

CHECKLIST FOR PRINTING STRESS FREE TO WEDDED BLISS

12 MONTHS

Date

Pick your wedding date a year in advance, and check to see if it conflicts with any holidays. Keep in mind that an event held outside the summer months can be less expensive, and services may be often more readily available.

Style

What kind of atmosphere do you want? Church wedding and/or civil wedding? Elegant castle, or old barn? Fairy tale winter wedding, or colourful summer bash?

Guest list

Would you rather an intimate celebration with 20 close loved ones, or a big party for 150? Don't forget that the number of guests will influence your search for the right venue.

Support

Arrange your bridal party and consider who can also assist you with your wedding plans.

Location

The schedules for the best places fill up early – it's recommended that you reserve your desired venue a year in advance.

Budget

Make a rough estimate of your budget, listing all possible expenses in a chart. This will help give you an overview of your total costs. Of course, you will be updating it regularly!

Announcement

Organise a little get-together to announce your plans to your loved ones in person before sharing the big news with the world on social media.

9 MONTHS

Save the date

Inform your most important guests of the wedding date, especially if people will be travelling long distances.

Sequence of events

Determine a rough order of events for your wedding day, in order to see if everything can run smoothly.

Wedding gown

This is the time to start planning what you'll be wearing. Make an appointment for a fitting. Keep in mind that some gowns have longer delivery times.

Honeymoon

Start making plans for your honeymoon. Newlyweds can often get discounts.

Music

Do you want your reception to have a professional DJ, or a live band to get the party started? Now is the time to book the musicians for your reception, and don't forget to organise music for your ceremony.

Photos

Surf online for a suitable wedding photographer. Every photographer has his or her own style – consider which fits best to your own. We also recommend a meeting in person, as you'll want to feel comfortable in the photographer's presence.

6 MONTHS

Registration

Visit the civil registrar to find out which documents are required for a wedding, and to schedule a civil marriage. If you're also having a church wedding, you should also reserve the church as well.

Guest entertainment

Think about how you would like to entertain your guests. For example, you can book a photo booth, a childminder, a magician, or a fire and light show.

Wedding outfits

The bride should take care of accessories for her dress. For the groom, it's time to arrange for a suit that coordinates with the wedding dress.

Wedding dance

If you need to, now's the time to sign up for wedding dance lessons.

DIY

If you are making decorations or favours yourself, prepare these in advance with help from your bridal party.

3 MONTHS

Wedding stationery

Send out the wedding invitations. If you didn't send save-the-date cards, your invitations should go out early. You should also see to the design of all your additional paper items — place cards, menu cards, table cards, church programmes.

Wedding rings

It's time to look for your wedding rings. Here, the latest trend is not nearly as important as a style that you like. After all, you'll be wearing this ring every day for the rest of your life.

Floral decorations

Consult with a florist to arrange how you want your floral decorations. Keep in mind that many types of flowers will not be available year round.

Wedding night

Book a bridal suite if desired, and arrange accommodations for your guests, especially those who will be travelling long distances.

Menu and cake

Ask at your venue when you can set up a wedding menu tasting, and also try out the accompanying wines. Order your wedding cake!

Wedding gifts for guests

This is the latest you should order wedding gifts for special guests. Order now so that you'll have everything delivered on time, even if delays occur.

1 MONTH

Seating

Use your list of positive responses to arrange an exact seating order for the reception dinner.

Shoes

Bride and groom should both break in their wedding shoes to avoid blisters on the big day!

Sequence of events

Go through every item of the wedding once more, and choose people who will oversee individual matters and keep an eye on their progress during the course of the celebration. Give your bridal party a list of your service providers with telephone numbers.

Stag night / hen night

Celebrate the end of your singledom with bachelor/bachelorette parties.

1 WEEK

Guests

Submit the exact number of guests to your wedding venue.

Emergency kit

Put together a small kit for emergencies. This should include safety pins, tissues, deodorant, nail file, and an extra pair of stockings. Give this to the maid/matron of honour, bridesmaid, or mother of the bride on the wedding day for safekeeping.

Styling

It's time for the groom to see a hair stylist. This is also a good time for the bride to get a manicure.

Transportation

Drive the route to your wedding location so that you won't be surprised by construction or detours on the big day. Arrange for the vehicle that will drive you to the wedding.

ON THE WEDDING DAY

Breakfast

Weddings can be both wonderful and strenuous! Fortify yourself sufficiently, even if you don't feel up for a big breakfast.

Bride's styling

The bride has her hair styled by a professional hairdresser. Her make-up should also be professionally done so that it will last through the day.

Keep hydrated

Don't forget to drink water throughout the day to keep yourself well hydrated. Not enough water can lead to headaches, especially in the summer months. Consider sunshades and fans for warm-weather events.

Enjoy

Everything is now optimally prepared. There may be a small snag at some point, but it won't leave you flustered. Your little helpers will be taking care of everything. Now you can enjoy this special day as a couple!