

# Complete Wedding Name Change Checklist

Changing your name after marriage involves updating your identification and accounts across many organizations. This comprehensive checklist will help you navigate the process smoothly and ensure nothing gets overlooked.

## Important Documents (Change These First)

### Social Security Card

- ☐ Complete Form SS-5 (Application for Social Security Card)
- ☐ Gather required documents:
  - ☐ Marriage certificate (certified copy)
  - ☐ Current ID (driver's license, passport, or state ID)
  - ☐ Birth certificate or passport (proof of identity)
- ☐ Submit application in person at local Social Security office or by mail
- ☐ Receive new card (typically arrives within 10-14 business days)

### Driver's License/State ID

- ☐ Bring to DMV:
  - ☐ Marriage certificate (certified copy)
  - ☐ Current driver's license/ID
  - ☐ New Social Security card (or confirmation letter)
  - ☐ Proof of address (if required)
- ☐ Complete name change application
- ☐ Pay required fee
- ☐ Take new photo (if required)
- ☐ Receive temporary license/ID
- ☐ Wait for permanent license/ID to arrive by mail

### Passport

- ☐ Determine appropriate form:
  - ☐ If passport issued less than 1 year ago: Form DS-5504
  - ☐ If passport issued more than 1 year ago: Form DS-82 (if eligible for renewal by mail)
  - ☐ If not eligible for mail renewal: Form DS-11 (apply in person)
- ☐ Gather required documents:
  - ☐ Current passport
  - ☐ Certified marriage certificate

- ☐ One color passport photo (2"x2")
- ☐ Pay application fee
- ☐ Submit application (by mail or in person as required)
- ☐ Receive new passport (processing times vary)

## **Vehicle Registration & Title**

- ☐ Contact local DMV for specific requirements
- ☐ Bring:
  - ☐ Current registration
  - ☐ Marriage certificate
  - ☐ New driver's license
  - ☐ Title document (if you own the vehicle outright)
  - ☐ Complete required forms
  - ☐ Pay applicable fees
- ☐ Receive updated registration/title documents

## **Financial Accounts & Records**

### **Banking & Investments**

- ☐ Update name with primary bank:
  - ☐ Checking accounts
  - ☐ Savings accounts
  - ☐ Certificates of deposit (CDs)
  - ☐ Safe deposit box
  - ☐ Order new checks and debit/credit cards
- ☐ Update investment accounts:
  - ☐ Brokerage accounts
  - ☐ Retirement accounts (401k, IRA, etc.)
  - ☐ Mutual funds
- ☐ Update beneficiary information

### **Credit Cards**

- ☐ Make list of all credit cards
- ☐ Contact each credit card company
- ☐ Request new cards with updated name
- ☐ Update billing address (if changed)
- ☐ Update autopay settings for any subscriptions

## Loans & Mortgages

- ☐ Student loans
- ☐ Auto loans
- ☐ Home mortgage
- ☐ Personal loans
- ☐ Home equity line of credit
- ☐ Update account information and autopayments

## Insurance Policies

- ☐ Health insurance
- ☐ Dental insurance
- ☐ Vision insurance
- ☐ Life insurance
- ☐ Car insurance
- ☐ Homeowner's/renter's insurance
- ☐ Disability insurance
- ☐ Update beneficiary information where applicable

## Tax Documents

- ☐ Notify IRS via Form 8822 (Change of Address)
- ☐ Update name with state tax agency
- ☐ Update W-4 with employer
- ☐ Ensure Social Security name change is complete before tax season

## Employment & Professional

### Employer Records

- ☐ Notify HR department
- ☐ Update payroll information
- ☐ Update email address/signature (if applicable)
- ☐ Update name on:
- ☐ Company ID/badge
- ☐ Business cards
- ☐ Nameplate/office door
- ☐ Internal directory
- ☐ Health benefits
- ☐ Retirement accounts

## Professional Licenses & Certifications

- ☐ Professional licenses
- ☐ Certifications
- ☐ Bar association (attorneys)
- ☐ Medical licenses
- ☐ Teaching credentials
- ☐ Contact each organization for specific requirements

## Professional Memberships

- ☐ Professional organizations
- ☐ Alumni associations
- ☐ Networking groups
- ☐ Union membership
- ☐ Professional directories

## Digital Presence

### Email & Online Accounts

- ☐ Email addresses (create new or update existing)
- ☐ Social media accounts:
  - ☐ Facebook
  - ☐ Instagram
  - ☐ Twitter/X
  - ☐ LinkedIn
  - ☐ TikTok
  - ☐ Snapchat
  - ☐ Pinterest
- ☐ Shopping accounts (Amazon, Target, etc.)
- ☐ Streaming services (Netflix, Hulu, etc.)
- ☐ Cloud storage (Dropbox, Google Drive, etc.)
- ☐ Apple ID/Google account

### Digital Subscriptions

- ☐ Music streaming (Spotify, Apple Music, etc.)
- ☐ News subscriptions
- ☐ Magazine subscriptions
- ☐ Software subscriptions

- ☐ Gaming platforms

## Home & Utilities

### Housing

- ☐ Lease agreement (if renting)
- ☐ Mortgage documents
- ☐ Homeowners association (HOA)
- ☐ Property tax records
- ☐ Deed (if name needs to be updated)

### Utilities

- ☐ Electricity
- ☐ Gas
- ☐ Water/Sewer
- ☐ Internet
- ☐ Cable/Satellite TV
- ☐ Phone service (landline)
- ☐ Cell phone provider
- ☐ Trash/Recycling services

## Medical

### Healthcare Providers

- ☐ Primary physician
- ☐ Specialists
- ☐ Dentist
- ☐ Optometrist/Ophthalmologist
- ☐ Therapist/Counselor
- ☐ Veterinarian (for pet records)
- ☐ Pharmacy
- ☐ Medical portal accounts

### Medical Records

- ☐ Request update of medical records with all providers
- ☐ Update emergency contact information
- ☐ Update health insurance information
- ☐ Update prescription information

## Miscellaneous

### Loyalty Programs

- ☐ Airline frequent flyer accounts
- ☐ Hotel rewards programs
- ☐ Store loyalty cards
- ☐ Restaurant rewards programs

### Subscriptions & Memberships

- ☐ Gym membership
- ☐ Magazine subscriptions
- ☐ Newspaper delivery
- ☐ Box subscriptions (meal kits, beauty boxes, etc.)
- ☐ Charitable donation recurring payments

### Postal Service

- ☐ File change of name/address with USPS (if address changed too)
- ☐ Update magazine subscriptions
- ☐ Update catalogs and direct mail preferences

### Voter Registration

- ☐ Update voter registration card
- ☐ Contact local election board for requirements
- ☐ Complete required forms

### Estate Planning Documents

- ☐ Will
- ☐ Trust documents
- ☐ Power of attorney
- ☐ Advanced healthcare directive
- ☐ Living will

### Children's Records (If Applicable)

- ☐ School records
- ☐ Childcare information
- ☐ Medical records
- ☐ Extracurricular activity registrations

## Timeline Tips

### 0-3 Months After Wedding

- Focus on primary identification (Social Security, driver's license)
- Update bank accounts and credit cards
- Update employer information

### 3-6 Months After Wedding

- Update passport if not needed immediately
- Update insurance policies and investment accounts
- Update professional licenses and memberships

### 6-9 Months After Wedding

- Update remaining accounts
- Double-check that nothing was missed
- Verify all automatic payments are working properly

## Helpful Hints

- **Request multiple certified copies** of your marriage certificate (recommend 3-5 copies)
- **Create a tracking spreadsheet** to monitor your progress
- **Update your email signature and social profiles** to avoid confusion
- **Consider a name change service** if the process feels overwhelming
- **Notify contacts in your address book** about your name change
- **Update emergency contacts** everywhere they're listed

*Download this checklist as a printable PDF at [inspire-me-photography.com/resources](https://inspire-me-photography.com/resources)*