

Planning a wedding can be a real test of your organisational skills as you will not know just what lies ahead. This is a general list covering all the major things you may need to do in the lead-up to your wedding. It will give you an overview of the planning decisions you'll need to make, and will also be a useful ongoing reference. Make sure you tick tasks off as you complete them – this will give you a sense of satisfaction and make you realise that you are making progress, even though it may not always feel like it!

- Choose the date, day and time.
- Decide on the type of ceremony and venue.
- Discuss your budget and the type of wedding with those who are outting money towards it.
- Compile a guest list in consultation with both families.
- Decide on the wedding colour scheme or theme.
- Choose and book the reception venue.
- Discuss details of the ceremony with officiant.
- Choose your attendants and ask them.
- Choose and book the photographer/videographer.
- Choose and book the caterers.
- Choose and book the musicians/disco.
- Choose and book the florist.
- Choose and order wedding invitations.
- Choose and book transport to and from the ceremony and reception.
- Choose and order wedding attire for yourselves and your attendants.
- Order rings and engravings.
- Choose style and flavour of wedding cake – and order.
- Apply for the marriage licence.
- Have fittings for wedding gown and bridesmaid's attire.
- Have fitting for groom and groomsmen's suits.
- Compile a gift list and register for gifts.
- Decide where you want to go on honeymoon and make reservations.
- Book a hotel room for the wedding night.
- Organise time off work for wedding and honeymoon and a few planning days.
- Send invitations. List acceptances and refusals as they return.
- Arrange rehearsal and rehearsal dinner.
- Confirm catering, service staff, menu and beverages.
- Confirm photography/videography.
- Confirm flowers and bouquets.
- Confirm music and instruments for ceremony and reception.
- Buy gifts for the attendants and your future spouse.
- Arrange where the bridal party will dress on the day.
- Organise accommodation and book hotels for out-of-town guests.

