

# Easy Checklist for Your Perfect Wedding

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## Nine months before the wedding

- ♦ Announce your engagement
- ♦ Discuss the formality, size, and location of the wedding/reception with both families
- ♦ Set the wedding date and time
- ♦ Meet with clergyman or judge to confirm date and time
- ♦ Reserve site for the ceremony

## Eight months to go

- ♦ Discuss wedding budget with your parents
- ♦ Determine the approximate number of guests
- ♦ Reserve reception site
- ♦ Select wedding and engagement rings and arrange for engraving

## Seven months to go

- ♦ Have your engagement party
- ♦ Begin making your guest list
- ♦ Discuss honeymoon plans
- ♦ Begin shopping for wedding attire

## Five months to go

- ♦ Talk to the wedding official and organist about music, decorations and procedure at the ceremony
- ♦ Select readings and music for the ceremony
- ♦ Select music for the reception
- ♦ Schedule rehearsal dinner
- ♦ Get a list of services and menu possibilities from the caterer or other reception contact

## Four months to go

- ♦ Register at gift and department stores
- ♦ Meet with the caterer or club manager to plan reception details
- ♦ Meet with florist, photographer and baker
- ♦ Complete honeymoon plans and make hotel and travel reservations
- ♦ Make doctor and dental appointments
- ♦ Shop for your trousseau

## Three months to go

- ♦ Order invitations, announcements and other stationery
- ♦ Select attire for the groom and groomsmen
- ♦ Confirm delivery dates of all attire and schedule fittings from bridal and bridesmaids' gowns
- ♦ Purchase wedding album and guest books
- ♦ Schedule wedding portrait

### Two months to go

- ♦ Address invitations
- ♦ Select bridesmaids' and groomsmen's gifts
- ♦ Have formal bridal portraits taken
- ♦ Make lodging arrangements for out-of-town guests and attendants
- ♦ Arrange transportation for bridal party to and from the ceremony and reception sites
- ♦ Coordinate menu plan from the rehearsal dinner with the groom's family
- ♦ Finalize the arrangements for flowers, menu, wedding cake(s) and music
- ♦ Change insurance policies, charge accounts, bank accounts, will, driver's license and Social Security listing to reflect name and/or address change
- ♦ Write wedding announcement for newspapers
- ♦ Make appointment with hairdresser from the day of or day before your wedding

### One month to go

- ♦ Mail invitations
- ♦ Send maps to out-of-town guests
- ♦ Set up table for wedding gifts
- ♦ Record all gifts and write thank-you notes as gifts arrive
- ♦ Notify the wedding party of rehearsal time and invite guests to the rehearsal dinner
- ♦ Make bags of rose petals or rice for throwing as you leave the reception
- ♦ Make arrangements for a dressing place for the bridesmaids
- ♦ Make a household check for home furnishings that are still needed

### One to two weeks to go

- ♦ Double-check all arrangements
- ♦ Have blood tests done and pick up marriage license
- ♦ Have final fittings for all attire
- ♦ Address and stamp announcements
- ♦ Record each gift as it is received and write a thank-you note promptly
- ♦ Check on all accessories for wedding outfit and for bridesmaids' outfits
- ♦ Provide photographer with a list of desired photographs
- ♦ Send wedding announcement to photographer
- ♦ Draw up a seating plan for reception: make place cards for bride's table
- ♦ Give caterer or reception contact a final estimate of number of people attending
- ♦ Pack for honeymoon

### The day before the wedding

- ♦ Have your hair done
- ♦ Have a manicure, pedicure and facial
- ♦ Attend bridesmaids' luncheon; give gifts to attendants
- ♦ Attend rehearsal and rehearsal dinner