

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Even with the modification of traditions, the majority of financial obligations are still divided according to tradition.

Who will pay for all of this? That's the question facing every couple and their families immediately after wedding plans are announced.

Traditions of the past dictated that the primary financial burden be borne by the bride's family. However, today's rules are more relaxed; and most brides and grooms and their respective families take a practical approach, considering who is most able, most willing and the most logical to pay the various expenses for this mutual celebration.

Begin with a realistic budget and communicate openly to your families the type of celebration you would like. It's important not to expect a more expensive wedding than you and your families can sensibly afford. Be courteous, and grateful, remembering they are not "obligated" to finance your wedding. However, most parents are happily anticipating the celebration and expect to pay for a significant portion of it.

The following is a summary of the traditional division of financial responsibilities.

bride

- ___ Personal stationery
- ___ Groom's wedding ring
- ___ Wedding gift for the groom
- ___ Gifts for attendants
- ___ Attendants dresses (optional)
- ___ Lodging for out-of-town attendants
- ___ Physical examination
- ___ Bridesmaid's Luncheon
- ___ Gifts for parents (optional)

bride's family

- ___ First engagement party (optional)
- ___ Wedding gift for newlyweds
- ___ Entire reception
- ___ Rental of sanctuary or chapel
- ___ Bride's wedding attire and trousseau
- ___ Parents' wedding attire
- ___ Invitations, announcements, personal stationery, thank-you notes, postage
- ___ Wedding programs
- ___ Engagement / wedding photographs
- ___ Musicians/ Vocalists
- ___ Videographer
- ___ Aisle carpets and/or canopy
- ___ Bridesmaids' bouquets
- ___ Flowers for church
- ___ Flowers for reception
- ___ Transportation for bridal party to ceremony and reception
- ___ Flowers for flower girl
- ___ Security and insurance for gifts
- ___ Welcome buffet or cocktail party for out-of-town guests (optional)

bride's attendants

- ___ Bridal shower
- ___ Bridesmaid's dress, shoes & hosiery
- ___ Lodging

groom

- ___ Bride's rings
- ___ Honeymoon
- ___ Transportation to airport
- ___ Wedding gift for bride
- ___ Bridal bouquet/going away corsage
- ___ Boutonnieres for all men in wedding party
- ___ Mother's corsage
- ___ Physical examination
- ___ Gifts for best man, groomsmen and ushers
- ___ Groomsmen's attire (optional)
- ___ Gloves, ties or ascots for men in wedding party (optional)
- ___ Lodging for out-of-town attendants
- ___ Marriage license
- ___ Fee for officiant
- ___ Gift for parents (optional)

groom's family

- ___ Engagement Party (following party given by bride's parents)
- ___ Travel expenses and hotel bills
- ___ Groom's personal stationery, thank you notes
- ___ Groom's wedding attire
- ___ Parents' wedding attire
- ___ Rehearsal dinner
- ___ Wedding gift for the newlyweds
- ___ Shipment of wedding gifts to the couple's new home
- ___ Welcome buffet or cocktail party for out-of-town guests (optional)

groom's attendants

- ___ Bachelor party
- ___ Formalwear rental
- ___ Lodging

