

12 MONTH WEDDING *checklist*

10 - 12 MONTHS TO GO...

- ESTABLISH YOUR BUDGET AND IDENTIFY YOUR TOP PRIORITIES**
Determine where to save and where to splurge.

- GET YOUR CREATIVE JUICES FLOWING**
Start browsing wedding inspiration on websites, social media, blogs, and magazines to explore and identify your wedding style and colors.

- COMPILE YOUR PRELIMINARY GUEST LIST**
You'll need that guest count!

- CHOOSE YOUR WEDDING PARTY**
Who do you want by your side at the altar? Ask them now to give your attendants plenty of time to plan and prep.

- FIND A VENUE FOR YOUR CEREMONY AND OR RECEPTION, AND RESERVE YOUR WEDDING DATE**
This is a crucial step.

- CONSIDER WEDDING INSURANCE**
It's something to think about. Check with your venue about liability insurance and consider other options, like cancellation insurance.

- TELL EVERYONE TO SAVE THE DATE**
Send out save-the-date cards 8-12 months in advance for a destination wedding, or 6-9 months in advance for a domestic wedding.

- CREATE A WEDDING WEBSITE**
Let your invitees know about it by putting your website's URL on the save-the-date cards.

- SAY YES TO YOUR WEDDING DRESS (OR TUX!)**
and begin assembling the perfect accessories. Need inspiration? Attend a trunk show or wedding expo - we might know a good one!

- CONSIDER HIRING A WEDDING PLANNER**
If you're already feeling overwhelmed, they can be a lifesaver!

- BEGIN ASSEMBLING AN ALL-STAR WEDDING VENDOR TEAM**
We'd start with: Caterer · Photographer · Officiant. And when you hire a vendor, get all the details in writing!

- START DREAMING UP YOUR HONEYMOON, IF YOU'RE TAKING ONE**
It's a great way to mitigate wedding planning stress.

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6 - 9 MONTHS TO GO...



HIRE A FLORAL DESIGNER

Set up a time to go over flower types and design styles. They'll help you choose flower arrangements to fit your style, color scheme, and budget.



DO A TASTING AND CHOOSE YOUR WEDDING CAKE WITH YOUR CAKE DESIGNER

HIRE THE DJ-ENTERTAINMENT FOR YOUR CEREMONY, COCKTAIL HOUR, AND RECEPTION.

Work with them on the wedding playlist.



ORDER YOUR INVITATIONS

Discuss the style and wording of your wedding invitations with a Stationer or online invitation company.



CREATE YOUR GIFT REGISTRY

Don't forget to update your wedding website with the links!



ARRANGE HOTEL ROOM BLOCKS

for out-of-town guests and book your own suite for the wedding night.



SHOP FOR BRIDESMAID, FLOWER GIRL DRESSES, GROOMSMEN SUITS

Give attendants clear instructions on how to place their orders.



ARRANGE AND BOOK ANY NECESSARY WEDDING DAY TRANSPORTATION



GO OVER BRIDAL SHOWER AND/OR BACH PARTY DETAILS

Plus the guest list with the person(s) hosting the part.



CONSIDER PREMARITAL COUNSELING

Make sure you and your fiancé are rock-solid through this wedding-planning journey, and prepared to face married life together.



SHOP FOR AND PURCHASE YOUR WEDDING RINGS

Order engravings if desired.

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3 - 5 MONTHS TO GO...

- BOOK THE REHEARSAL AND REHEARSAL DINNER LOCATION(S)**
If you're including entertainment or specialty décor / details, now's the time to lock in these elements.

- PUT TOGETHER YOUR REHEARSAL DINNER GUEST LIST**
This may include immediate family, the wedding party plus spouses, your Officiant, and others involved in the ceremony.

- MAKE CHILDCARE ARRANGEMENTS**
and / or plan wedding entertainment for your guests' kids.

- RESERVE ALL NECESSARY PARTY RENTALS AND LINENS**

- ORDER WEDDING FAVORS FOR YOUR GUESTS**
or pick a charity to donate to in lieu of favors.

- FINALIZE THE WEDDING GUEST LIST**
Get everyone's mailing address organized into a spreadsheet.

- CONFIRM YOUR INVITATION WORDING**
with the Stationer, and consider additional day-of stationery. Schedule a pickup or delivery date for your invites and other paper goods.

- DECIDE UPON YOUR CEREMONY READINGS AND VOWS**

- FINALIZE THE MENU, BEVERAGE, AND CATERING DETAILS**
with your venue and / or caterer.

- WORK ON THE TIMELINE OF THE WEDDING DAY AND RECEPTION**
with your wedding coordinator and / or venue.

- DO A MAKEUP & HAIR TRIAL AND BOOK YOUR STYLISTS**
Come up with your own beauty and fitness regimen to be camera-ready and confident for the big day.

- FINALIZE HONEYMOON PLANS & OBTAIN NECESSARY DOCUMENTS**
Are you *sure* your passports haven't expired?

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6 - 8 WEEKS TO GO...

- SEND OUT YOUR INVITATIONS**
Have a game plan for recording the RSVPs and meal choices.

- TALK TO YOUR VENUE COORDINATOR ABOUT A CONTINGENCY PLAN**
if you're hosting an outdoor wedding.

- TOUCH BASE WITH YOUR VENDORS TO CONFIRM WEDDING DATE, DEPOSITS, AND DETAILS**

- START RESEARCHING MARRIAGE LICENSE REQUIREMENTS AND NAME-CHANGE PAPERWORK**

- BEGIN YOUR DRESS/ATTIRE FITTINGS**
Be sure to buy the appropriate undergarments beforehand.

- CHECK THE STATUS OF WEDDING PARTY ATTIRE**
Give the wedding party a nudge to make sure they've placed their orders / purchased necessary items.

- WRITE THANK YOU CARDS FOR SHOWER GIFTS AND ANY EARLY WEDDING GIFTS RECEIVED.**

- START ASSEMBLING WELCOME BAGS FOR YOUR GUESTS**

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3 - 5 WEEKS TO GO...



SEND OUT REHEARSAL DINNER INVITATIONS

If your get-together will be informal, feel free to send an Evite.



FINALIZE AND CONFIRM:

___ Wedding vows and ceremony readings with your officiant

___ Shot list with your photographer and/or videographer

___ Song list for ceremony, cocktail hour, and reception with your dj and/or musicians

___ Timeline for the reception and who's giving the toasts

___ Wedding night and honeymoon accommodations



OBTAIN MARRIAGE LICENSE AND COMPLETE NAME-CHANGE DOCUMENTS



PICK UP YOUR WEDDING RINGS AND PROOFREAD ANY ENGRAVING



IF YOU'RE THE TRADITIONAL TYPE, DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING OLD, NEW, BORROWED, AND BLUE?



PURCHASE YOUR DAY-OF ACCESSORIES

This may include your guest book, toasting flutes, cake servers, unity candle, ring pillow, and all that good stuff.



BUY GIFTS

(OPTIONAL) for the wedding party, your parents, and/or your partner.



HAVE YOUR FINAL DRESS/SUIT FITTING

Bring your shoes and accessories for the full impact.



HUNT DOWN WHOEVER HASN'T RSVP'D YET!

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1 - 2 WEEKS TO GO...

- GIVE YOUR CATERER/VENUE THE FINAL GUEST COUNT

- ARRANGE SEATING AND CREATE THE SEATING CHART AND/OR PLACE CARDS

- PICK UP YOUR GOWN AND/OR SUIT

- HAND OVER WEDDING FAVORS, DECOR, PAPER, AND CEREMONY ITEMS TO YOUR ON-SITE COORDINATOR OR PLANNER
Include any special set-up instructions.

- PACK UP YOUR WEDDING-DAY EMERGENCY KIT
Fill a small bag with “just in case” items that can fix any issues—from ibuprofen and a sewing kit to an extra pair of contacts.

- CHECK THE WEATHER REPORT
If things look iffy on your wedding date, contact your venue to go over the contingency plan.

- START PACKING FOR YOUR HONEYMOON

- IN DESPERATE NEED OF A FACIAL OR MASSAGE?
Now's the time to squeeze one in.

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THE DAYS BEFORE...

- MAKE SURE ALL WEDDING DAY ITEMS ARE PACKED AND READY TO GO**
Don't forget the rings and marriage license!

- FIGURE OUT TIPS AND FINAL PAYMENTS FOR VENDORS**
Put them in clearly marked envelopes and give them to someone you trust to hand out over the course of the event.

- ASSIGN SOMEONE TO PACK UP YOUR BELONGINGS/GIFTS AFTER THE RECEPTION**
Don't forget the top tier of your cake for your first anniversary!

- ASSIGN SOMEONE TO RETURN ANY RENTAL ITEMS OR TUXEDOS THE DAY AFTER THE WEDDING**

- WRAP ANY GIFTS YOU'LL BE GIVING**
to your future spouse, family, or wedding party. Or simply write them heartfelt notes to open on the day-of.

- DROP OFF WELCOME BAGS TO GUEST HOTELS**

- ATTEND THE REHEARSAL AND DINNER**
Now's the time to give out wedding party gifts.

- TRY TO GO TO BED EARLY**
You need your beauty sleep tonight!

- SET YOUR ALARM**
Allow plenty of time to get ready on your big day.

- TAKE DEEP BREATHS**
Stop to appreciate

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DON'T FORGET...

