelorette party           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve your date at the courthouse        | <input type="checkbox"/> Do a hair and makeup trial run         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve your wedding night hotel room      | <input type="checkbox"/> Send final payment for wedding package |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Order the cake (if not making it yourself) |   |



## 1 Month Before

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-record wedding music        | <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase champagne                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Confirm wedding date and time   | <input type="checkbox"/> Get your hair cut and colored           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Write your wedding vows         | <input type="checkbox"/> Confirm date and time with photographer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Try on your dress one last time | <input type="checkbox"/> Confirm arrival time with your witness  |

## Week of the Wedding

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make your wedding cake                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Pack a suitcase for the honeymoon        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase flowers                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Get a manicure and pedicure              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Write a note to the groom                | <input type="checkbox"/> Confirm any weather-related backup plans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pack day-of and wedding night essentials | <input type="checkbox"/> Break in your shoes                      |

## After the Wedding

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Send elopement announcements            | <input type="checkbox"/> Mail thank you notes for wedding presents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plan a reception for friends and family | <input type="checkbox"/> Share wedding photos with loved ones      |