

The Wedding Notebook

PLANNING CHECKLIST

12 MONTHS OUT

- Determine your budget
- Discuss priorities
- Decide if you'll hire a planner
- Compile rough wedding guest list
- Gather planning tools
- Discover your wedding style and overall theme
- Start search for pre-wedding/engagement shoot photographer
- Choose a date (or up to 3 for flexibility)
- Explore venue options
- Create a wedding website

11 MONTHS OUT

- Explore wedding vendors
- Pick bridal party
- Finalise wedding date
- Book venue
- Establish skincare routine
- Establish fitness routine
- Hire vendors that book out quickly, eg photographer

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PLANNING CHECKLIST

9-10 MONTHS OUT

- Finalise wedding guest list
- Finalise venue
- Start wedding dress/
tuxedo shopping
- Design your save-the-dates
- Browse invitations
- Send out your save the
dates
- Book the rest of your vendors
- Take engagement photos
- Decide bridal party attire, plus
accessories

7-8 MONTHS OUT

- Finalise booking of non-
negotiable vendors
- Start planning your
honeymoon
- Order invitations
- Discover makeup and hairstyles
- Purchase wedding bands
- Shop for wedding dress
accessories, veils,
undergarments

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6 MONTHS OUT

- Send out invitations
- Attend pre-marital courses
- Select cake design and schedule tasting
- Schedule fittings for bridal party
- Book remaining vendors, eg; entertainment, after-party food truck, dessert booth, photobooth services

5 MONTHS OUT

- Plan rehearsal dinner, traditional ceremonies, gatecrashing ceremony, pre-wedding celebrations etc
- Guest list for the above events
- Submit paperwork for registration of marriage
- Finalise flower and décor selection with decorator
- Book honeymoon flights and accommodations
- Arrange transportation to and from venue for yourself and out-of-town guests
- Book hotel rooms for out-of-town guest

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4 MONTHS OUT

- Purchase gifts for bridal party
- Purchase small items: ring bearer pillow, 'hantaran gifts', flower baskets, teapots and cups, red packets etc
- Order wedding favours/gifts
- Finalise honeymoon arrangements and make sure documents are updated

3 MONTHS OUT

- Finalise persons involve in ceremony for example: reading of scripture in a Christian ceremony
- Makeup and hair trial
- Dress fittings
- Food tasting
- Finalise reception menu
- Order the rest of the stationary suite; menu cards, programme booklets, escort cards or place cards
- Plan reception seating

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2 MONTHS OUT

- Organise RSVPs
- Create wedding timeline and send to vendors, officiant, bridal party (if not hiring coordinator)
- Write wedding vows
- Review ceremony order with officiant or master of ceremonies
- Final fitting for bridal party

1 MONTH OUT

- Touch base with vendors; confirming date, time, location
- Meet with coordinator
- Final dress fitting, complete with accessories
- Confirm honeymoon reservations
- Start packing for honeymoon
- Pick up marriage license
- Finalise seating arrangements
- Final facial session
- Break in wedding shoes
- Finalise playlist with musicians

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2 WEEKS BEFORE

- Follow up with guest that have not RSVP-ed
- Give caterer/hotel final head count
- Get final haircut or colour
- Complete work to-do-list
- Delegate wedding day duties: guest registration, gift collection
- Give photographers and videographers your requests
- Make arrangements for the care of plants or pets while away on honeymoon

1 WEEK TO GO

- Prepare final payments for vendors
- Prepare wedding day emergency kit
- Pack garments and accessories in sets
- Collect jewellery from bank/safe
- Prepare additional shoes to be kept in the car in the event of an emergency
- Prepare gifts for those helping out
- Prepare red packets
- Get wedding bands/engagement ring cleaned at the jewellers'
- Pack overnight bag
- Make time for relaxation, book a spa/ massage

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DAY BEFORE

- Get wedding car decorated
- Get manicure/pedicure
- Rehearse your ceremony
- Layout your dress and veil and have them steamed
- Pack small bag of personal items (basic medication, mint, snacks etc)
- Layout stationary suits, props, jewellery for photographers to capture

NIGHT BEFORE

- Attend rehearsal dinner
- Go to bed earlier
- Pack suitcases, bags, shoes, emergency kits in the bridal car (if travelling to a different venue)

WEDDING DAY

- Eat breakfast
- Allow ample time to prepare
- Pass wedding bands to best man
- Stay hydrated
- Relax and enjoy your day

AND BEYOND

- Complete outstanding payments
- Return rentals
- Send out thank you notes
- Enjoy your honeymoon