

What to do AND WHEN

12–6 months

- Announce your engagement
- Pick the date
- Start working on your guest list
- Decide on and invite your wedding party
- Develop a budget, taking into consideration family contributions
- Plan on attending local wedding shows
- Research and visit wedding and reception venues (p. 32)
- Create a wedding notebook to keep yourself organized
- Create a wedding website (see our blog for advice)
- Select your wedding party
- Book blocks of hotel rooms in varying price ranges for out-of-town guests
- Hire a wedding planner
- Order your dress and veil
- Book an officiant
- Hire your photographer and videographer
- Pick out your DJ or band
- Research and book caterers and florists
- Start shopping for a dress

6–4 months

- Create your wedding website
- Send save-the-date cards
- Register for gifts
- Select an invitation style and determine the proper wording
- Shop for your bridesmaids' dresses
- Determine what the groom and groomsmen will wear
- Discuss ceremony ideas and wording with your officiant
- Set up premarital counseling (some officiants require this)
- Book honeymoon and make travel arrangements
- Purchase your wedding rings
- Select a baker and confirm wedding cake and decorations
- Reserve rental equipment (tent, chairs, tables, etc.)
- Schedule tastings with your selected caterer
- Finalize floral arrangements
- Select a playlist with your band or DJ
- Arrange transportation to and from your wedding
- Order personalized wedding favors

