

stressed over wedding planning? let's get you to
organization station

with this wedding planning & timeline checklist

If you're feeling overwhelmed by wedding planning, you're not alone! When we were planning our wedding I was pretty stressed until I put together a monthly checklist (similar to this one) that broke down by month what I needed to accomplish— which made everything a *lot* less overwhelming!

To help you get started on planning your dream day, I'm repurposing the checklist I used to plan my wedding to help guide you through the planning process so that you can stress less and enjoy this season of being engaged as much as possible!

12
months

pro tip:

HOLD OFF on looking at venues until you have made a guest list and set your budget. This will save you the headache of losing a deposit on a venue that can't accommodate your guest list or budget.

- Set a date
- Determine budget
- Decide wedding style
- Draft guest list
- Explore ceremony & reception venue options
- Start assembling dream team of wedding vendors
- Schedule engagement photos
- Choose wedding party
- Create wedding website
- Begin browsing Save the Date designs
- Order sample Save the Date
- Order Save the Dates
- Begin researching wedding dress & veil styles
- Create wedding style mood board on Pinterest
- Schedule engagement photos
- Choose wedding party

10/11 months

- Hire vendors
- Reserve ceremony & reception venues
- Purchase wedding dress, veil, and undergarments
- Choose bridal party attire & accessories
- Book officiant
- Mail Save the Dates

pro tip:

Curious what order to book your vendors in?

12 months [Venue
Planner
Photographer
Videographer
Caterer/Cake] 10 months

8/9 months

- Browse wedding invitation designs
- Refine guest list
- Create gift registry
- Begin planning honeymoon
- Find hotels at different price points for out-of-town guests & reserve room block

pro tip:

Curious what order to book your vendors in?

9 months [Florist
DJ/Musicians
Officiant
Hair & Makeup] 6 months

6/7 months

- Reserve rentals
- Order thank you cards
- Decide on groomsmen attire
- Purchase wedding bands
- Choose cake style & schedule tastings (YUM!)
- Personalize & order wedding invitation sample
- Book transportation to and from venue
- Meet with officiant to plan ceremony
- Personalize & order wedding invitation sample

4/5 months

- Order wedding cake
- Meet with florist
- Schedule dress fittings
- Book honeymoon flights & hotels + room for wedding night
- Send guest list to shower hosts
- Prepare a playlist for DJ/band
- Finalize guest list
- Compile rehearsal dinner guest list
- Book rehearsal dinner venue
- Order rehearsal dinner invitations

3 months

- Hair & makeup trial
- Book photo booth rental
- Finalize readers & readings for ceremony
- Finalize honeymoon plans and ensure all documents are in order
- Plan reception seating
- Finalize reception menu with caterer
- Order menu cards
- Purchase toasting flutes, serving pieces, guestbook, flower basket & ring bearer pillow

2 months

- Mail wedding invitations
- Begin writing vows
- Review ceremony details with officiant
- Finalize seating arrangements
- Buy wedding-party gifts
- Apply for marriage license
- Purchase gifts for guests
- Lay out content for wedding programs
- Finalize fittings for wedding party & parents
- Decide on "something old, something borrowed, & something blue."
- Book spa & beauty treatments for you & bridal party
- Buy wedding-party gifts
- Create wedding day timelines & send to vendors, officiant & wedding party

1 month

- Final dress fitting
- Pick up marriage license
- Call vendors to confirm date, time & location
- Confirm honeymoon reservations
- Pick up wedding rings
- Order wedding programs
- Attend wedding shower(s)
- Buy wedding shoes

2 weeks

- Begin breaking in wedding shoes
- Make arrangements for pets/plans while on honeymoon
- Follow up with guests who have not RSVP'd
- Give final guest count to caterer
- Send playlist to DJ/band/ceremony musicians
- Get haircut & freshen up color
- Update registries
- Send directions to wedding day transportation driver
- Delegate someone to return tuxes, rentals & tend to wedding dress

1 week

- Prepare wedding day emergency kit
- Give photographer/videographer your image & video requests
- Give readers their scripts
- Prepare final payments to vendors & cash tips for service personnel
- Lay out wedding clothes & gather all accessories
- Pack for honeymoon
- Finalize vows

ONE

day before

- Treat yourself to a mani/pedi & massage
- Make sure everything's laid out & packed for wedding day
- Attend wedding rehearsal
- Have fun at rehearsal dinner
- Thank everyone around you
- Get lots of sleep!

YAY

wedding day!

- Eat a good breakfast + mobile order some Starbucks!
- Stay off feet as much as possible
- Allow plenty of time to get ready
- Drink water (order with your Starbs!)
- Take dress & veil out of the bag & have steamed if needed
- Lay out all items you want to be captured by photographer
- Give officiant fee & wedding rings to best man
- Exchange notes with fiancé
- Relax, smile & soak up every moment of your big day!

POST

wedding

- Ensure tuxes & all rentals have been returned
- Get wedding dresses to cleaners
- Aim to send out thank you cards within 3 weeks of wedding day

I know this list may seem overwhelming, but if you stick to the timeline your day should go off without a hitch!

HAVING A SHORTER ENGAGEMENT? NO PROBLEM.

For the couples with a shorter engagement, you can still use this guide to pull off your dream wedding! My husband and I were engaged for 5.5 months and our day was perfect + planning wasn't overly stressful. If you have 6 months to plan before your wedding then condense this list and try to get everything listed at the 12 month mark done by your first month. From there you should be on schedule for everything else.

ENJOY

your that low-stress
wedding planning!