

2023/2024 EDITION

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BC WEDDING GUIDE

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Wedding Planner
& Directory

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CHECKLISTS
& MORE
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WE'RE *all* *you* NEED!

BC Lower Mainland Wedding Professionals have everything you need to plan your perfect wedding day.

congratulations ENGAGED COUPLES!

Congratulations to you and your fiancée on this exciting step in your lives together.

Find tips for planning and creating the wedding of your dreams! This guide takes you through the entire process — from a year's worth of planning step-by-step, to selecting the perfect photographer. From mailing down a budget, to looking your best on the big day.

Keep this planner with you whenever possible for quick reference, and please mention it by name when visiting the businesses of your choice. Please, whenever possible, take the opportunity to support our advertisers who, through their participation are making this valuable resource directory available in our area.

Thank you for your interest in our publication! And best wishes for a wonderful wedding day and a bright future! Have lots of fun planning your wedding day with our Wedding Connections!

B.C.
wedding
GUIDES

For over 25 years, Coastal Publications + Events has been connecting engaged couples with BC best wedding professionals in British Columbia.



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12-MONTH *planning* COUNTDOWN:



There's plenty to do before saying "I do." So we've put together this 12-month checklist to help you plan the perfect wedding day.

TWELVE MONTHS PLUS

- Choose the date and time for wedding and rehearsal
- Announce the engagement
- Create a wedding email account
- Attend engagement party
- Hire a wedding planner
- Draft a preliminary guest list
- Draft a budget
- Begin bridal registry
- Determine the style and formality of the wedding
- Research and select ceremony site
- Research and select reception location
- Research wedding vendors
- Visit clergy/officiant together and reserve date
- Arrange time off work



EIGHT TO TEN MONTHS

- Order wedding gown
- Organize accommodation and transportation for out-of-town guests
- Organize accommodation for the wedding night (and night before)
- Interview and select vendors
- Rentals equipment
- Officiant (if you are not marrying in a house of worship)
- Research wedding invitations
- Research honeymoon, for example passport requirements
- Consider marriage preparation course



TEN TO TWELVE MONTHS

- Choose bridesmaids/groomsmen and ushers
- Interview and select vendors:
 - Caterer (if necessary)
 - Hire a Photographer
 - Videographer/cinematographer
 - Entertainment/music
 - Florist/event designer
- Shop for wedding gown
- Upon hiring photographer, schedule an engagement session
- Mail or email save-the-dates, if you are having a destination wedding



SIX TO EIGHT MONTHS



- Mail or email your save-the-dates
- Begin planning ceremony
- Begin planning reception
- Plan the rehearsal dinner
- Plan pre-wedding and post-wedding parties
- Finalize any remaining vendor commitments
- Makeup/Hair stylist for wedding day
- Make Wine and Get Special Occasion License
- Select wedding cake
- Research other stationery needs (menu cards, place cards, ceremony programs)
- Order bridesmaids' dresses
- Help mothers shop for their attire
- Select formal wear for the groom, groomsmen, and fathers
- Research favour options
- Plan and book honeymoon
- Get passports, VISA etc.
- Ask family and friends to help at ceremony and reception

FOUR TO SIX MONTHS



- Finalize guest list
- Order wedding invitations and announcements
- Determine reception menu
- Select wedding-day transportation
- Shop for wedding bands
- Help mothers select and coordinate their dresses
- Shop for bridal accessories (headpiece/veil, lingerie, shoes, jewelry, going away outfit)
- Shop for bridesmaids' accessories (jewelry, shoes, purses)
- Order wedding cake and groom's cake

THREE MONTHS

- Address and assemble invitations
- Research marriage license requirements
- Confirm delivery dates on wedding gown and bridesmaids' dresses
- If writing your own vows, begin now
- Compile music list for reception entertainment
- Finalize ceremony details and music selections
- Prepare shoot list for videographer and photographer
- Shop for attendants' thank you gifts
- Make arrangements for preserving bridal bouquet
- Make arrangements for preserving bridal gown
- Get Boudoir Photos done



TWO MONTHS

- Mail / email invitations
- Develop a system for organizing RSVPs
- Attend dress fittings/alterations
- Confirm with bridesmaids that they have purchased lingerie and shoes, and have scheduled/attended their dress fitting
- Schedule wedding day hair and makeup preview/trial
- Arrange rehearsal and dinner plans
- Schedule final beauty/grooming appointments for the week of wedding haircut and/or colour, manicure/pedicure, massage, tanning, waxing
- Complete proper documents for changing your name
- Prep for bachelor and bachelorette parties



ONE MONTH

- Obtain marriage license
- Finalize itinerary with vendors and ceremony/reception locations
- Begin making seating plan for reception dinner
- Pick up wedding bands
- Schedule final gown fittings and date to pick up finished and pressed wedding gown.
- Call guests who have not responded to invitation
- Start on/complete thank you notes for any wedding gifts already received
- Break in your wedding shoes
- Arrange lodging for out-of-town guests
- Arrange brunch for out-of-town guests morning after wedding before they leave as thanks for coming
- Decide on receiving line-where, who



TWO WEEKS

- Confirm final guest count to caterer/reception location
- Confirm rehearsal dinner guest count
- Begin packing for honeymoon
- Break in wedding shoes at home scuff the bottom, walk around in them
- Begin to make final payments to vendors (payments due from this point up to wedding day)
- Finalize seating plan
- Prepare an "emergency kit" for wedding-day mishaps
- Meet with photographer and videographer; submit list of must-take shots



ONE WEEK

- Pick up gown - try it on at the dressmaker's for final fit, and do not try it on again at home
- Host bridesmaids' party
- Attend final grooming/beauty appointments
- Call/email venues and all vendors to finalize arrangements, delivery times, and any other details
- Prepare tip envelopes and arrange for someone to distribute them the day of
- Finalize packing for honeymoon
- Confirm travel arrangements; if travelling abroad, purchase small amount of local currency
- Confirm transportation details
- Review timetables and details with vendors



TWO TO THREE DAYS

- Drop off wedding accessories at venue or deliver to wedding planner
- Pack a bag for the wedding day
- Pick up tuxedos for groom, groomsmen, and fathers. Try on tuxedos - confirm all articles of clothing and accessories have been supplied
- Cut cheques for remaining vendor payments



ONE DAY TO GO

- Attend ceremony rehearsal
- Distribute the wedding-day itinerary to all parents, attendants, and other involved parties
- Hand over remaining accessories to wedding planner, church coordinator, or other organizer
- Attend rehearsal dinner
- Present attendants with their gifts at the rehearsal dinner
- Go to bed early so you will be well rested for the amazing day that lies ahead of you



THE WEDDING DAY

- Eat breakfast
- Arrange to get checked in and have luggage delivered to your hotel
- Give vendor payments to planner or best man for distribution
- Get beautiful
- Get dressed
- Switch your engagement ring to your right hand
- Marry your love and have a great day!



*YOU DID IT
congratulations!*

POST WEDDING

- Leave for honeymoon
- Send gown for cleaning and preservation
- Complete and mail thank you cards
- Thank your parents and attendants (by phone call and/or note)
- Thank your vendors (by phone call and/or note)
- Change name/or not



staying WITHIN YOUR BUDGET



The average couple spends somewhere around \$25,000 on their wedding—even before factoring in the engagement ring or honeymoon.

Whether you're planning an intimate wedding or a more lavish affair, one of your first steps in planning your wedding should be to set up—and stick to—a basic budget. Budgeting is easiest if you have clear priorities. When you've decided on your must-haves, cutting the costs becomes a snap. Though your families may elect to help you out, they are in no way obligated to do so.

To keep from breaking the bank (after all, who wants to start a marriage tens of thousands of dollars in debt?), make sure you and your partner agree on your priorities before committing to anything. Building in a 5 percent cushion just in case will also save your sanity when the actual costs inevitably come in a little higher than expected.



wedding BUDGET

PRODUCT OR SERVICE	BUDGET	\$ +/-	PRODUCT OR SERVICE	BUDGET	\$ +/-
CEREMONY LOCATION			BRIDAL ATTENDANTS' GIFTS		
MARRIAGE LICENSE			GROOMSMENS' GIFTS		
OFFICIANT			LIMOUSINES/BUSES/CARS		
EVENT COORDINATOR			MUSIC		
STATIONERY			Ceremony		
Invitations			Reception		
Website			DANCE LESSONS		
Announcements			PHOTOGRAPHER		
Thank-you Notes			VIDEOGRAPHER		
Reply Cards			WEDDING SUPPLIES/RENTALS		
Postage			Tents, chairs, tables		
FLOWERS			Plates, vases, glassware		
Ceremony Decorations			Decorations		
Bridal Bouquet			RECEPTION		
Attendants			Hall / Site Rental		
Parents			Caterer / Food		
Reception Flowers			Entertainment / Games		
Rehearsal Dinner			Photobooth		
BRIDE'S ATTIRE			Wedding Cake		
Wedding Gown/Veil			Wine & Beer		
Jewelry / Hair Accessories			Liquor Licence		
Going-Away-Dress			Beverage		
Garter / Lingerie			Food Truck, Beverage Cart		
Shoes			Gratuity & Taxes		
GROOM'S ATTIRE			PRINTS OR PHOTOBOOKS		
Suits / Tuxedos			GUEST FAVOURS		
Shoes / Accessories			HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS		
WEDDING RINGS			TRAVEL EXPENSES		
BEAUTY			HONEYMOON		
Hair & Makeup			EXTRAS		
			TOTAL WEDDING BUDGET		



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– Jennifer



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acastillo@innatthequay.com





questions to ask

the venue

- Are tables and chairs included in the rental fee? Linens? What is included? What rentals will I need?
- How early can you get in the building to decorate? Are there decorating restrictions?
- How early can the caterer arrive?
- Do they have a list of approved caterers?
- Is security required?
- What are the alcohol policies?
- Who is responsible for cleanup? When must the hall be cleaned?
- Can the facility cancel the date? If so, with what kind of notice?
- What are the payment options and arrangements?
- What are the setup policies?
- Is parking available? Is it paid or free?
- Does the facility require insurance? Who is responsible for providing it?
- Dance floor/music allowed? Where do musicians set up?
- What hours do I have the facility? Is anything else going on during the same day?
- Are there any other restrictions?
- Are there any renovations or remodels happening before our event date?
- How many hours are included in the rental agreement?

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WHAT TO BRING/KNOW:

- Your vision for the ceremony & reception
- Number of guests
- Tentative wedding date
- Decision makers that need to be included in tour



LOVE IS IN THE AIR



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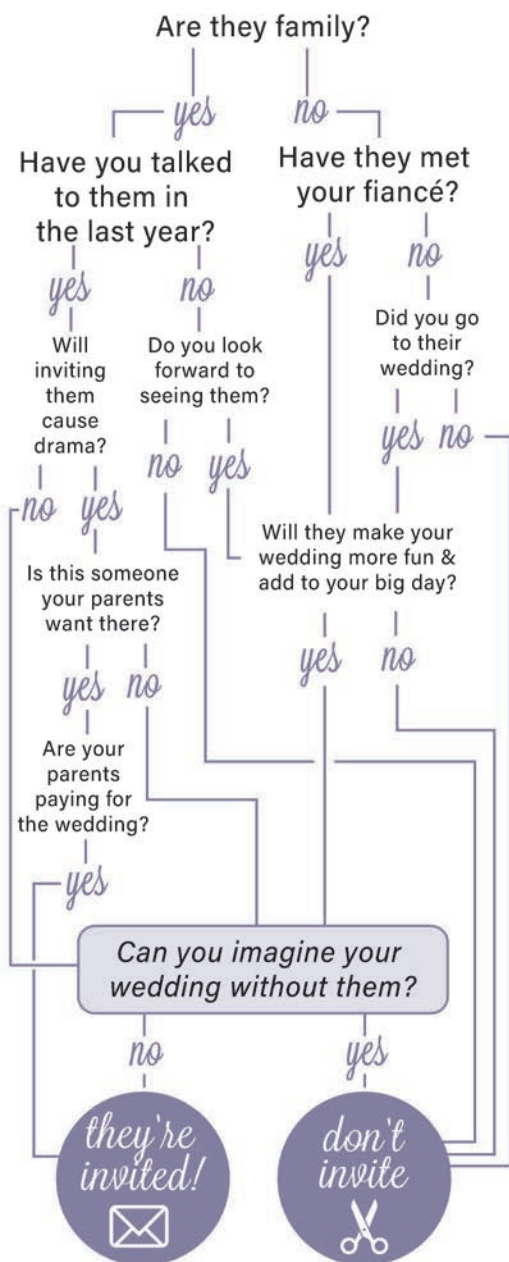


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GUEST LIST flow chart

You can narrow down your guest list in under a minute by answering a few questions



photography

Long after your wedding day is over, your photos will provide lasting memories.

initial consultation

WHAT TO BRING/KNOW:

- Tentative timeline of your day
- General idea of budget
- Style of photography you like
- How interactive you want your photographer to be (e.g., actively posing people or unobtrusively documenting)
- End products you are interested in (album, portraits, book, digital files, etc.)

what to ask

- Can we look at your sample albums, guest books, online galleries, etc?
- When do I get the digital files?
- Will I have rights to the digital files?
- What is the process for album design?
- How many weddings have you photographed?

With that in mind, you not only need to find a photographer that you feel comfortable with but you also need to know what photo options are available and what shots should not be missed. No other vendor will have as lasting role in your wedding as your wedding photographer.



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bride EMERGENCY KIT

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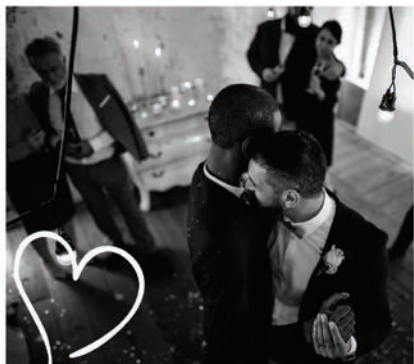
- Cell Phone/charger
- Hair items: pins/brush/hair spray
- Q-tips/tissues
- Small Make-up Kit
- Hand Mirror
- Breath freshener
- Pain Reliever
- Band-Aids
- Visine
- Antacids
- Pen & Notebook
- Safety Pins
- Crazy Glue
- Extra Earring Backs
- Travelling Mini-Sewing Kit
- Double-sided Tape
- Static-Cling Spray
- Stain Pen
- Disposable Wipes
- Favourite Snacks
- Water or Energy Drink
- Umbrella

traditional FORMAL WEAR



When it comes to weddings almost anything goes. Whether you purchase or rent your tuxedos or suit make sure it complements your fiancée's and wedding party's style. Traditionally the best man, groomsmen and attendants pay for their own formal wear.

Most formal wear rental stores do offer package deals for the entire bridal party, saving everyone money.



WHEN SHOULD WE ORDER TUXEDOS FOR OUR WEDDING? at least 3-4 months prior to the wedding is recommended

WHO SHOULD WEAR TUXEDOS? traditionally the groom, groomsmen, ushers, fathers, and ring bearer will all be in tuxedos.

WHEN IS THE FINAL FITTING? usually a day or two before the wedding so any needed adjustments can be taken care of before the wedding.

WHEN DO THE MEN HAVE TO BE MEASURED FOR THEIR TUXEDOS? suit measurements should be in no later than 4-6 weeks prior to the wedding.

WHAT ABOUT OUT-OF-TOWN GROOMSMEN? suits should be ordered in the city where the wedding is taking place and members of the wedding party living out of town should be professionally measured at their local formalwear or menswear store. The measurements can be called in, sent in, or submitted online so that the suits/tuxedos will be ready for the final fitting when your groomsmen come to town for the wedding.

IS AN APPOINTMENT NECESSARY? it's a good idea to call ahead and schedule an appointment.

Your wedding day is special,
let's find something
unique to you



CAMERON JAMES
MEN'S WEAR
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wedding CEREMONIES & RECEPTIONS

WHAT TO BRING/KNOW:

- Your vision for the ceremony & reception
- Number of guests
- Tentative wedding date
- Ideas and pictures
- Decision makers that need to be included in tour

what to ask:

What is the facility's capacity?

It should comfortably accommodate the number of guests you expect to attend.

Is there a room available for the bride to use?

If you want to get ready at the facility instead of the salon or at home, make sure there is a sizeable, well lit place to do so.

Will you schedule more than one wedding for our date?

If so, you want to ensure they will give your wedding the proper care and attention it deserves.

Are there restrictions on what we can do to decorate?

Sometimes facilities have restrictions on the use of candles and other decorations. Most commonly there are restrictions on what can be used for the send-off (e.g., rice).

Are you planning on any remodels or renovations before our wedding?

You don't want to plan for one colour scheme and find the carpet and walls are completely different than you expected.

What is the rental fee?

Find out what is included, how much the deposit is, and when the balance is due.

How many hours are included in the rental agreement?

Sometimes there are a set number of hours and facilities will charge for each additional hour.

Where should the musicians set up?

Make sure the space properly accommodates your musicians and that they have access to electricity. Also verify that the dance floor is large enough to accommodate your number of guests.

Is there a wedding coordinator on staff that will be there the entire time?

You will want the person you have been dealing with to be there the whole time to make things run smoothly.

Who is in control of the sound system?

Find out if your facility has someone to man the sound booth or if you need to provide your own professional.

How is accessibility & parking?

Check out the parking situation to make sure they have enough for your size event and that it is conveniently available. Also make sure the facility is handicap accessible if necessary.

additional questions FOR OUTDOOR FACILITIES

Does the site have any specific restrictions?

Make sure to find out well in advance which rules and regulations apply to your event.

Is there restroom accessibility?

Even if there is accessibility, the restrooms may not be suitable for your affair. Portable restrooms now come equipped with the latest amenities.

Do we need power? Is power provided?

If you're setting up lighting, a sound system, or have live music, you may need to set up a generator in order to have access to electricity.

What rentals will I need?

Does the facility provide necessities such as chairs, sound system, awnings, tents, restrooms, etc., or will you need to rent your own?

What will the site look like when we get married?

The appearance of outdoor sites can change dramatically with the season.

Is there an alternate option in case of inclement weather?



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Anthony and I appreciate absolutely everything you have done for us & please send our thanks to the entire staff, everyone was just so kind and helpful!!"

-A&P-

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eat, drink & BE MERRY

The ceremony makes it official, but the reception is where your friends and family celebrate as your married life begins.

Make it a reflection of your interests, personality and style, and show your guests a great time while you're at it. Think of the reception tables as your canvas. You can create any mood you want if you choose your 'paint' wisely. Considering serving just one or two signature cocktails along with wine and beer. Search for a recipe that works with your wedding's tone.

Cutting the cake is a highlight of the reception. If you've chosen cupcakes or a nontraditional dessert, most bakers will provide a small, special cake for the traditional first cut.

catering Q&A

INITIAL CONSULTATION WHAT TO BRING/KNOW:

- Wedding date
- Venue
- Number of guests on your invite list
- Timeline of the day
- Recipes you want included
- Need for special meals
(kids menu, vegan, gluten-free, allergies, etc.)
- Tipping Policy

WHAT TO ASK:

- Will you schedule more events for our date?
- Do you charge for extra services (cake cutting, bar service, etc)?
- What equipment is included?
- How many staff will be there?
- What are payment terms?
- Do you feed the DJ, photographer, band or do I need to include them in the count?
- Who cleans up the room afterwards?
- Is travel to my venue location included?
- What is included in the price?
- Will there be a coffee station or pot of coffee on the table? Will there be ice water?
- Will the person I've been working with be at our wedding?



table SEATING GUIDE

Get cozy (but not too crowded) by picking the right number of seats per table.



Seats 6

TABLE CLOTH:
90" round
(21" drop)
or
108" round
(to the floor)



Seats 8

TABLE CLOTH:
90" round
(15" drop)
or
120" round
(to the floor)



Seats 10

TABLE CLOTH:
108" round
(18" drop)
or
132" round
(to the floor)



Seats 8

TABLE CLOTH:
60" x 102"
(15" drop)
or
90" x 132"
(to the floor)



Seats 10

TABLE CLOTH:
90" x 132"
(15" drop)
or
90" x 156"
(to the floor)



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Renting a real photo booth is a very popular interactive feature for weddings and should be booked well in advance.

what to ask:

- What is the fee for rental?
- Can you show me print samples?
- Do you have scrap book services?
- How many hours of photo booth 'running time' is included?
- Is there a delivery charge?
- Does a rental include an attendant during the event?
- Do we get a digital copy of the photos?
- Do we get custom graphics on the photos?
- How many photos can we take?

music/DJ'S

Choosing music for your special day is a way to make tribute to the soundtrack of your life with songs that will remind you of your ceremony and reception for years to come.

INITIAL CONSULTATION WHAT TO KNOW:

- The style of your wedding: Formal or informal? Traditional or nontraditional?
- An idea of your budget for both ceremony and reception music
- Special songs you want played
- Length of time you want music played
- Whether you want vocalists, instrumental music, DJ, or a combination
- Whether you prefer live music for your ceremony or don't mind if a vocalist uses music recordings as a background
- Whether you want dancing music, background music, or both

what to ask:

- Where can I hear you perform?
- Do you have recordings I can listen to?
- How many years of experience do you have?
- Can we make special requests? How many?
- Will you provide a sound system?
- What kind of backup equipment/instruments do you have?
- Do you have any events before or after ours?
- What is your cancellation policy?
- What kind of overtime fees do you charge in case we want to run late?
- How many breaks do you require? Do you have recordings to play during breaks?



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BRIDAL gowns

initial consultation

WHAT TO BRING/KNOW:

- Idea of budget
- Wedding date
- Wedding location
(indoor, outdoor, church, barn, etc.)
- Wedding style
(formal, casual, vintage, elegant, etc.)
- Number of bridesmaids
- Idea of colours

what to ask:

Am I buying a custom fit?

You are not shopping for just a dress, but a fit as well. Choose a shop that will make sure you look stunning in a perfectly fitted gown.

When do they order the dress?

Some shops may take the order but wait to put it through until closer to your wedding day. Make sure your gown will be ordered with plenty of time to spare.

If your bridesmaids come in many shapes and wear all different sizes, consider picking the color and fabric for the dresses and allow them to choose their own style. If un-identical dresses is not something you want, consider dresses in an A-line style which is flattering to all body types and sizes. You could also consider having your bridesmaids wear wraps to fit their body types

Does the dress leave the shop?

If the gown never leaves the shop, it will stay more pristine: ask if the shop works with an in-home seamstress.

Who will be doing the finish work and sewing?

Find out if the shop does their own alterations or if they hire out the service.

How will the dress look when picked up?

Find out if the gown will be steamed or pressed, whether the shop takes steps to preserve the gown's shape, and whether the dress bag will be roomy enough to prevent crushing.



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flowers

bring personality to your wedding: the colours, scents, & styles all work together to create a statement that is uniquely you.

initial consultation

WHAT TO BRING/KNOW:

- Picture of your wedding gown
- Picture of bridesmaids gowns
- Idea of your colour combo, fabric swatches
- Idea of the theme or “feel” you want
- Photos of arrangements that have caught your eye
- Your save the date, photo of invitation if already chosen
- Quantity of corsages and boutonnieres you need (and whether moms and grandmas want wrist or pin-on corsages)
- Quantity of reception tables
- Photos of the ceremony site (including pews and the altar) and reception site
- Which baker you will hire (so you can coordinate flower placement on cake, if desired)



considerations

WEDDING PARTY

- Bride's Bouquet
- Tossing Bouquet for Bride
- Maid of Honor Bouquet
- Bridesmaids Bouquet
- Flower Girl
- Groom's Boutonniere
- Best Man's & Groomsmen's Boutonnieres
- Ring Bearer's Boutonniere
- Mother's Corsages
- Father's Boutonniere
- Corsages for Special Guests

CEREMONY

- Aisle Runner
- Pew of Chair Decorations
- Alter Arrangements
- Candles and Candle Holders

RECEPTION

- Door or Entry Arrangements
- Bar Decorations
- Cake Decorations (if needed)
- Cake Table Decorations
- Centerpieces
- Chair Decorations

Compare estimates between florists -- there are so many things that affect whether your flowers will last and the bottom line price, so be sure to ask:

- How do you prep & process your flowers?
- How do you ensure the flowers will last as long as possible?
- Has anything happened this year to impact the prices of the arrangements?
- What are appropriate substitutions if a flower becomes unavailable?



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what to bring/know:

WEDDING DAY LOCATIONS

Know your ceremony site, reception facility, photo shoot areas, getting ready locations, and after party spots so you can determine where you may need transportation.

ESTIMATED TIME FRAME

How long it will take for pictures after the ceremony, a receiving line, and what time you need to be at the reception?

TOTAL NUMBER OF PASSENGERS

Will it be just the married couple or the entire bridal party? Will you include the photographer, personal assistant, etc?

dance LESSONS

Your wedding is going to be an event of a lifetime. Nothing about your wedding day will be generic – it will be uniquely yours. Experience the joy of dancing a specially choreographed first dance that is customized just for you.

The highlight of any wedding reception is the moment the married couple dances for the first time, which symbolizes the love between the two of you and the start of your new life together. Even if you dance frequently, you'll want to make your first dance special. Taking dance lessons will help you create wedding memories you'll be proud of.

cost breakdown

\$ NUMBER OF PASSENGERS

The more passengers you have, the larger the vehicle you need.

\$ HOURS OF USE

Many services specify a minimum number of hours the vehicle must be hired. Make sure to budget extra time or there may be overage fees.

\$ FUEL

Though fuel is generally included in the hourly rate, there may be a fuel surcharge for greater distances.

\$ TIME OF YEAR

Prices are higher during peak times of the year such as wedding season, prom or homecoming season, and graduation.

\$ DAY OF THE WEEK

Limos are generally in higher demand on the weekend, so are priced accordingly.

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wedding SUPPLIES & RENTALS

initial consultation

WHAT TO BRING/ WHAT TO KNOW:

- Ceremony and reception venues
- What your ceremony and reception venues are already providing
- Number of guests
- Idea of wedding style
- Idea of colour palette
- Pictures of themes and decoration schemes you like
- Delivery fees
- Idea of budget

Rental companies offer everything you need to make your wedding the perfect event. First, check with your ceremony and reception venues to make a comprehensive list of what items they offer and where you may need to supplement.

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initial consultation

WHAT TO BRING/KNOW:

- Have clean, dry hair, a clean face, and a button up shirt
- Pictures of hair styles you like
- Hair piece or veil if you have one
- Picture of your bridal gown

WHAT TO ASK:

- How long will the appointment be?
- What should I bring to the wedding day appointment?

grooms & MALE ATTENDANTS:

Not surprisingly, many men are also taking advantage of salon services:

- Any waxing should be done a week before the wedding so irritations will subside.
- Get a final haircut the week of the wedding.
- Because of all the close-up photographs, it's not unusual for grooms to get manicures too.
- Return for a final trim (beard and mustache included!) shortly before the big day.

get started now!

6 MONTHS BEFORE THE WEDDING:

GET IN SHAPE: Keep up with a fitness routine that you can live with until your wedding day.

PLAN YOUR LOOK: as soon as you've found "the dress," decide how you want to wear your hair and makeup. With any drastic cut or colour changes, do it now - and leave time to get used to your new do.

3-6 MONTHS BEFORE THE WEDDING:

HIRE YOUR PROS: If you love your stylist and are getting married locally, make sure he or she is available on your date; otherwise, start auditioning stylists for the big day. Book your makeup appointment and consultation.

GET A FACIAL: To ensure positively glowing skin on your wedding day, start a regimen of monthly facials.



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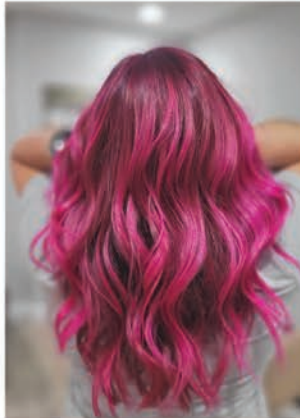
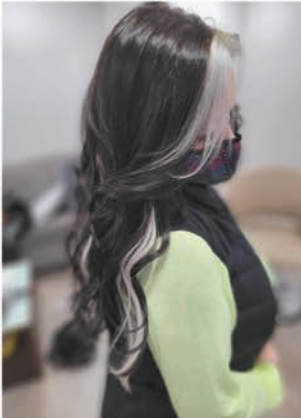
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trending. . . .

MAKE IT YOUR OWN

For 2023 and 2024 Couples aren't planning the same weddings as their parents and grandparents, they are branching out to tell their unique love story with their own activities, decor and experiences.



details worth noticing

REFLECTION OF WHAT YOU LOVE.

Your celebration is unique to the two of you, so don't forget the details. Like serving a personal favourite dish for dinner, or interactive ceremony elements that get your guests involved, wearing your grandmother's dress or your signature tune. Details from the heart can make your day feel monumental and unique to your personalities.

more is more . . .

MAXIMALISM IS BACK FOR SOME!

Dare to go BOLD, couples are leaning towards big-impact moments... play with excessive layers and patterns. Don't be afraid to do more than just lean into pops of colours — full-on colourful weddings are on trend.

. . . and less is more too

SMALLER, MORE INTIMATE NUMBERS

When choosing their bridesmaids and groomsmen, couples are increasingly likely to keep the wedding party smaller. More intimate friend groups are the trend! Make a splash in other areas of the big day.

formal fashion . . . or not

YOU DO YOU WHEN IT COMES TO ATTIRE

After having a few years of micro weddings, a lot of people are ready to seriously get dressed up. It could be a black tie revival in coming seasons! Then again... for some couples, comfort is more their style. Consider giving your wedding party their choice of attire for individuality and comfort — and non traditional dress code requirements.

statement florals

ANTICIPATE DRAMATIC FLORALS

Not just for bouquets anymore, flowering spaces floor to ceiling, can be an essential part of an overall design to transform a space! This is a trend we will see from small weddings to large.

favourable favours

NOBODY WANTS A TRINKET ANYMORE

Experiences are more valued than favours with today's wedding attendees. Instead of traditional favours, hire a photobooth with prints guests can take home, or give your guests a consumable treat on the way out.

rethink your stationery

DIGITAL INVITES HAVE COME A LONG WAY.

They are easy, beautiful, dynamic and eco-friendly. Not only is your wedding card about inviting guests to share this big day with you, but it's also about tracking who will come. Following up on the invitations and RSVPs is fast especially if there are any change of plans needed.

timeless trend

EMBRACE TRADITIONS YOU LOVE

Including traditions or elements that are special or meaningful to you is the most important thing when it comes to planning your wedding and reception. It is helpful to sit down with your partner and discuss these vital features... is it wearing your mother's dress? marrying in a specific location? the first dance? Planning ahead to fit in the traditions you love is never a bad idea.

alternative entertainment

THINK BEYOND THE DANCE FLOOR

More and more couples want to keep their party going longer with fun snacks and unique activities. Lawn games are the newest trend — giant jenga, hoola hoops and cornhole are just a few fun ideas for mingling. From games to a favourite food truck, Incorporate your favorites

sweet ideas worth embracing

A big wedding cake can be a showpiece of the celebration, but dessert definitely doesn't have to be only cake! If you have the budget, hire a mobile Coffee Cart, Sundae Bar, Portable Brew Pub, etc... or interactive treats that guests can customize to their liking...cupcakes, donuts, etc...

Be sure your photographer knows about any meaningful details you've planned! Work with your photographer/videographer to create a meaningful representation of your entire day and to capture all the elements you hope to preserve.



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ATTENDING *wedding shows*

With hectic schedules and the price of gas, a bridal show that brings all the wedding professionals you need to one place saves time and money. Wedding Connections Wedding Planner & Directory Guide provides wedding shows perfect for every bride to plan the wedding of her dreams.

WHAT CAN ENGAGED COUPLES EXPECT AT A WEDDING SHOW?

Planning made easy. Wedding shows are a great place for both serious planners and recently engaged couples. The shows are a one-stop-shop where you can find the latest wedding fashions and trends to inspire. You, your fiancée, the wedding party, and your family can all come along too. You will have the opportunity to meet a multitude of professionals from varying wedding businesses there just to help you plan the wedding of your dreams. Pick out everything from your bridal gowns and tuxedos to flowers, invitations, music, reception facilities, cakes, limousines and much more.

These shows also offer the latest in wedding apparel in a runway fashion show. Sit back, relax, and watch the hottest trends and styles paraded down the catwalk for you to preview in person.

...your perfect wedding starts here.

3 things to bring TO WEDDING SHOWS



YOUR PHONE to take pictures and notes

PRE-PRINTED LABELS to easily enter for prizes! (with your names, wedding date & contact information)



YOUR SMILES! & excitement for planning your big day!

TIPS

- Purchase tickets in advance to save money.
- Create an email address for all your wedding-related correspondence. This will keep you organized and prevent temporary wedding-related email from coming to your main inbox.
- Pre-print labels with Name, Wedding Date, Address, Email Address and Phone Number to make signing up for drawings quick and easy!
- Dress comfortably and wear comfortable shoes. Plan on doing a lot of walking.





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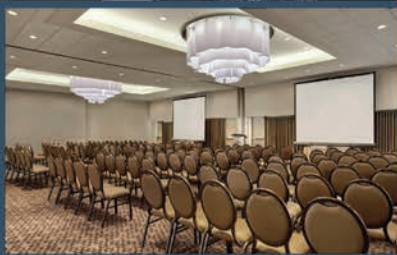
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