

## WEDDING COUNTDOWN (THE LONG LIST)

This is a guideline to help you better plan your special day, which may require some adjustment to fit your needs. For example, some heavily booked dates require earlier reservations to assure the venues for your ceremony and reception; some photographers, caterers, etc., require earlier booking dates; or some relatives may need more notice to make travel arrangements.

### Six to 12 months before

- \_\_\_\_\_ Announce engagement to family, friends
- \_\_\_\_\_ Choose type of wedding
- \_\_\_\_\_ Set budget
- \_\_\_\_\_ Hire wedding planner, if desired
- \_\_\_\_\_ Book ceremony location, date and time
- \_\_\_\_\_ Select bridal party
- \_\_\_\_\_ Choose colors
- \_\_\_\_\_ Select and order bridal gown
- \_\_\_\_\_ Select and order headpiece/veil
- \_\_\_\_\_ Order shoes
- \_\_\_\_\_ Order attendants' gowns
- \_\_\_\_\_ Start planning honeymoon
- \_\_\_\_\_ Select gift registries
- \_\_\_\_\_ Choose caterer
- \_\_\_\_\_ Compile guest list
- \_\_\_\_\_ Choose officiant (minister, justice of the peace)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Book musicians and make music selection
- \_\_\_\_\_ Choose photographer, videographer
- \_\_\_\_\_ Choose florist
- \_\_\_\_\_ Start planning reception
- \_\_\_\_\_ Reserve reception site
- \_\_\_\_\_ Select and order wedding rings
- \_\_\_\_\_ Attend wedding expo, read related magazines
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mail "Save the date" postcards

### Three to four months before

- \_\_\_\_\_ Finalize guest list
- \_\_\_\_\_ Take blood test
- \_\_\_\_\_ Apply for marriage license
- \_\_\_\_\_ Select mothers' dresses
- \_\_\_\_\_ Order invitations and personal stationery
- \_\_\_\_\_ Start compiling trousseau
- \_\_\_\_\_ Finalize reception plans
- \_\_\_\_\_ Make honeymoon reservations
- \_\_\_\_\_ Confirm dress delivery date
- \_\_\_\_\_ Confirm time and date for church, florist, caterer, photographer and musicians
- \_\_\_\_\_ Arrange transportation to ceremony and reception
- \_\_\_\_\_ Order cake
- \_\_\_\_\_ Select groomsmen attire
- \_\_\_\_\_ Schedule fittings for bridesmaids' dresses and shoes
- \_\_\_\_\_ Book hairstylist, makeup artist and aesthetist
- \_\_\_\_\_ Try out the hair cut and style that you prefer to see if it's what you really want

### Two months before

- \_\_\_\_\_ Mail invitations and RSVPs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Finalize honeymoon arrangements
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mail announcement to newspaper

### One month before

- \_\_\_\_\_ Schedule bridal portrait
- \_\_\_\_\_ Reserve guest accommodations
- \_\_\_\_\_ Record gifts received; send thank you notes
- \_\_\_\_\_ Plan rehearsal and dinner
- \_\_\_\_\_ Purchase bridal party gifts
- \_\_\_\_\_ Purchase gift for fiancé
- \_\_\_\_\_ Schedule final fittings, including shoes
- \_\_\_\_\_ Schedule beauty salon appointments
- \_\_\_\_\_ Arrange placement of guest book, gifts
- \_\_\_\_\_ Purchase wedding accessories (pillow for ring bearer, candles, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Pick up marriage license

### Two weeks before

- \_\_\_\_\_ Finalize wedding day transportation
- \_\_\_\_\_ Arrange to change name on driver's license, passport, Social Security card, etc.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Confirm guest accommodations

### One week before

- \_\_\_\_\_ Pack for honeymoon
- \_\_\_\_\_ Finalize number of guests with caterer
- \_\_\_\_\_ Double check details with photographer, videographer, florist, etc.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Plan seating arrangements
- \_\_\_\_\_ Confirm photographer order
- \_\_\_\_\_ Practice hairstyle with headpiece
- \_\_\_\_\_ Practice applying makeup in proper light
- \_\_\_\_\_ Arrange for final wedding attire fitting
- \_\_\_\_\_ Size and fit rings

### One to two days before

- \_\_\_\_\_ Confirm possession of marriage license, wedding bands, other needed items
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have rehearsal/rehearsal dinner

### The wedding day

- \_\_\_\_\_ Relax, pamper yourself with a manicure, pedicure, facial and massage
- \_\_\_\_\_ Eat lightly
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have hair and makeup done a few hours before ceremony
- \_\_\_\_\_ Start dressing two hours before the wedding
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have photographer take photos before the wedding
- \_\_\_\_\_ Freshen hair and makeup before ceremony