



12 MONTH WEDDING PLANNING CHECKLIST

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11- 12 MONTHS

- Determine your budget
- Determine your priorities
- Look at venues and schedule appointments to visit them.
- Understand your vibe
- Come up with a preliminary guestlist with your families
- Decide on the season for your wedding (spring, fall, etc).
- Book your venue
- Book your high priority vendors you just have to have (hopefully that includes me!)
- Hire a wedding coordinator
- Ask your friends to be a part of your wedding party
- Look into wedding insurance. This may be required by most venues

8-10 MONTHS

- Go wedding dress and suit shopping
- Plan your engagement party (if you want one)
- Book your engagement session if you want save the date cards to be sent out in the next few months
- Start looking at wedding party attire and see what would work with your party's body types and preferences
- Finalize your guest list
- Book your DJ/MC/Band
- Book your hair and makeup artist
- Send out Save-The-Dates
- Determine what kind of meal you want (catering options? family style?) Then schedule tastings if they offer them
- Reserve hotel blocks for your out of town guests.
- Order your wedding bands if they are custom pieces
- Create your wedding registry
- Order invitations and other paper goods

6-8 MONTHS AHEAD

- Create a Preliminary Wedding Day Timeline. If you need help, I'll be adding a sample timeline to my resources. Feel free to reach out for access!
- Book your caterer if one doesn't already come with your venue
- Book your officiant (we just had a friend do our ceremony. You can get them ordained online, or get married at City Hall prior to the big day like we did)
- Book any live musicians
- Reserve rentals (tents, tables, chairs, linen)
- Order your wedding party attire and custom suits

4-6 MONTHS AHEAD

- Mail your invitations
- Schedule your wedding dress alterations
- Plan your honeymoon
- Update your passports to make sure names are reflected correctly and you have a valid passport with at least 9 months left of validity
- Plan your bridal shower

2-4 MONTHS AHEAD

- Plan your gifts if you plan to exchange any with your partner, parents or wedding party- Schedule your makeup and hair trials if you want them done (personally, I've never had my nails don't so don't feel pressured to have to get them done!)
- Order a sign-in book or wall art using your engagement photos



1-2 MONTHS

- Get your marriage license
- Make your haircut and nail appointments if you plan to have
- Schedule final fittings
- Pay your vendors according to their payment schedules
- Finalize your decor plans
- Finalize your honeymoon itinerary and bookings
- Put together an emergency kit for things you might need on your wedding day
- Write your vows

2-4 WEEKS AHEAD

- Finalize your guest list and send out final headcounts to your venue and caterers
- Do a venue walkthrough to find out if there is any construction on site
- Create your family formal list and provide this list to your photographer (talk to your family about this so they don't spring things on you like 40 extra combinations on the wedding day)
- Confirm your transportation for the big day
- Pack everything into one box that you will need on your wedding day
- Provide a song list to DJ if they require one
- Plan your bachelorette/bachelor parties
- Practice your ceremony including where people will be standing and their order as well as pacing of walk.

WEEK OF

- Check your dress and make sure you do any last prep on it (steam, change out the hanger)
- Get your nails done if you're planning to
- Pick up rentals like tuxes and suits
- Confirm vendor details and timelines
- Confirm details with your family and wedding party
- Have your rings cleaned if you want to
- Have your rehearsal dinner
- Delegate someone to be in charge of cleaning / taking things home at the end of the night
- Arrange transportation

- Three days before: DO NOTHING and leave nothing planned for these three days. There will always be last minute issues that pop up. Leave three whole days to deal only with these issues.