

# TIMETABLE

Careful planning will enable you to truly enjoy every moment of your wedding day. Arrangements for a large formal wedding ideally begin at least 8-12 months in advance. However, many beautiful weddings are put together in considerably less time. Follow a timetable, read articles in this guide, and allow your wedding professionals to assist you. It can be much more fun when you share the planning with your fiancé, your families, and your attendants.

## twelve months

- \_\_\_ Begin interviewing potential reception locations
- \_\_\_ Select a wedding coordinator

## six to twelve months

- \_\_\_ Create a budget and discuss sharing of expenses
- \_\_\_ What type of wedding? Formal semi-formal informal
- \_\_\_ Choose location of ceremony
- \_\_\_ Compile combined families guest list
- \_\_\_ Contract your reception location
- \_\_\_ Interview caterers, sample foods, decide on menu
- \_\_\_ Plan all details of reception
- \_\_\_ Shop and select gown, veil and accessories
- \_\_\_ Select attendants' apparel
- \_\_\_ Interview and select a photographer
- \_\_\_ Interview and select a florist
- \_\_\_ Schedule engagement photo session
- \_\_\_ Interview and select a videographer
- \_\_\_ Select ceremony musicians and music
- \_\_\_ Select type of music for reception
- \_\_\_ Consult your travel agent about honeymoon plans

## four to six months

- \_\_\_ Select and order men's formal wear
- \_\_\_ Order invitations, personal stationery and wedding programs
- \_\_\_ Professionally prepare and print map (include in invitation)
- \_\_\_ Secure reservations for honeymoon
- \_\_\_ Shop for wedding rings
- \_\_\_ Register gift preferences with one or more bridal registries
- \_\_\_ Decide on new living arrangement
- \_\_\_ Begin to plan home decorating, colors, etc.
- \_\_\_ Schedule physical exams and update immunizations
- \_\_\_ Reserve limousine, carriage, trolley or coach transportation
- \_\_\_ Select make-up artist
- \_\_\_ Reserve hotel rooms for out-of-town guests

## two to four months

- \_\_\_ Reserve rental items; candelabra, arches, linens, etc.
- \_\_\_ Send local newspaper wedding announcement/ photograph
- \_\_\_ Shop for trousseau wardrobe for honeymoon, parties

## two to four months continued

- \_\_\_ Arrange professional addressing of invitations
- \_\_\_ Plan attendants' gifts; gifts for each other
- \_\_\_ Review floral and decorating arrangements, finalize
- \_\_\_ Experiment with hairstyles and make-up with veil/ hat
- \_\_\_ Buy all wedding party shoes at the same time, send to dyer
- \_\_\_ Sample and order wedding and groom's cakes

## one to two months

- \_\_\_ Mail invitations four to six weeks before wedding
- \_\_\_ Send activity information to out-of-town guests from Convention Bureau and/or local Chamber of Commerce
- \_\_\_ Confirm all professional services in writing
- \_\_\_ Final gown fitting
- \_\_\_ Final attendants' fitting
- \_\_\_ Make reservations for rehearsal dinner
- \_\_\_ Schedule bridal portrait (remember make-up artist)
- \_\_\_ Arrange ice sculptures
- \_\_\_ Make reservations for bridesmaid's brunch/ luncheon
- \_\_\_ Confirm honeymoon reservations, select luggage
- \_\_\_ Select reception decorations; balloons, candies, etc.
- \_\_\_ Select ceremony accessories; unity candle, ring pillow, etc.
- \_\_\_ Secure marriage license.
- \_\_\_ Schedule appointments for hair stylist, facial, massage, pedicure and manicure, make-up artist

## two weeks

- \_\_\_ Record gifts as you receive them, write thank you notes
- \_\_\_ Invite wedding party and guests to rehearsal dinner
- \_\_\_ Confirm time and wedding rehearsal schedule with everyone
- \_\_\_ Review reception seating; order place cards from calligrapher
- \_\_\_ Confirm wedding party transportation and arrival times
- \_\_\_ Confirm out-of-town guests lodging with reserved hotels
- \_\_\_ Schedule caterer for gift opening party
- \_\_\_ Arrange for professional gown and bouquet preservation
- \_\_\_ Arrange name/ address changes on bank account, credit cards, driver's license, social security and utilities
- \_\_\_ Move your personal and mutual belongings to new home

## one to two weeks

- \_\_\_ Pick up wedding rings, check sizes and engravings
- \_\_\_ Final consultations, wedding consultant, florist, musicians, photographer, video, decorators, rental company, etc.
- \_\_\_ Final guest count to reception facility and caterer
- \_\_\_ Remind men to pick up formal wear/ shoes and check for fit
- \_\_\_ Complete a wedding day schedule, including schedule from photographer, give everyone a copy at rehearsal dinner
- \_\_\_ Relax the day before; keep personal appointments, finish honeymoon packing
- \_\_\_ Your planning is complete. Your day will be wonderful!