



WEDDING COUNTDOWN

checklist

12 to 18 Months Before

- Find your perfect partner ;)
- Initiate your wedding budget (before contacting any vendors)!
- Celebrate being a fiance!
- Create a wedding specific email address
- Start a rough draft of your guest list, mainly the VIP guests you absolutely want to attend.
- Research wedding planners, if you would like to have one.
- Plan your official engagement party, if you would like to have one.
- Start your wedding inspiration board, if you haven't already - *cough* Pinterest *cough*
- Start researching wedding venues, and schedule tours
- Research entertainment options
- Choose your wedding party
- Research engagement and wedding photographers
- Book your wedding venue(s)!

10 to 12 Months Before

- Book your wedding photographer
- Schedule tastings with your caterer
- Shop for bridal attire!
- If you are having a religious ceremony, check with your organization for availability on your date.
- Book your caterer!
- Choose an officiant - be sure to check with your state's regulations on who can legally marry you.
- Plan for other wedding event (bridal shower, engagement party, etc.) hair and makeup, if you desire
- Take your engagement photos
- Start building your wedding website
- Start collecting addresses for wedding guests

9 Months Before

- Meet with your officiant for ceremony planning
- Book your entertainment (DJ, live band, harpist, etc.)
- Start your registry!
- Research hotel blocks for out of town guests
- Book your hotel room for the night of the wedding ;)
- Start designing your Save the Dates
- Attend first wedding attire appointment

8 Months Before

- Continue building your registry - make sure there are enough gifts to cover each price group (low, mid, high)
- Play around with wedding hashtags!
- Schedule regular date nights/wedding-free nights with your future spouse! #selfcare
- Research HMUA vendors and schedule bridal trials for hair and makeup
- Meet with your florist/floral design team
- Start searching for wedding invitation designs or vendors to design custom invitations
- Photobooth or No Photobooth? Research options available
- Purchase your wedding gown if you have not already
- Research bakeries, and schedule a cake tasting
- Shop for bridesmaid dresses/attire

7 Months Before

- Send your Save the Dates
- Check in with your venue about a rain plan if you are having an outdoor ceremony or reception
- Make your wedding website visible to guests (it helps to put the link address on save the date cards!)
- Continue building your registry
- Start thinking about ceremony decor
- Finalize floral choices for bouquets, decor, etc.
- Research and book your wedding videographer, if you want to have one
- Start planning that honeymoon!

6 Months Before

- Book your cake/dessert vendor(s)
- Finalize your wedding invitation design
- Confirm your hair/makeup artist if you haven't already
- Book your rehearsal dinner location
- Finalize honeymoon plans!
- Research and book ceremony musicians, if you plan to have any
- Pick out suits for groom/groomsmen
- Book manicure appointments for bridal party, if desired
- Start planning bach parties ;)
- Plan for additional wedding weekend events - day after brunch, out of town guest arrivals, etc.

5 Months Before

- Book group transportation for the wedding weekend and bridal party transportation for wedding day
- Purchase wedding insurance! Many venues require this, but it's great to have regardless.
- Order wedding invitations
- Meet with lighting companies, if needed
- Start planning ceremony program and if you'd like to include readings, songs, etc.

4 Months Before

- Establish your transportation plan for the wedding day and weekend
- Pick out wedding bands :)
- Organize welcome bags or gifts for out of town guests
- Pick out wedding favors

3 Months Before

- Purchase bridal accessories
- Research wedding license requirements in your state
- Attend first gown fitting for alterations
- Purchase ceremony decor, if needed
- Send wedding invitations
- Confirm your date, time and location with all off-site vendors
- Research and book a Day of Coordinator
- Think about gifts for your wedding party, parents, and in-laws
- Finalize plans for ceremony with officiant
- Start thinking about those vows if you plan to write your own
- Consider pre-marital counseling (can be done with your officiant)

2 Months Before

- Establish your "getaway" or send-off plan
- Start tracking RSVPs
- Send out "second string" invitations
- Confirm menus for all wedding events
- Create seating chart as you receive RSVPs
- Attend second gown fitting
- Order additional day of paper goods (menus, place cards, etc.)
- Order Thank-You cards
- Shop for wedding weekend event outfits
- Start packing your "day-of" bag with essentials
- Apply for and pick up marriage license
- Draft wedding day timeline
- Meet with entertainment to go through music choices
- Inform your wedding party of plans for the morning of the wedding
- Start working on shot list for photographer

1 Month Before

- Assemble RSVPs
- Finish off those vows and any toasts you plan to give
- Ask friends and family to give a speech
- Confirm shot list with photography
- Confirm details for other wedding weekend events
- Finalize ceremony details with officiant
- Finalize payments for wedding vendors
- Attend final fitting for wedding attire!
- Finalize and distribute wedding day itinerary
- Finalize seating chart and guest count
- Pack for honeymoon
- Deliver welcome bags for out of town guests
- Treat yourself and your fiance to a wedding prep self-care day ;)
- Complete final walkthrough of venue(s)

Notes



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