

Suggested Tasks

12 MONTHS BEFORE

- Announce your engagement
- Plan a get together for your families to meet, celebrate, and discuss wedding plans (if possible)
- Set the wedding budget & decide who will pay for what
- Determine the size of your guest list
- Start compiling your guest list
- Print and mail engagement announcements
- Ask around for recommendations on wedding professionals
- Settle on wedding style and color scheme

11 MONTHS BEFORE

- Set your wedding date and time
- Choose and reserve the Ceremony site
- Choose your officiant or clergy member
- Start planning your Ceremony
- Have your engagement photo taken
- Send your engagement announcement to the newspaper
- Set up interviews with wedding professionals

10 MONTHS BEFORE

- Register for gifts before your Engagement Party
- Plan and host Engagement Party
- Hire organist/musicians and soloist/vocalists for Ceremony
- Reserve the Reception site
- Start planning the Reception
- Hire your caterer, band, dj, musicians, photographer, videographer and florist

9 MONTHS BEFORE

- Finalize your guest list
- Begin shopping for your wedding gown and bridesmaid dresses
- Order and send save the date cards, especially to out of town guests
- Select your bridal party

8 MONTHS BEFORE

- Research accommodations for out of town guests
- Start planning your Honeymoon
- Select a travel agent, if desired
- Obtain visa/passports for foreign travel
- Attend premarital counseling, if applicable
- Meet with officiant to determine Ceremony content

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Suggested Tasks

7 MONTHS BEFORE

- For Jewish weddings, order a ketubah
- Arrange for wedding day transportation (for yourself, wedding party and out of town guests)
- Schedule menu and cake tastings

6 MONTHS BEFORE

- Reserve accommodations for out of town guests
- Order your wedding gown, if you haven't already
- Order bridesmaid dresses, if you haven't already
- Select and buy your bridal shoes, lingerie, handbag, hosiery and accessories- and bring to fittings
- Order your headpiece
- Schedule fittings for your gown and bridesmaids' dresses
- Consider wedding insurance
- Determine items that need to be rented and make arrangements
- Order wedding rings; have them sized and engraved

5 MONTHS BEFORE

- Select wedding favors
- Re-finalize the guest list and determine # of invitations to order
- Decide on decorations for both the Ceremony and Reception
- For a Jewish wedding, order yarmulkes
- Finish planning your Honeymoon
- Book your Honeymoon
- Reserve a romantic room for your wedding night

4 MONTHS BEFORE

- Check marriage license requirements and blood tests, if applicable
- Arrange an appointment to get marriage license
- Finalize Reception arrangements
- Make sure all deposits and paid and contracts are signed
- Order wedding cake
- Purchase cake topper
- Purchase cake knife and cake server, have engraved
- Order/make arrangements for grooms attire and schedule fittings
- Select and order groomsmen attire and schedule fittings
- Have mothers select attire
- Order wedding invitations, stationary, wedding announcements, and design and print maps to insert
- Book calligrapher
- Investigate newspaper requirements and content guidelines for wedding announcements

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Suggested Tasks

3 MONTHS BEFORE

- Plan Reception menu
- Finalize floral arrangements
- Confirms time and date with florist, caterer, photographer, videographer, band, dj, wedding site, etc.
- Assemble, address and stamp invitations
- Address announcements and prepare to be sent on wedding day
- Buy gifts for bridal party and parents
- Buy gifts for each other
- Recruit volunteers to help with duties- ceremony and reception
- Delegate tasks- candle lighting, guest book, cake serving, etc
- If you haven't already registered for gifts, do so now
- Plan Bridesmaids' Luncheon
- Purchase luggage for Honeymoon
- Plan Rehearsal Dinner
- Reserve location for Rehearsal Dinner

2 MONTHS BEFORE

- Select readings/songs for Ceremony; ask people to do the honor
- Write your vows (if desired); review vows with officiant
- Finalize Ceremony details with officiant
- Select songs for reception highlights- 1st dance, cake cutting, bouquet toss, etc
- Send out invitations
- Purchase guest book and all other decorations
- Meet with hairstylist and makeup artist to try out wedding day look with/ headpiece
- Schedule wedding day beauty appointments
- Send hotel, transportation and area attraction info to out of town guests
- Attend Bridal Shower
- Shop for Honeymoon and going away outfits
- Finalize all Honeymoon arrangements
- Make arrangements for Wedding Rehearsal
- Decide on guest list for Rehearsal and Dinner
- Get name change forms for SS, DL, bank and so on

1 MONTH BEFORE

- Decide if you are having a receiving line; if so, decide who will participate and the order
- Get marriage license (and blood test if necessary)
- Give musicians and vocalists a copy of the music selections (ceremony & reception)
- Give bandleader/dj list of requests
- Confirm major details with all wedding professionals and services
- Finalize transportation to get wedding party and out of town guests to reception
- Attend final dress fitting
- Final formal wear fitting

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Suggested Tasks

1 month before continued...

- Pick up wedding attire and make sure it fits
- Confirm men's formal wear order
- Confirm groomsmen have been fitted
- Pick up wedding rings, check sizes, have rings insured
- Make sure you have all the accessories: ring pillow, toasting goblets, etc.
- Review attendant duties with the wedding party
- Track gifts and send thank you notes for gifts already received
- Schedule bridal portrait
- Put together out of town Welcome Baskets
- Write shower thank you notes
- Finish shopping for Honeymoon
- Send invitations or call invitees for Rehearsal and Dinner
- Send change of address form to post office, if applicable

3 WEEKS BEFORE

- Complete reception seating arrangements
- Create/order wedding programs
- Call guests who have not yet responded
- Compose toasts for Rehearsal Dinner
- Prepare wedding announcement for newspaper
- Prepare/address printed wedding announcements to be sent on wedding day

2 WEEKS BEFORE

- Give caterer final head count for Reception
- Finalize seating plan; write place cards or give to calligrapher to do
- Confirm directions for pick up and drop off points with limo service/transportation
- Send shot list to photographer and videographer
- Re-confirm all wedding details with professionals and services
- Break in and scuff shoe bottoms
- Groom- schedule haircut
- Continue sending thank you notes for gifts received
- Confirm beauty appointments
- Confirm lodging for out of town guests
- Confirm Honeymoon plans
- Confirm wedding night reservations
- Pick up tickets and traveler's checks
- Give final head count and confirm details with Rehearsal Dinner Location

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Suggested Tasks

1 WEEK BEFORE

- Make sure you have the marriage license
- Fill in pew cards (if using them)
- Pack your wedding day supplies, box together and label as to where they should be delivered
- Organize final payments for service providers who need to be paid on wedding day; prepare checks
- Get crisp bills from bank for gratuities, put tips in labeled and sealed envelopes
- Go over seating arrangements with the caterer or site manager
- Arrange/confirm time for photographer and attendants to arrive for pictures
- Create a detailed schedule of your wedding day activities to give to your wedding pros
- Select someone (relative or friend) to be in charge of this schedule
- Steam your wedding dress, make sure it still fits, etc.
- Confirm bridesmaids have dresses and accessories
- Assign someone to return formal wear and rental items
- Confirm that groomsmen pick up their formal wear
- Pick up and try on formal wear
- Review duties with volunteers/helpers
- Remind the wedding party about Rehearsal and Rehearsal Dinner
- Delegate last minute errands and details
- Attend Bachelor and Bachelorette Parties
- Host Bridesmaid Luncheon (could be done the day before to accommodate out of town attendants)
- Pack your wedding night and honeymoon suitcases
- Present gifts to attendants at the Rehearsal Dinner (if not already done at the Luncheon and Bachelor Parties)
- Give announcements to someone to send on or just after the day of the wedding
- Have mail held
- Call stores to have deliveries held

1 DAY BEFORE

- Have Rehearsal and Rehearsal Dinner (could be earlier)
- Drop off Welcome Baskets for out of town guests (or assign someone to do this)
- Get manicure and pedicure
- Assign tasks/duties to wedding party for next day- give attendants anything they need to execute said duties
- Exchange gifts with each other