

Wedding Traditions Checklist

Keep the traditions you love. Skip the ones you don't. Make the celebration feel like you.

Mark each item: ☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ MAYBE

Couple: _____	Wedding Date: _____
Venue: _____	Planner / DJ: _____

1. Ceremony Traditions

Tradition / Choice	Yes	No	Maybe	Notes
Partner escorted down the aisle	☐	☐	☐	_____
Both partners walk down the aisle separately	☐	☐	☐	_____
Wedding party processional	☐	☐	☐	_____
Flower child / ring bearer	☐	☐	☐	_____
Traditional ceremony music	☐	☐	☐	_____
Personal vows	☐	☐	☐	_____
Unity candle	☐	☐	☐	_____
Unity sand ceremony	☐	☐	☐	_____
Handfasting	☐	☐	☐	_____
Religious blessing or prayer	☐	☐	☐	_____
Reading by family or friend	☐	☐	☐	_____
Moment of remembrance for loved ones	☐	☐	☐	_____
Exchange of rings	☐	☐	☐	_____
Traditional "you may	☐	☐	☐	_____

kiss" moment				
Formal recessional	☐	☐	☐	_____

2. Reception Entrance & Opening Traditions

Tradition / Choice	Yes	No	Maybe	Notes
Wedding party grand entrance	☐	☐	☐	_____
Parents introduced	☐	☐	☐	_____
Couple introduced last	☐	☐	☐	_____
Special entrance song	☐	☐	☐	_____
Funny / choreographed entrances	☐	☐	☐	_____
Wedding party entrance props	☐	☐	☐	_____
Couple goes directly into first dance	☐	☐	☐	_____
Welcome by DJ / MC	☐	☐	☐	_____
Welcome by parent or family member	☐	☐	☐	_____
Blessing before dinner	☐	☐	☐	_____

3. Formal Dances

Tradition / Choice	Yes	No	Maybe	Notes
Couple's first dance	☐	☐	☐	_____
Parent / child dance	☐	☐	☐	_____
Second parent / child dance	☐	☐	☐	_____
Combined parent dance	☐	☐	☐	_____
Wedding party dance	☐	☐	☐	_____
Anniversary dance	☐	☐	☐	_____
Generations dance	☐	☐	☐	_____
Open first dance - invite guests partway through	☐	☐	☐	_____
Private last dance at the end of the night	☐	☐	☐	_____

4. Dinner, Toasts & Cake Traditions

Tradition / Choice	Yes	No	Maybe	Notes
Formal seated dinner	☐	☐	☐	_____
Buffet dinner	☐	☐	☐	_____
Couple served first	☐	☐	☐	_____
Wedding party served first	☐	☐	☐	_____
DJ / MC releases tables to buffet	☐	☐	☐	_____
Best man toast	☐	☐	☐	_____
Maid / matron of honor toast	☐	☐	☐	_____
Parents give a toast	☐	☐	☐	_____
Open-mic guest toasts	☐	☐	☐	_____

Couple gives thank-you speech	☐	☐	☐	_____
Cake cutting	☐	☐	☐	_____
Cake feeding	☐	☐	☐	_____
Dessert table instead of traditional cake	☐	☐	☐	_____
Champagne toast	☐	☐	☐	_____

5. Dance Floor & Participation Traditions

Tradition / Choice	Yes	No	Maybe	Notes
Bouquet toss	☐	☐	☐	_____
Garter removal	☐	☐	☐	_____
Garter toss	☐	☐	☐	_____
Dollar / money dance	☐	☐	☐	_____
Shoe game	☐	☐	☐	_____
Newlywed game	☐	☐	☐	_____
Group photo on dance floor	☐	☐	☐	_____
Table photo dash	☐	☐	☐	_____
Line dances	☐	☐	☐	_____
Interactive group dances	☐	☐	☐	_____
Special cultural dance	☐	☐	☐	_____
Family dance	☐	☐	☐	_____
Request songs from guests	☐	☐	☐	_____
No guest requests	☐	☐	☐	_____
Dance-floor props / foam sticks / light-up items	☐	☐	☐	_____

6. Cultural, Family & Personal Traditions

Tradition / Choice	Yes	No	Maybe	Notes
Cultural or heritage ceremony	☐	☐	☐	_____
Traditional clothing change	☐	☐	☐	_____
Special family blessing	☐	☐	☐	_____
Family heirloom incorporated into the day	☐	☐	☐	_____
Something old	☐	☐	☐	_____
Something new	☐	☐	☐	_____
Something borrowed	☐	☐	☐	_____
Something blue	☐	☐	☐	_____
Memorial table	☐	☐	☐	_____
Reserved seat for a loved one	☐	☐	☐	_____
Family recipe / signature food	☐	☐	☐	_____
Special song honoring family	☐	☐	☐	_____
Custom tradition unique to the couple	☐	☐	☐	_____

7. Guest Book, Keepsakes & Special Moments

Tradition / Choice	Yes	No	Maybe	Notes
Traditional guest book	☐	☐	☐	_____
Audio guest book	☐	☐	☐	_____
Photo guest book	☐	☐	☐	_____
Polaroid / instant-photo guest book	☐	☐	☐	_____
Video guest book	☐	☐	☐	_____
Advice cards for the	☐	☐	☐	_____

couple				
Anniversary messages	☐	☐	☐	_____
Memory box / time capsule	☐	☐	☐	_____
Photo booth	☐	☐	☐	_____
Wedding favors	☐	☐	☐	_____
Late-night snack	☐	☐	☐	_____
Special surprise for guests	☐	☐	☐	_____

8. Ending the Reception

Tradition / Choice	Yes	No	Maybe	Notes
Formal last dance	☐	☐	☐	_____
Private last dance	☐	☐	☐	_____
Sparkler send-off	☐	☐	☐	_____
Glow-stick / light-up send-off	☐	☐	☐	_____
Bubbles	☐	☐	☐	_____
Flower petals	☐	☐	☐	_____
Grand exit	☐	☐	☐	_____
Getaway vehicle	☐	☐	☐	_____
After-party	☐	☐	☐	_____
No formal send-off - keep it relaxed	☐	☐	☐	_____

9. Traditions We Definitely Do NOT Want

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

10. Our Own Traditions / Ideas

Planning Tip: Traditions are options, not obligations. Choose the moments that feel meaningful to you and build a reception that reflects your personalities.