

Planning for your wedding?

Here's a checklist for everything you need!

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St. Joseph News-Press, Mo.

6 to 12 months before the wedding

- Determine budget.
- Decide type of wedding: formal, semi-formal or informal.
- Choose ceremony location.
- Discuss dates with clergy or officiant.
- Choose attendants.
- Select gown style.
- Select veil style.
- Select attendants' apparel.
- Compile bride's and groom's invitation list.
- Select reception site.
- Select caterer.
- Select wedding planner.
- Plan details of reception.
- Select photographer.
- Have engagement photos taken.
- Select music for reception.
- Select videographer.
- Select florist.
- Discuss gown colors and styles with mothers of bride and groom.
- If composing own vows, inform officiant.

4 to 6 months before wedding

- Select men's formalwear and arrange for final fitting a few days before wedding.
- Select ceremony musicians and music.
- Make honeymoon plans.
- Print map to include with invitations.
- Reserve hotel rooms for out-of-town guests.
- Have physical exams and update immunizations.
- Buy wedding rings and order



engraving.

- Finalize invitation list with families.
- Visit hairdresser and manicurist; make wedding day appointments for bridal party.
- Order all printed items, including invitations, thank-you notes, programs and napkins.
- Order needed utensils, which may include engraved cake knife, personalized champagne glasses and a box for monetary gifts.

2 to 4 months before wedding

- Reserve rental items: candelabra, arches, canopy, lines, etc.
- Arrange rehearsal dinner.
- Shop for trousseau and apparel for honeymoon and prenuptial parties.
- Reserve limousine, carriage, trolley or coach transportation.
- Review florist's arrangements and finalize order.
- Buy attendants' gifts.
- Experiment with hairstyle and makeup changes.
- Buy bride's and attendants' shoes; send to be dyed.
- Order wedding and groom's cakes.
- Plan the ceremony and select music for the service.
- You should receive your invitations at least three months before the wedding; send them out immediately. Don't forget to request a reply date of at least five weeks before the wedding.
- Register for wedding gifts at the stores of your choice.
- Decide on reception menu and select beverage options; decide if there will be an open bar.

1 to 2 months before wedding

- Final bridal fitting.

- Finalize arrangements with hall and caterer, confirming final number of guests (preferably in writing).
- Finalize arrangements with baker regarding cake.
- Pick up wedding dress and bridesmaids' dresses.
- Groom or best man arranges final fittings for men in the wedding party.
- Prepare envelopes with payments for the officiant, reception hall, musicians, disc jockey, etc.
- Ask officiant when he/she would like to receive your marriage license.
- Begin packing for honeymoon.

1 week before wedding

- Pick up wedding rings and check engravings and sizes.
- Final consultations with florist, musicians, photographer, videographer, etc.
- If you are having a rehearsal, present attendants with gifts.
- Men have final fitting two to three days before the wedding and pick up formalwear and shoes.
- Make a wedding day schedule and give everyone copies at the rehearsal dinner.
- Relax the day before; keep personal appointments; finish honeymoon packing.

Day of the wedding

- Give payment envelopes to the best man, who will deliver them after the ceremony and at the reception.
- Go to hairdresser, makeup artist and manicurist.
- Make sure the car keys, wedding rings, marriage license, keys to the new house, airplane tickets, hotel confirmations and honeymoon spending money are all assembled.
- Arrange for your car, your going-away outfits and your luggage to be delivered to the reception hall.
- Arrange for someone to bring tissues, lipstick and any other personal items to the reception.
- Be dressed and ready for the picture-taking two hours before the ceremony or according to the arrangements made with your photographer.
- Relax and enjoy your big day.