

de lumière

wedding day timeline checklist



Timeline Checklist

DO ALL THE THINGS, TICK ALL THE BOXES

(put together by professional wedding attendees)

- ☐ Set a date
- ☐ Discuss budget & create a spreadsheet
- ☐ Research & visit venues - then book!!
- ☐ Decide on guest list
- ☐ Ask your besties to to a part of your day
- ☐ Go dress shopping
- ☐ Find someone to officiate
- ☐ Send save the dates
- ☐ Shop for rings
- ☐ Get marriage license
- ☐ Register for gifts
- ☐ Choose a florist
- ☐ Arrange transportation
- ☐ Shop & order wedding cake
- ☐ Find MUA & Hairstylist
- ☐ Hire a tux (learn how to knot a tie)
- ☐ Finalise vendor details
- ☐ Send invitations
- ☐ Bachelorette Party
- ☐ Bachelor's Party
- ☐ Pay vendors (ensure you have cash on the day)
- ☐ Distribute wedding timeline
- ☐ Finalize everything
- ☐ Get married!



And so it begins...

IDEALLY PLANNING SHOULD START 12 MONTHS IN ADVANCE

12 months out

- Break out the Pinterest Wedding Inspiration board
- Meet with your parents and finalise a budget
- Pick a potential wedding date
- Decide on the vibe you are going for
- Ask your besties to be part of your bridal party
- Draft a guest list
- Visit venues you love - as soon as you decide on a fave book it in!! *Popular venues can book out 12 months in advance*
- Have an engagement party! *This one is optional*
- [Research vendors](#) - book a fab photographer, entertainment, celebrant, catering and venue asap - *this should be fun!!*
- Start the hunt for your wedding dress
- Send a [save the date card](#) once all the main vendors are locked in



9 months out

- Order rental items for ceremony and reception, such as chairs, tables
- Order your wedding dress - *some boutiques require 6 months to create your dream gown*
- Lock in your wedding cake artist
- Meet with florists
- Go shopping with bridesmaids
- Book a honeymoon - *are your passports in ready to go?*



6 months out

- Organise the wedding cars
- **Groom:** purchase or rent the suits
- The best man/bridesmaids/pals should start planning the hen's night/buck's night
- Choose and order invitations
- Attend pre-wedding counselling - *catholic weddings*
- Check with your officiate and organise the legalities
- Finalise the menu with caterer
- Travelling overseas? Check on vaccinations
- Organise a trial for hair and makeup - *why not co-ordinate this with your pre-wedding photography!*
- Gather addresses for invitations
- Choose your cake (yummers!)



A romantic wedding photograph of a couple standing in a park at sunset. The bride is wearing a long, flowing white gown with lace detailing on the sleeves and back. The groom is wearing a dark vest over a white shirt and a dark tie. They are embracing and looking at each other. The background is filled with trees and a warm, golden light from the setting sun, creating a soft, bokeh effect.

JESSE + JAMES
BURNHAM GROVE

3 months out

- Have your [pre-wedding portrait session](#) with trial hair and makeup
- Send out invitations
- Attend dress fittings
- Do the boys needs a suit fitting?
- Choose and order wedding bands
- Buy shoes and accessories - *remember to leave time if ordering online*
- Are you going to have gift favours? If so, now's the time to sort these out!
- If you are thinking of doing any DIY start these now



Photography is all about capturing light, the better the light the more beautiful the images, with the best time for portraits being 'golden hour'. If your reception falls in this hour before sunset take ten minutes out of the reception right on sunset - you won't regret it.

LUCY + TIM
SERGEANTS MESS



1 month out

- Organise any presents you may wish to give on the day
- Are you having a rehearsal or rehearsal dinner?
- Final dress fitting *at around 4-6 weeks*
- Any last minute adjustments with suppliers
- Finalise run sheet and schedule
- Review RSVP list and call anyone that hasn't replied
- Give the venue/caterer final head count
- Create a table plan/draw up a seating chart
- Song selections to DJ and musicians
- Break in your wedding shoes - *but keep in mind they will be photographed* so try to hold off putting inners in them or scuffing the bottoms too much!
- Make sure the boys know how to knot a tie (or bow tie)
- *this will save SOOOO much time when getting ready*
- Put together a family shot list for the photographer



Final Week



- Supply venue with a list of supplier requests such as a table for DJ or setup space needed by florist.
- Print place cards
- Contact all wedding suppliers to confirm arrangements - give them an *emergency number for the day*
- Print off a run sheet with the *main suppliers' contact details*, for maid of honour and venue
- Get manicure, massage, waxing etc
- Do full wedding dress rehearsal from underwear to veil (*make sure your bridesmaids know how to get you into the dress!*)
- Have your rings cleaned
- Pack an overnight bag for the reception
- Pack for the honeymoon (passport!!)
- Write your partner a note to be opened on the wedding morning (*makes for great photo ops*)
- Make last minute changes to table plan if necessary
- **Groom:** Go for final fitting and pick up your formalwear
- Confirm pick-up times with wedding car company
- Discuss any necessary last-minute substitutions

Let the party begin!!

THE BIG DAY IS FINALLY HERE, RELAX YOU'VE GOT THIS

Night before

- Drop off place cards, table cards, menus, favours, table plan to venue, ensure that the venue knows who to talk to during the reception (*hint, it shouldn't be you*)
- Sort out payments, *ensuring you have some spare cash on the day*, for any final balances to be paid (additional hair and make up for example)
- Ensure the cake is on track to be delivered to reception venue - *have someone else look after this one!*
- Rehearse ceremony with full wedding party + celebrant at the ceremony site
- Ensure that the boys have all their suits, shirts, ties out of their packaging and pressed (*check again that they know how to knot a tie!!*)
- Does your maid of honour have their [emergency bridesmaid kit](#) ready to go?!
- Drink water
- Get a good night's rest!

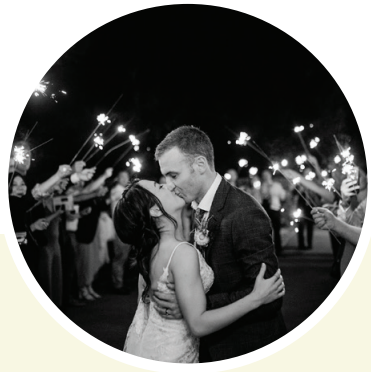
The morning of

- Eeek!!! It's getting real!!
- Have some breakfast
- Take some time out on your own
- Flowers should be delivered to where the bride is getting ready - buttonholes may need to be taken to the guys
- Don't be tempted to put a bra on - the strap marks take hours to disappear
- **Groom** : give wedding bands to the best man - *double check before you leave!!*
- Take your dress and veil out of the bag early on and have someone steam them if needed
- Lay out all the items (rings, invitations, etc) that you want your photographer to capture, ensure sure that hair and make up is done by the time the photographer arrives
- Drink more water
- And it's a go!



The day after

- Arrange for someone to return any rentals
- Pre-plan for someone to take the wedding dress and suit for cleaning or return a rented tux to the rental shop
- Write and send thank-you notes to gift-bearing guests and vendors who were especially helpful
- Collect your marriage certificate



Always leave extra time to get ready, you WILL run over time and you'll appreciate any extra down time, and lots of time for location portraits. Having a stress free wedding day will lead to beautiful photos.

It's your day

THE RULES ARE ... (THERE ARE NO RULES)

Remember that this is just a guide and at the end of the day it is your wedding!

Invite all the people, elope in Vegas, pop down to the registry, get married in the gorgeous church, stand at the top of a snow topped mountain, but do what makes YOU happy.

Breathe, relax and enjoy planning your wedding day.

I stumbled across this and just had to share...

Life's too short to be worrying about wedding favors, obligation guests and bridesmaid dramas. The Bridechilla Podcast is a top-rated wedding planning podcast, and community brought to life by author and comedian Aleisha McCormack.

Listen to the [Bridechilla Podcast](#), take control and enjoy wedding planning!

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