Wedding Planning Frequently Asked Questions

You're engaged, and probably have 100 wedding-planning questions (at minimum) swirling in your mind. Here are few common questions and answers to help you get started.

Wedding Planning-

Q: Why should I hire a wedding or event planner?

A: We will relieve any wedding day worries from the bride, her family and the wedding party by keeping everything running smoothly to create the Bride’s dream wedding.

We have also worked with many of the area’s wedding professionals who rely on our referrals for business. It is our job to know all of the low-end, high-end, and medium-end wedding professionals in the area and constantly are updating those lists. We can save the bride time and money by only scheduling vendor appointments with those that fit her style and budget criteria.

Q: Can I afford to hire a wedding or event planner?

A: Yes. LuBells, LLC has packages and services that meet your needs at competitive yet affordable prices. The last place you want to cost is in the planning of the most important day of your life. While hiring another vendor may seem costly, a wedding planner can offer valuable advice to save you time and money.

Q: Only women with extravagant weddings hire wedding planners, right?

A: False. LuBells, LLC can help on even the most intimate celebrations. We take care of the details that you don’t have the time to think about or deal with during the planning and most importantly problems you don’t want to handle that may arise throughout the day. We are here to relieve you and your family from the stress of the wedding whether you have a few guests or hundreds of guest. Hiring a planner is a wise decision in today’s economy.

Q: Do I need a wedding planner even though my family members or friends offered to help out?

A: Yes. We will provide you with the high quality level of service that you deserve. Even though your family members have good intentions, they do not have as much experience as a wedding professional. Your family and friends deserve to enjoy the day as much as you do and not spend it working. Also a wedding professional will not be delayed by long lost family and friends that want to chat with them about old times. We are there to keep the day running smoothly and on track.

Q: My reception venue has a wedding coordinator; do I still need to hire a wedding planner?

A Yes! If you’re trying to decide whether or not you need a wedding planner since the venue offers an in-house coordinator, there is quite a difference between those two. Here are just a few of the many things that a wedding planner can help with that a venue in-house coordinator can't:

Attending vendor meetings with you and asking the right questions

Reviewing all your vendor contracts for errors or potential problems

Helping you combine all the elements and create an overall wedding style

Creating extensive time lines for you

Staying in touch with your vendors and making final confirmations

Have back-up reputable vendors to contact in case of a problem

Assist you with invitations and stationary etiquette

Provide you with custom planning resources

There are many venue in-house coordinators who do a great job managing the venue but it isn't there job to assist you with all the details, etiquette, time lines, etc that go along with planning your wedding. When in doubt, just ask them what services they will be providing for you.

Q: How do I choose which wedding planner to hire?

A: The most important thing when selecting a Wedding planner is to find someone that you trust and feel completely comfortable working with. With all of the decisions to be made in the upcoming year and the amount of time you are going to be spending together this is extremely important. You also want to ensure that the Wedding planner is someone who is keeping up with industry trends and has the education and backing of vendors and other professionals in the wedding industry.

General Questions-

 Q: How much does a wedding cost?

A: Every couple is unique and so Your Wedding will be unique as well. We ask our clients to determine an initial amount that is comfortable for them and their families. We make every effort to guide them to a level that will minimize the financial stress of the upcoming events. Then we design a budget with that amount in mind and develop a Wedding plan specifically for them.

Q: How do I sort through all of the information that's out there?

A: You just got engaged and now you feel you have to know everything about planning a wedding. Your family and friends have tons of advice and the Internet is flooded with opinions and trends. That is where we come in. Start by selecting an experienced Wedding Planner to weed through all the information overload. We know our clients are not experienced in weddings. We expect them to feel overwhelmed and are delighted to take that burden off of their shoulders. We sit down with you and discuss how you want to feel on that day. What you want your family and friends to remember. We know Wedding etiquette and protocols and how to create a Wedding that reflects who you are as a couple.

Q: Do we need to invite plus ones?

A: Not necessarily, however when determine your guest list based on your budget and venue capability, consider any engaged couples as a couple and invite both. Never invite a husband or wife and not include their spouse. If you have the funds and space it is nice to allow your single guests to have a guest with them. If you know you will not have the space, ensure your single guests know ahead of time.

 Q: Should we have an open bar?

A: You know your guests. This is an issue to discuss during the budget process. There are options to consider. Number of hours for the event, types of liquor, wine, champagne. You may consider setting a dollar amount with the venue and once reached converting to a cash bar, or open bar for the cocktail hour only.

Q: Should I hire a band or a DJ?

A: Both provide a pleasant and enjoyable experience. Budget, music variety, venue are all considerations when deciding which one. A live band provides a fun visual interaction for your guests. A DJ has the versatility to provide all genres of music. Having a long reception- Start off with a live band and finish the open dancing with a DJ. Also consider live musicians for the ceremony and DJ for the reception as another option.

Q: What elements will make the biggest impact on ambience?

A: The use of elements that stimulate the senses set the mood for your event. Lighting, soft and romantic, candles, décor color selections, table settings, flowers. Customized personal signage for locations, guest tables, dance floor, etc. can all reflect your style as a couple.

Q: How do we find the best venue?

A: Selection of a venue is extremely important. Things to consider- the size of your wedding, location, venue offerings and of course the budget. Start by determine where you plan to get married. Will you have one location for the wedding and a separate location for the reception or one location for both?. If two locations determine the distance you are willing to travel from the ceremony location to the reception location. Review venues within that range and request price quotes. Narrow it down to venues that are within your budget. Visit the potential venues and get a sense for the possibilities to create the atmosphere you desire for your special day.

 (Avoid visiting locations above your budget).

Q: Where should I focus my budget?

A: This is where LuBells, LLC comes in. . Start by sitting down with your fiancé and any family members that will be contributing to the cost of the wedding. Once you believe you have a comfortable amount for the wedding, meet with us and we will begin the process of establishing personal budget plan based on what is important to you and your groom. What is going to make your vision of that day come to life. Food, Décor, Music, Flowers, Cake, etc. Do you want the food to be outstanding? Then find an amazing caterer/venue known for it’s esquire cuisine. Party atmosphere, slow-mo photo booth may be your highlight. Allocating funds towards your priorities is what we provide during the budget planning.

Q: How do I form a guest list?

A: Valuable Relationships. Who are the people most important in your life now and in the future? Start there. Know that you can’t invite everyone you know. Know your budget and venue location limits. Include both your and your groom’s priorities. Write your lists and review them several times. If parents are financially supporting they may be planning to add guests as well. Discuss priorities together to avoid confusion later. Review again and again before going final. Once the list is final you can send out your Save the Date notices. Please remember the cardinal rule: Once you send a guest a save the date notice, you must invite that guest to the Wedding. Your Save the Date will state Invitation to follow and that guest will begin to make arrangements to share in your special day. If you aren’t sure you will have space for that guest, do not send them a save the date notice. You can still send them an invitation when the time comes.

Q: How do I know what to do next?

A: This is where we come in. As your wedding planner, you can rely on our expertise and experience to help guide you through the process. We will orchestrate the plan and provide the schedule for what decisions need to be made and when.

Q: How can I predict how many guests will RSVP 'yes'?

A: Experience states approximately 70% of invited guests will reply Yes. This of course will be adjusted based on the location of the Wedding. Planning a destination wedding- maybe even lower because of the travel. Location local for most guest could be much higher. When budgeting, always plan for 100% and create a guest list based on your budget.

Q: Should I list a dress code on the invitation?

A: Absolutely, It is helpful information for your guests and will decrease the number of phone calls you receive asking what is the attire. Use commonly described phrases- formal, black tie, cocktail, etc.