



Wedding Weekend Timeline & Checklist for Bridesmaids

1 DAY BEFORE WEDDING

Rehearsal at ceremony location

- Bring final wedding items to ceremony location and store in a **SECURE PLACE**
 - Marriage License
 - Wedding programs
 - Unity candles
 - Lighter/matches
 - Guest book
 - Pens
 - Bridesmaid emergency kit ([download planning tool](#))
 - Extra yarmulkes (for Jewish ceremony in a synagogue)
 - Extra shawls/coverings (follow customs of the church, synagogue or mosque)
- MAID OF HONOR:** bring bow/ribbon bouquet from shower as bride's practice bouquet
- Practice holding flower bouquet at your navel/waist as you process down aisle
- MAID OF HONOR:** coordinate with bride & inform bridesmaids when/where to meet on wedding day
 - At salon for hair/makeup?
 - At bridesmaids' luncheon?
 - At wedding ceremony location for photos?

Rehearsal Dinner

- Give a toast to the bride and groom (optional but appreciated, if in good taste!)
- Direct guests to any post-rehearsal dinner events, parties
- Don't overdo it – be prepared & energetic for the big day tomorrow

WEDDING DAY!

Pre-Ceremony

- Go to salon for hair/makeup
- Attend or host bridesmaids' luncheon
- Arrive at wedding location for pre-ceremony photos
- Bring pre-ceremony snacks & drinks for bridesmaids
- Help bride get dressed
- Keep the bride's mood light – be supportive, positive and complimentary
- MAID OF HONOR:**
 - Distribute corsages & give boutonnieres to best man to distribute
 - Obtain groom's wedding ring and keep it with you for the ceremony
 - Ask bride & bride's mother what should be distributed to family or friends at end of reception (favors, rice/petals/bubbles, centerpieces, etc.)

Ceremony

- Remove chewing gum and wrist watches before procession
- Hide a tissue or handkerchief in your hand
- Hold bouquet at navel/waist and walk slowly down aisle
- MAID OF HONOR:**
 - Position bride's veil & train before procession and *briefly* once at the altar
 - Give groom's ring to bride & hold her bouquet while she exchanges rings with the groom
 - Sign marriage license (as a witness)
 - Help bustle the bride's train

Reception

- Participate in receiving line
- Take part in the announcement/presentation of wedding party to guests at reception
- MAID OF HONOR:** Give a toast to the bride and groom (optional but appreciated, if in good taste!)
- Help bride with her dress in the bathroom, if needed
- Provide bride with food, drinks and water
- Assist the bride: rescue her from chatty relatives, if needed
- MAID OF HONOR:** Bring flowers to bride for bouquet toss
- Encourage guests to take a wedding favor (optional) as they go home
- Spread the word about any post-reception parties
- Hand out rice/rose petals/bubbles/sparklers to guests at end of reception (optional)
- Help bride's parents gather wedding gifts & supplies and carry to their car