

Bridal To-Do LIST

BY LINDA FUCHSER

Start planning with this easy-to-use wedding checklist that will keep you organized!

SIX OR MORE MONTHS AHEAD

- Think about the type of wedding you want: formal or informal, big or small, time of year.
- Set a budget.
- Hire a wedding coordinator, if you desire.
- Compile your guest list, organize addresses.
- Finalize wedding date.
- Reserve ceremony and reception sites.
- Choose attendants.
- Order dress and accessories, including veil and shoes.
- Book officiant.
- Book caterer.
- Order wedding cake.
- Book florist.
- Book music for ceremony and reception.
- Book photographer and videographer.
- Plan and book honeymoon.
- Send save-the-date cards. Especially for summer weddings.

FOUR TO SIX MONTHS AHEAD

- Reserve rental equipment, tables, chairs, tents and tablecloths.
- Arrange transportation for the wedding day.
- Order stationary, including invitations and thank you notes.
- Register for gifts.
- Purchase wedding rings.
- Purchase or reserve groom's attire.
- Choose attendant's attire.
- Buy stockings and any special lingerie your dress requires.
- Choose favors.
- Book a room for wedding night.
- Choose gifts for the wedding party.
- Reserve accommodations for out-of-town guests.
- Sign up for dance lessons, if desired.
- Book hairstylist and makeup artist.



Photo: Rod Foster

TWO TO FOUR MONTHS AHEAD

- Discuss details of menu with caterer.
- Discuss service with officiant.
- Choose readings for ceremony.
- Schedule rehearsal time and rehearsal dinner.
- Mail invitations.
- Write thank-you notes as gifts arrive.
- Have first dress fitting (with shoes).

ONE TO TWO MONTHS AHEAD

- Have programs printed.
- Obtain marriage license.
- Try out hairstyles and makeup.
- Send change-of-address information to post office.
- Buy a guest book.
- Contact local newspaper about publishing a wedding announcement, if desired.

TWO WEEKS AHEAD

- Have your final dress fitting.
- Begin seating plans and write place cards.
- Notify caterer of guest count.
- Address announcements.
- Break in wedding shoes at home.
- Designate someone to care for your home while you're on your honeymoon.

ONE WEEK AHEAD

- Finalize seating plan.
- Assign specific responsibilities to wedding attendants.
- Pick up the dress.
- Confirm details with caterer.
- Confirm honeymoon arrangements. In case of emergency make sure to give itinerary to a family member.
- Pack for honeymoon.
- Update caterer with final guest count.

ONE DAY AHEAD

- Confirm transportation arrangements for ceremony and reception.
- Give announcements to an attendant for mailing after the wedding.
- Have a manicure and pedicure.
- Rehearsal ceremony.
- Rehearsal dinner. Give gifts to wedding party, and "thank yous" to parents for their love and support.
- Prepare payment envelopes for all vendors. Make arrangements for proper distribution.

YOUR WEDDING DAY

- Give the responsibilities to your coordinator.
- Relax it's your wedding day.

NOTES:
