



by iPartyology DJ & Photobooth Entertainment

# WEDDING

*planning guide*

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# WHAT TO *Expect*

Congratulations on embarking on this beautiful journey towards your dream wedding day! Our comprehensive wedding planning guide is your trusted companion throughout this exciting adventure. We understand that planning a wedding can be both thrilling and overwhelming, which is why we've crafted this guide to be your beacon of inspiration and organization.

From envisioning your ideal theme and color palette to selecting the finest details, our guide and our wedding planner will walk you through every step of the planning process. Uncover expert tips on choosing the ideal venue, curating a delectable menu, and finding that picture-perfect gown or suit. We'll help you navigate through the myriad of decisions with ease, ensuring that your wedding day becomes an unforgettable reflection of your unique love story.

Prepare to experience stress-free planning and create memories that will last a lifetime. Our guide and planner provides customizable checklists, budgeting advice, and timeline management, enabling you to focus on what truly matters – your love and the joy of celebrating with family and friends. Whether you're dreaming of an intimate destination affair or a grand traditional ceremony, let our wedding planning guide be your steadfast companion, turning your dreams into a reality. Welcome to the world of seamless wedding planning!



# GETTING STARTED

## Defining Your Wedding Vision

Defining your wedding vision begins with introspection and shared dreams. Sit down with your partner and reflect on the moments that define your relationship – the places you've cherished, the feelings you've shared, and the aspirations you both hold dear. Consider your personal styles – are you drawn to rustic charm, modern elegance, or perhaps a blend of both? Imagine the atmosphere you wish to create – do you envision a romantic garden soiree, a glamorous ballroom affair, or an intimate beach gathering? Your wedding vision should encapsulate these sentiments, encapsulating the story of your love and laying the foundation for the enchanting journey of planning ahead.

## Creating A Wedding Budget

Crafting a wedding budget is a thoughtful process that combines dreams with practicality. Start by outlining the total amount you're comfortable spending on your special day. Break down this total into key categories, such as venue, catering, attire, photography, and more. Research average costs in your region to allocate funds accordingly. As you prioritize each category, be prepared to adjust numbers to accommodate your vision and must-haves. Remember, a well-defined budget empowers you to make informed decisions, ensuring a beautiful wedding that aligns with your financial goals.

# QUESTIONS TO ASK

## *Your Wedding Planner*

1. Is my wedding date available?
2. How many other weddings/events will you be working on around the same time?
3. How do you handle multiple weddings on the same day?
4. How many years of experience do you have as a wedding planner?
5. Have you worked on weddings of a similar size and style to mine?
6. Can you provide references from past clients?
7. What specific services do you offer? Full planning, partial planning, day-of coordination, etc.?
8. Can you assist with vendor selection and management?
9. Will you handle budget management and cost negotiations?
10. How do you prefer to communicate? Email, phone, in-person meetings?
11. How often can I expect updates and progress reports?
12. What is your response time for emails and calls?
13. Can I see examples of weddings you've planned in the past?
14. How would you describe your planning style? Are you flexible with different wedding styles and themes?
15. How do you ensure that the wedding day runs smoothly and on schedule?
16. Do you create detailed timelines for the wedding day and pre-wedding events?
17. Do you have preferred vendors that you often work with?
18. Can you assist with negotiating contracts and getting the best deals from vendors?
19. Will you attend vendor meetings with us?
20. How do you handle unexpected situations or emergencies on the wedding day?
21. Do you have backup plans in case of vendor cancellations or equipment failures?
22. What is your fee structure? Is it a flat fee, a percentage of the wedding budget, or hourly?
23. Are there any additional costs or hidden fees I should be aware of?
24. What is your payment schedule?
25. Will you be present on the wedding day itself to oversee the events?
26. If you're not available, who will be the backup?
27. Do you work with a contract? What are the terms and conditions?
28. How do you handle cancellations or changes in plans?
29. How do you ensure that my vision and preferences are incorporated into the planning?
30. Are you open to creative ideas and unique requests?
31. Can you provide references from previous clients?
32. Do you have online reviews or testimonials that I can read?
33. How do you handle disagreements or conflicts between clients and vendors?
34. Have you ever encountered challenging situations and how did you resolve them?



# CREATING A Wedding Timeline

A well-crafted timeline ensures that everything flows seamlessly, from the first rays of sunlight to the twinkling stars of the night. Start by plotting the major events – ceremony, reception, speeches, and dances – then add a sprinkle of buffer time. These precious moments of respite prevent rush and provide a cushion for unexpected delays, ensuring that nothing important gets missed. For those embracing a first look, consider arranging for your bridal party to arrive slightly later. This allows you and your partner to relish a private, heartfelt moment without the feeling of watchful eyes. This personal connection sets the tone for the day, and the genuine emotions captured make for unforgettable photographs. Prior to the ceremony, grant you and your bridal party a moment of reprieve. While you enjoy a "rest," your photographer can artfully capture candid interactions, revealing the natural camaraderie and joy that characterizes your closest relationships.

As the sun casts its golden glow upon your celebration, the magic of sunset photos emerges. These exquisite moments, often referred to as the "golden hour," paint your memories with warmth and romance. The soft, flattering light during this time creates an enchanting ambiance, illuminating your love story with ethereal grace. Whether it's stealing away for a private moment or sharing an intimate dance as the day wanes, sunset photos immortalize the beauty of your union against the backdrop of a breathtaking sky. Remember, your wedding day is uniquely yours, and your timeline should reflect your personalities and desires. Tailor it to accommodate any cultural traditions, personal rituals, or meaningful interactions that will make your celebration truly exceptional.



# BUDGETING

1. **Define Your Priorities:** Begin by listing your top priorities for the wedding. Is it the venue, the food, or the DJ? Allocate a larger portion of your budget to these key elements while being more flexible with others.
  2. **Set a Realistic Budget:** Determine an overall budget that aligns with your financial situation. Be realistic about what you can comfortably afford and stick to it.
  3. **Create a Detailed Budget Sheet:** Use a comprehensive budget sheet to track all wedding expenses. Break down each category, from venue and catering to attire and decor. This sheet will help you monitor expenses, making it easier to stay within your budget.
  4. **Research Thoroughly:** Research vendors, venues, and services extensively. Obtain multiple quotes and compare prices before making decisions. Don't hesitate to negotiate; many vendors are open to adjusting their prices to accommodate your budget.
  5. **Consider Off-Peak Seasons and Days:** Opt for off-peak wedding dates and days, which can result in significant cost savings. Venues and vendors often offer better rates for weddings held during weekdays or in less popular months.
  6. **Guest List Management:** Trim your guest list to keep both catering and venue costs under control. Remember, a more intimate gathering can create a more personal and memorable experience.
  7. **DIY with Caution:** While DIY projects can save money, they can also be time-consuming and add stress. Choose a few manageable projects that align with your skills and time availability.
  8. **Prioritize All-Inclusive Packages:** All-inclusive packages can offer better value for your money. These packages often include multiple services bundled together, such as catering, decor, and photography.
  9. **Opt for Minimalist Decor:** Embrace minimalist decor that emphasizes quality over quantity. Simple, elegant arrangements can make a strong visual impact without breaking the bank.
  10. **Virtual Invitations:** Consider sending digital invitations instead of traditional paper invites. It's not only eco-friendly but also more budget-friendly.
  11. **Borrow or Rent Items:** Borrow or rent items like tableware, linens, and decor, especially for items that you'll only use once. This can save you from investing in items you won't need after the wedding.
  12. **Think Beyond Traditional Venues:** Look into unconventional venues like parks, gardens, community halls, or even a friend's backyard. These unique locations can often be more affordable and add charm to your day.
  13. **Be Mindful of Extras:** Be cautious with add-ons and extra services that can quickly escalate costs. Review contracts thoroughly and ensure you're only paying for what you truly need.
  14. **Plan for Unexpected Costs:** Set aside a contingency fund for unexpected expenses that might arise during the planning process. Having a buffer will help you navigate surprises without derailing your budget.
- Remember, your wedding day is a celebration of love and commitment. By implementing these budget strategies and tips, you'll be well on your way to creating a memorable and beautiful day that aligns with your financial goals. Happy planning!





# FINDING THE *Perfect Venue*

Embarking on the search for your dream wedding venue is an exhilarating journey that melds your vision with reality. Let these three guiding points steer you towards the perfect backdrop for your special day:

## **Setting the Scene: Indoor vs. Outdoor**

Dive into your wedding vision and decide whether an indoor or outdoor setting resonates with you. Do you envision saying your vows beneath an open sky, surrounded by nature's splendor? Or does the idea of an elegant ballroom adorned with intricate décor align with your style? Understanding the atmosphere you want to create will help narrow down your options.

## **Location, Location, Location**

The geographical setting of your wedding can influence the overall experience. Consider the accessibility for your guests, especially if you have loved ones traveling from afar. A central or picturesque location could be ideal, allowing everyone to revel in the joyous occasion without logistical hassle.

## **Aesthetic Harmony and Ambiance**

Delve into the aesthetics that resonate with you and your partner. Picture the color palettes, architectural styles, and overall ambiance that spark joy in your hearts. Whether you're drawn to rustic charm, modern elegance, or a fusion of cultural elements, seeking a venue that aligns with your chosen aesthetic will lay the foundation for a truly enchanting celebration.

Remember, finding your perfect wedding venue is about the intersection of your vision and practical considerations. By blending these three essential factors, you'll unveil a space that not only mirrors your love story but also transforms it into a captivating reality.

# QUESTIONS TO ASK

## *Your Venue*

### **General Questions:**

1. Is our desired wedding date available?
2. How many guests can the venue accommodate comfortably?
3. What are the rental rates and what does the rental fee include?
4. Is there a minimum spend requirement or a minimum guest count?
5. Do you have any other events booked on the same day?
6. Is the venue available exclusively for our event or will there be other events on the premises?

### **Logistics and Facilities:**

1. What is the layout of the venue, including ceremony and reception areas?
2. Are there indoor and outdoor spaces available?
3. Do you have a backup plan for outdoor events in case of bad weather?
4. What are the restroom facilities like?
5. Is there a dressing room or bridal suite available for getting ready?
6. Are there any restrictions on decorations, candles, or open flames?

### **Catering and Beverages:**

1. Do you have an in-house catering service, or can we bring in our own caterer?
2. Are there any restrictions on food and beverage providers?
3. Can we have a tasting session before finalizing the menu?
4. What is the alcohol policy? Can we bring our own alcohol, or is there an in-house bar?
5. Are there any corkage fees for bringing our own wine or champagne?
6. How do you handle dietary restrictions or special meal requests?

### **Logistics and Timing:**

1. What is the timeline for setup and breakdown?
2. How many hours are included in the rental fee?
3. Can we extend the event beyond the agreed-upon time, and if so, what are the fees?
4. Are there noise restrictions or curfews that we need to adhere to?

### **Vendors and Services:**

1. Do you have a list of recommended vendors, or are we free to bring in our own?
2. Are there any restrictions on photographers, videographers, or other vendors?
3. Is there an on-site coordinator or event manager available to assist on the day?

### **Parking and Accessibility:**

1. Is parking available on-site for guests? If not, where can guests park?
2. Is the venue wheelchair accessible?

### **Contracts and Payments:**

1. What is the deposit amount and when is it due?
2. What is your cancellation policy?
3. Are there any additional fees we should be aware of (service charges, gratuities, taxes)?
4. Can we see a sample contract before committing?

### **Experience and Past Events:**

1. Can you share photos of past weddings held at the venue?
2. Do you have any testimonials or references from previous couples?
3. Can we visit the venue on a day when there's a setup for another event?

Remember, this list is meant to help you gather essential information to make an informed decision about your wedding venue. Feel free to adapt these questions based on your specific preferences and needs.



# CREATING

## *Your Bridal Look*

### **Embrace Your Authentic Style**

Begin your journey by exploring your personal style and how it resonates with your wedding's theme. Are you drawn to timeless elegance, bohemian charm, or modern sophistication? Let your individuality shine as you choose a gown that not only flatters your silhouette but also captures your inner glow.

### **Details**

Delve into the intricate details that enhance your bridal ensemble. From delicate lace and intricate beadwork to classic veils or trendy headpieces, every element contributes to your overall aesthetic. Accessorize thoughtfully, selecting pieces that harmonize with your gown and reflect your character.

### **Hair + Makeup**

Envision the hair and makeup styles that align with your chosen attire and the ambiance of your celebration. Opt for a look that enhances your natural beauty and radiates confidence. Consult with professionals who understand your vision, ensuring that your bridal look is a seamless extension of your personality.

As you embark on this journey of self-expression, remember that your bridal look is an embodiment of your love and journey. By embracing these three focal points, you'll create a stunning ensemble that resonates with your heart and dazzles everyone fortunate enough to witness your radiant transformation.



# QUESTIONS TO ASK

## *Your Hairstylist + Makeup Artist*

1. Is my wedding date available? How far in advance do I need to book with you?
2. How long have you been in business? What is your training and background in hair/makeup?
3. Do you have any other commitments on my wedding day?
4. Will you be able to cover my ceremony and reception looks? How about my pre-events?
5. Are you licensed to work in this state?
6. Do you have specific packages and pricing for weddings?
7. What's your rate and what does that include? How many hours?
8. Do you charge a travel or location fee? What other travel-related expenses will I need to cover?
9. What is the deposit and final payment plan for the entire bill? What forms of payment do you accept?
10. What is your cancelation/refund policy?
11. When will I receive the contract? (Make sure to get everything in writing in the final contract.)
12. What is your style? Can I see pictures of your past work from weddings?
13. What size of party can you accommodate on the wedding day? Will you have assistants?
14. Which stylist will be doing my hair and makeup?
15. How long will the bride's hair and makeup take compared to the others? How much time should you schedule total to get everyone's hair and makeup done on time?
17. Does the stylist(s) travel to an on-site location (hotel, home, etc.)?
18. If you do salon-only styles (and don't travel on-site) how many bridesmaids can be styled at once?
19. What kinds/brands of products do you use? Airbrush?
20. Can you apply false lashes? Is that extra?
21. Can you do a trial run with me before my wedding for makeup and hair? Will these staff be the same as on the wedding day? Is there an added cost? TIP: Bring your veil along.
22. Will you bring your own products (a blow dryer, curling iron and other necessities), or will I be responsible for supplying them?
23. I have skin allergies or severe acne. Can you work with me? Can you contour my face? How about covering blemishes or my tattoo?
24. How long will you stay on my wedding day? Will you do touch-ups before I walk down the aisle?
25. Can you help touch-up my hair after I remove my veil?
26. Do you offer hair extensions?
27. Do you have a backup artist/stylist available if you are unable to work on the wedding day?





# STATIONARY

## *Invites & Save The Dates*

### **Style**

Begin by envisioning the atmosphere and theme of your celebration. Is it a whimsical garden affair, a chic urban soiree, or a rustic countryside gathering? Let your chosen aesthetic guide your stationery decisions, from colors and fonts to design elements that resonate with your personality as a couple.

### **Partnering with Creativity**

Decide whether you prefer working with a professional stationery designer, exploring options on platforms like Etsy, or embracing a DIY approach. Collaborating with a designer allows you to infuse your unique vision into every detail, while Etsy provides a range of personalized choices. If you're more of a hands-on bride, DIY stationery enables you to add a personal touch.

### **Unveiling Your Story**

Your stationery is the first glimpse your guests have into your celebration. Craft an invitation suite that not only imparts logistical details but also encapsulates the essence of your love. Customizable invitations, save-the-dates, and RSVP cards offer a canvas to weave your narrative and set the tone for your momentous day.

Whether you're drawn to the allure of professional design, the charm of handmade crafts, or the allure of DIY, wedding stationery is a canvas awaiting your personal touch. By harmonizing your style, collaborating with like-minded creatives, and embracing the journey, you'll curate stationery that mirrors your love story and invites others to be part of your enchanting celebration.

# QUESTIONS TO ASK

## *Your Photographer*

### **Availability and Logistics:**

1. Is our wedding date available?
2. How many hours of coverage are included in your packages?
3. Do you have a backup plan in case of emergencies?
4. Are you familiar with our venue(s)? Have you shot there before?

### **Portfolio and Style:**

1. Can we see examples of full wedding galleries you've shot?
2. What is your editing style? Can you show us samples of both color and black-and-white edits?
3. How do you approach capturing candid moments versus posed shots?
4. Are you comfortable shooting in various lighting conditions, including low light?

### **Experience and Credentials:**

1. How many weddings have you photographed as the lead photographer?
2. Are you insured? (Liability and equipment insurance)
3. Are you a member of any photography associations or organizations?

### **Customization and Packages:**

1. Do you offer customizable packages based on our needs?
2. What is included in your packages? (engagement session, albums, prints, etc.)
3. Can we add or remove hours of coverage if needed?

### **Deliverables and Timeline:**

1. How long does it typically take to receive the edited photos?
2. How many edited photos can we expect to receive?
3. Do we have printing rights for our photos?
4. Do you offer online galleries for sharing and downloading?

### **Working Style and Communication:**

1. How do you manage the photography timeline on the wedding day?
2. Are you open to capturing specific shots or moments that are important to us?
3. How do you handle family group photos and coordinating with family members?
4. How do you communicate with clients during the planning process and on the day?

### **Booking and Contracts:**

1. What is the booking process? Is a retainer required to secure the date?
2. Can we see a sample contract before committing?
3. What is your cancellation policy?

### **Testimonials and References:**

1. Can you provide references from past couples?
2. Do you have any testimonials or reviews from previous clients we can read?

### **Payment and Pricing:**

1. What are your pricing options and payment schedule?
2. Are there any additional fees we should be aware of? (travel, accommodation, etc.)

Asking these questions will help you gather essential information and ensure that you and the photographer are a good fit for each other's expectations and needs.



# PHOTOGRAPHY

## *For Your Wedding Day*

Selecting the perfect wedding photographer is akin to discovering a kindred spirit who resonates with your love story. The journey to find your photographic muse involves a delicate blend of artistic affinity and personal connection:

### **Editing Style and Poses**

Begin by immersing yourself in the photographer's portfolio. Dive into their collection of images, noticing the editing style that speaks to your heart. Does their work lean towards bright and airy, moody and dramatic, or perhaps something in between? Beyond editing, observe the poses and compositions that resonate with your desired aesthetic. Seek a photographer whose vision mirrors your aspirations, ensuring that every captured frame echoes the emotions of your day.

### **A Glimpse of Personality**

In the digital age, social media offers an intimate glimpse into a photographer's personality. Explore their online presence, read captions, and observe how they interact with their audience. Through these digital interactions, you can often gauge their communication style, professionalism, and authenticity. A photographer who aligns with your values and exudes genuine enthusiasm for your story will elevate the experience and create a comfortable atmosphere on your special day.

### **Chemistry and Connection**

Beyond the lens, forging a personal connection with your photographer is essential. Schedule a conversation, whether in person or virtually, to discuss your wedding vision, preferences, and any unique moments you want captured. Pay attention to how well you communicate and how attuned they are to your desires. Chemistry with your photographer cultivates trust, which is the foundation for candid and authentic imagery. Finding the ideal wedding photographer is more than a transaction; it's a collaboration that fuses artistry, emotion, and shared vision. As you embark on this journey, let your intuition guide you towards a photographer whose work stirs your soul, whose personality resonates with yours, and whose lens will lovingly frame the enchanting tapestry of your wedding day.





# FLORALS

## *And Decor*

### **Gather Inspiration**

Begin your journey by immersing yourself in the world of inspiration. Platforms like Pinterest, Instagram, and TikTok offer a kaleidoscope of ideas – from color palettes to arrangements – sparking your creativity. Dive into real weddings, styled shoots, and DIY projects to gather a range of concepts that resonate with your style and aspirations.

### **Reflecting Style and Theme**

Your florals and decor should be an extension of your wedding's theme and your personal style as a couple. Whether it's rustic charm, elegant opulence, or a fusion of cultural elements, let your chosen aesthetic guide your choices. Consider the venue's architecture and surroundings – they can offer invaluable cues for your floral arrangements and decor placements.

### **Balancing Dreams and Financial Reality**

Creating a budget-friendly floral and decor plan is a delicate art. Start by prioritizing key areas – ceremony altar, bridal bouquet, reception centerpieces – that will create the most impact. Opt for seasonal blooms and local flowers to make the most of your budget while ensuring freshness and vibrancy. Exploring creative alternatives, like greenery and non-floral elements, can add texture and depth without breaking the bank.

### **Bringing Elements Together**

Let your vision harmonize across all elements – from table settings to signage. Consistency in color palette, textures, and style will create a cohesive atmosphere that's a pleasure to behold. Thoughtful details, like personalized place cards or handcrafted favors, weave your story into every corner.

# QUESTIONS TO ASK *Your Florist*

1. Is my wedding date available for you?
2. Do you have any other weddings or events scheduled for the same day? (or do you plan to?)
3. How many weddings have you designed for?
4. Can you work with my budget?
5. Will you be doing my arrangements yourself or would it be another floral designer?
6. Do you offer package deals or is everything customized to order?
7. How would you work to maximize my budget?
8. Are you able to provide me with referenced from 2-3 recent brides you have designed for?
9. How far in advance do you create the wedding bouquets and center pieces, and how are they stored?
10. How will you transport the flowers?
11. What flowers will be in season the month I am getting married?
12. If I give you a picture of an arrangement I like, are you able to recreate it?
13. Which flowers can be substituted to better fit my budget?
14. How would you describe your design style? (e.g. rustic, modern, organic, traditional)
15. What colour lighting do you recommend based on my colour scheme and the flowers?
16. Do you require a minimal floral budget?
17. Do you charge a delivery fee?
18. Is there an extra charge for the setup of the arrangements?
19. How long do you need to set up?
20. Do you charge more if I choose a mixed arrangement vs one flower type?
21. Do you provide any other decorative items e.g. vases, and do these come at an extra cost?
22. Do you provide sketches or mockups of the arrangements, and does this come at an extra cost?



# ENTERTAINMENT

*And Music*

Selecting the right entertainment for your wedding is crucial in creating the celebration you've always dreamed of. When considering your options, think about the atmosphere you envision for your big day – from an energetic, dance-filled party to an elegant and romantic ambiance.

Choosing iPartyology DJ & Photobooth Entertainment over any other DJ company comes with unique advantages that elevate your experience. Our seasoned DJs provide unmatched versatility, expertly blending a wide range of musical genres to cater to both your tastes and your guests'. With decades of experience and a deep understanding of how to keep your dance floor packed, we prioritize creating memorable moments for everyone. Our customized playlists and seamless mixing keep the energy high and the party flowing effortlessly.

What sets iPartyology apart is our exceptional client-focused process. From the first consultation to the final song, we pride ourselves on great communication, quick response times, and personalized service. Our team works closely with you to understand your vision, ensuring no detail is overlooked. With our flawless track record and perfect Google review rating, you can feel confident that we deliver on every promise.

Unlike other companies, where you might face the stress of last-minute cancellations, no-shows, or DJs arriving late, iPartyology guarantees reliability and professionalism. Poor communication from other vendors can lead to uncertainty, but we ensure you are kept in the loop every step of the way, giving you peace of mind and excitement leading up to your big day.

Remember, the entertainment you choose should reflect your personalities and create an unforgettable experience for you and your guests. With iPartyology, your celebration will be exceptional from start to finish, without any worries.





# MANAGING THE *Guest List*

As you embark on the journey of creating and organizing your guest list, remember that each name carries a cherished connection. Begin by identifying the must-invites, ensuring a representation of your closest family and friends. Consider your venue's capacity and your budget while expanding the list to include extended circles. The wedding planner you've obtained through our services will be an invaluable companion in this endeavor. It offers dedicated sections for guest details, making it effortless to track RSVPs and dietary preferences, ensuring a seamless organization.

## **Sending Invitations and Tracking RSVPs**

Invitations serve as elegant bridges connecting your dream to reality. Choose designs that mirror your wedding theme and style, then embark on the exciting journey of sending them out. Modern technology allows for digital RSVPs, streamlining the process and reducing paper waste. Tracking RSVPs lets you keep an accurate headcount for catering and seating arrangements, ensuring your celebration embraces each attendee with warmth and precision.

## **Accommodations for Out-of-Town Guests**

For those dear ones traveling from afar, extend the embrace of hospitality. Research nearby accommodations, ranging from hotels to vacation rentals, and secure room blocks if possible. Consider creating welcome packages with local information, snacks, and heartfelt notes, offering a warm introduction to your wedding destination. Thoughtful gestures like these enhance your guests' experience, transforming your celebration into an unforgettable getaway.

Managing the guest list isn't just about numbers; it's about curating an intimate tapestry of relationships. Sending invitations and tracking RSVPs become the conduits of shared excitement, while caring for out-of-town guests mirrors the warmth you wish to infuse into every corner of your celebration. As you navigate these aspects, remember that each detail is an opportunity to share the joy of your union with those who hold a special place in your hearts.



# CHOOSING *Your Wedding Party*

## Selecting Bridesmaids and Groomsmen

Choosing your bridesmaids and groomsmen is a heartfelt endeavor. Look to those who have shared in your joys and supported you through challenges. Consider the depth of your relationships, ensuring your inner circle reflects your closest bonds. This cherished ensemble stands beside you, symbolizing the strength of your connections.

## Roles and Responsibilities

Define the roles of your bridal party with intention, aligning them with their strengths and contributions. Bridesmaids and groomsmen often assist with planning, offer emotional support, and help ensure your day flows seamlessly. Your maid of honor and best man hold pivotal roles, lending their guidance and standing as witnesses to your union.

## Gifts and Appreciation

Show your gratitude to your wedding party for their presence and efforts. Thoughtful gifts are gestures of appreciation that immortalize the bond you share. Personalized tokens, like engraved jewelry or items tailored to each individual's interests, convey your heartfelt thanks and serve as cherished keepsakes.

The wedding party and attendants enrich your celebration with their unwavering support and companionship. As you select your bridesmaids and groomsmen, define their roles, and express your appreciation, remember that this journey is a celebration of the relationships that have shaped your love story.





# CEREMONY

## *And Vows*

### Creating Meaningful Vows

As you create your vows, let authenticity be your guide. Speak from the depths of your heart, expressing promises and aspirations that resonate with your journey. Be it through shared memories, personal anecdotes, or poetic prose, your vows are an intimate declaration that mirrors the depth of your connection.

### Officiant Selection

Selecting an officiant who resonates with your beliefs and values is paramount. Whether it's a religious leader, a close friend, or a professional officiant, the person who guides your ceremony should embody the spirit of your commitment. Communicate your story and preferences, allowing them to weave a ceremony that captures your essence.

### Ceremony Rehearsal

A rehearsal offers a glimpse into the choreography of your ceremony, ensuring seamless execution. Gather your wedding party, officiant, and key family members to rehearse the procession, vows, and any rituals. This prelude to the main event allows everyone to familiarize themselves with their roles, creating a sense of ease and confidence on the big day.

The ceremony and vows encapsulate the pinnacle of your love story. As you pour your emotions into your vows, select an officiant who reflects your values, and rehearse the ceremony with care, remember that this is the chapter where your unique journey culminates, celebrated by the promises you make and the love you share.



# WRITING YOUR Vows

**Step 1: Reflect on Your Relationship:** Take some time to reflect on your journey as a couple. Think about how you met, the experiences you've shared, the challenges you've overcome, and the moments that have brought you closer. Consider the qualities you admire in your partner and the reasons you want to spend your life with them.

**Step 2: Set the Tone:** Decide on the tone you want for your vows. Do you want them to be light-hearted and humorous, deeply emotional, or a mix of both? Understanding the tone will help you convey your feelings accurately.

**Step 3: Gather Inspiration:** Read examples of vows online or in books to get inspiration. Don't copy them directly, but use them as a starting point to find the right words to express your feelings.

**Step 4: Start with a Draft:** Begin writing your vows by jotting down your thoughts, feelings, and promises to your partner. Start with phrases like "I promise to...", "I vow to...", "From this day forward...", and "You are the..." to structure your vows.

**Step 5: Be Specific:** Use specific anecdotes, memories, or traits to personalize your vows. Mention special moments that made you realize your love, and qualities that you admire in your partner.

**Step 6: Express Your Love:** Share your feelings openly. Explain how your partner makes you feel, how they've changed your life, and the depth of your love for them.

**Step 7: Make Promises:** Include promises that are meaningful to you both. These can be about how you'll support each other, communicate, face challenges, and continue growing together.

**Step 8: Keep it Concise:** While it's important to express your feelings, keep your vows concise. Aim for around 1-2 minutes of speaking time per person.

**Step 9: Edit and Refine:** Review your draft and edit it for clarity, flow, and coherence. Make sure the vows sound like your voice and are easy to understand.

**Step 10: Practice Out Loud:** Once you're satisfied with your vows, practice reading them out loud. This will help you become comfortable with the words and ensure that they're easily spoken.

**Step 11: Get Feedback:** Share your vows with a close friend or family member to get feedback. They can provide insights and suggestions to help you refine your vows.

**Step 12: Finalize Your Vows:** Incorporate any feedback you received and make final adjustments. Your vows should reflect your feelings and the promises you want to make to your partner.

**Step 13: Keep a Copy:** Write or print out your vows neatly and legibly. Keep a copy handy during the ceremony, as you may feel nervous and want a reminder.

**Step 14: Speak from the Heart:** During the ceremony, take your time to speak slowly and clearly. Look into your partner's eyes as you speak, and let the emotions flow naturally.

**Step 15: Embrace the Moment:** Remember that your vows are a sincere expression of your love and commitment. Embrace the moment and let your feelings shine through as you share your vows with your partner in front of your loved ones.

Writing wedding vows is a personal and meaningful process. Tailor these steps to your preferences and relationship, and let your heart guide you as you create vows that are uniquely yours.







# WEDDING DAY

## *Smooth Execution*

### Wedding Day Timeline

Craft a wedding day timeline that ensures each moment unfurls with grace. Collaborate with your vendors to align on timing and transitions. Allow ample buffer time between events, enabling you to relish each chapter without feeling rushed. A well-structured timeline ensures a relaxed pace, making room for candid interactions and spontaneous joy.

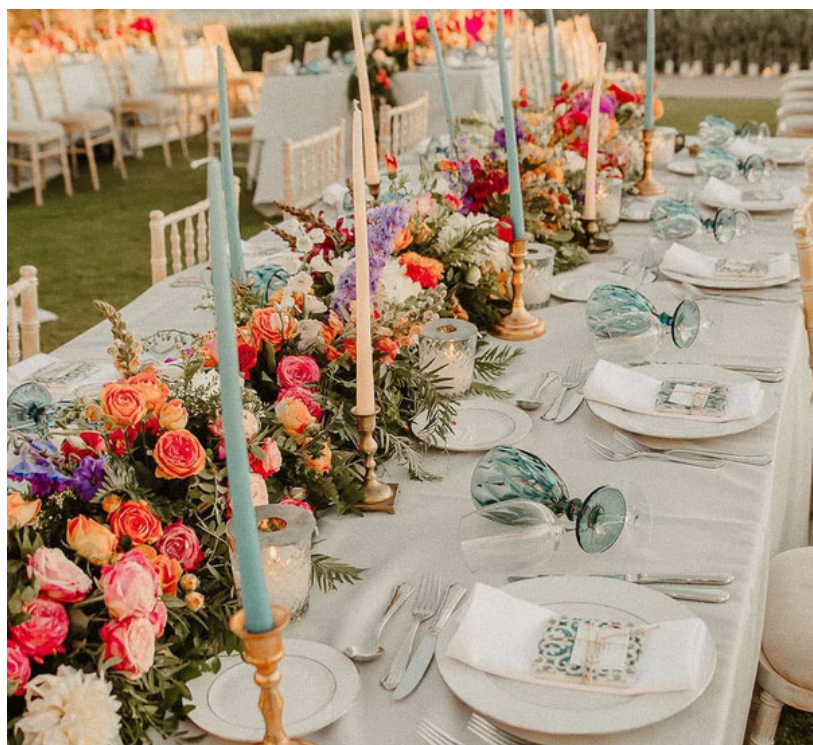
### Coordination and Communication

Delegate the day's orchestration to a reliable coordinator or planner, freeing you to immerse yourself in the celebration. Communication becomes the thread that weaves everything together. Ensure your vendors are aware of the schedule, special requests, and any changes. Your coordinator becomes the point of contact, streamlining queries and ensuring everyone is in sync.

### Handling Unexpected Situations

Even the most meticulously planned events can encounter unexpected twists. It's in these moments that your flexibility and quick thinking shine. Trust your coordinator to address minor hiccups, allowing you to enjoy the day with a carefree spirit. Embrace these unexpected moments as part of your unique narrative, knowing that they contribute to the richness of your wedding story.

Smooth execution is the culmination of your planning journey. With a thoughtfully curated timeline, impeccable coordination, and the grace to embrace the unexpected, your wedding day becomes a masterpiece of love and joy. As you step into this momentous day, remember that every detail has led to this chapter, where your story becomes a living, breathing celebration.



# QUESTIONS TO ASK *Your Caterer*

1. What are the menu selections?
2. Does wine come with the menu? Is there an extra fee for the wine?
3. Can we schedule a tasting and if so, when?
4. Is there a minimum that has to be spent?
5. What is your cancellation policy?
6. What is your payment schedule?
7. How many appetizers do you prepare per guest? What is your appetizer selection?
8. How many servers walk around to serve the appetizers?
9. Where will the cocktail hour be held? Will the bar remain open after the meal is served? Is there a fee for that?
10. How many people can each reception & Cocktail Hour table seat?
11. Is there a cake cutting fee? Do you provide the wedding cake?
12. Is the gratuity added on the bill? What additional fees are added on the bill? Is the gratuity amount subject to increase before the date of the event?
13. When do you need the final guest headcount?
14. Do you provide extra tables for gifts, guest name tags and the guest sign in book? If you are at a hotel, can the gifts be taken to our room for security purposes?
15. Do you provide all the napkins, tablecloths, tables, chairs, plates, silverware and glasses?
16. What color linens do you provide?
17. In what style are the diner napkins folded?
18. What time do you recommend serving the meal? What is a typical reception like? How does it flow?
19. Do you serve salads pre-set on the plate or are they served after guests are seated?
20. When do our meal selections have to be complete?
21. Can you handle additional meals such as a reception dinner or brunch the next morning for out of town guests? If so, what is your brunch menu?
22. How many guests can the banquet hall accommodate?
23. When the contract have to be signed and returned?
24. What deposit do we have to put down to hold our date?
25. Can you provide vegetarian or kosher meals if they are needed? Can you handle other special dietary requests?
26. Do you have a kids menu?
27. If you plan to have different stations like a pasta station or a prime rib station, is there a serving fee per station?
28. Are your evening prices more than your daytime prices?
29. Who will be in charge of my party and be my point of contact?
30. How far in advance of the event do you set up the dining room?



# RECEPTION

## *Menus*

### **Menu Selection**

Create a menu that resonates with your palate and wedding theme. Collaborate with your chosen caterer to explore a diverse array of options, from appetizers to desserts. Consider dishes that hold sentimental value or incorporate cultural elements, enhancing the celebration with a hint of your personal narrative.

### **Catering Options**

Choose a catering style that aligns with your desired ambiance. Buffets encourage mingling and diversity, while plated meals exude elegance and structured dining. Stations add an interactive touch, letting guests customize their plates. Opt for a style that mirrors your personality and the tone you wish to set for your celebration.

### **Special Dietary Considerations**

In today's diverse landscape, catering to special dietary needs is an important aspect. Inquire with your caterer about vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free, or other options for guests with dietary restrictions. Ensure these choices are clearly communicated in the menu and during the event, fostering inclusivity and making everyone feel cared for.

Dining is a sensory journey that enriches your wedding celebration. By thoughtfully selecting a menu, choosing a catering style that resonates, and tending to special dietary considerations, you create an experience that tantalizes taste buds while embracing the diversity of your guests. As you curate this chapter, remember that every bite carries with it the essence of celebration and shared joy.





# GIFTS *And Registry*

## **Creating a Registry**

Curate a registry that mirrors your needs and aspirations as a couple. Include a mix of traditional and modern items that reflect your personalities. Think beyond household items to experiences or charitable contributions that hold significance. Share your registry details with your guests through your wedding website or invitations, allowing them to partake in your journey.

## **Thank-You Cards and Etiquette**

As gifts flow in, remember that gratitude is at the heart of the exchange. Handwritten thank-you cards are timeless gestures of appreciation. Personalize each note, mentioning the gift and expressing your genuine thanks for their presence in your life. Send out these tokens of appreciation within a reasonable timeframe after your wedding, conveying the depth of your gratitude.

## **Gift Alternatives**

For couples seeking alternatives to traditional gifts, consider experiences or contributions to meaningful causes. Honeymoon funds, charitable donations, or unique activities can allow guests to share in your joy in ways beyond material possessions. Embrace these alternatives with open hearts, understanding that the true gift lies in the sentiment behind it.

Gifts and registry are a celebration of generosity and connection. Through your registry choices, thank-you cards, and openness to alternative gestures, you weave a tapestry of appreciation that reflects the depth of your relationships. As you embark on this journey, remember that every gift, whether tangible or experiential, is a reflection of the shared joy that surrounds your union.

# POST WEDDING *To Do's*

As your wedding day transforms into cherished memories, there are essential tasks to ensure the continuity of your journey. Navigate these post-wedding to-dos with care, preserving the magic you've woven:

## **Name Change (if applicable)**

If you plan to change your name, this is the time to initiate the process. Begin by updating your identification documents, such as your driver's license, passport, and Social Security card. Notify institutions like banks, employers, and utilities of your new name, ensuring a seamless transition that reflects your united identity.

## **Filing Legal Paperwork**

File the legal paperwork required to officially register your marriage. Depending on your jurisdiction, this might involve submitting a marriage license or certificate. Ensuring these documents are in order solidifies your union in the eyes of the law and offers peace of mind for your future together.

## **Preserving Memories**

As time unfolds, your wedding memories become cherished treasures. Preserve these moments by curating photo albums and videos that capture the emotions and details of the day. Collaborate with your photographer and videographer to create a collection that embodies your celebration, allowing you to relive those enchanting chapters for years to come.

Post-wedding tasks ensure the seamless continuation of your journey beyond the celebration. Whether it's a name change, legal paperwork, or the preservation of memories, these to-dos encapsulate the beginning of your life together. As you embark on this phase, remember that every action you take nurtures the love and commitment you've celebrated on your wedding day.





# HONEYMOON

## Planning

### Choosing a Destination

Select a destination that resonates with both your interests and desires. Whether it's a tropical paradise, a cultural escapade, or an adventure-filled getaway, let the destination mirror your shared aspirations. Consider the activities you both enjoy and create a bucket list of experiences that will enrich your time together.

### Booking Travel and Accommodations

Research and book your travel and accommodations well in advance. Utilize travel websites, agencies, and recommendations from friends or family to find the best deals. Tailor your choices to align with your preferences – whether it's a luxurious resort, a cozy bed and breakfast, or an immersive vacation rental.

### Packing Tips

Pack thoughtfully, considering the climate and activities of your chosen destination. Essential items include travel documents, comfortable clothing, sunscreen, and any special outfits for romantic dinners or activities. Don't forget to bring chargers, adapters, and a camera to capture the magic of your honeymoon.







## FUN IDEAS *To Consider*

1. **Photo Booth Fun:** iPartyology has amazing Photobooth options with props and digital backdrops that reflect your colors and theme. It's a fantastic way to capture candid and silly moments with your guests.
2. **Interactive Food Stations:** Create interactive food stations, like a DIY taco bar or a dessert station where guests can customize their treats.
3. **Content Creator:** Consider getting a Content Creator from iPartyology. They will capture photos and videos from your event and produce short amazing clips for social media for you to share.
4. **Cold Sparks and Sparklers:** Bring some wow to your event with iPartyology's cold sparks. We can use them for introductions, first dances and exits. Add in the sparklers for your guests and end your night right.
5. **Late-Night Snacks:** Offer a late-night snack bar with comfort foods like mini sliders, fries, or a donut wall to keep energy levels up for dancing.
6. **QR Code:** Use a QR code to create a place for everyone to share all their photos and videos taken throughout the night. This will give you photos and videos that you might otherwise never get to see and have.
7. **Video Messages:** Set up a video booth where guests can leave video messages for the couple. It's a touching keepsake to cherish..
8. **Lawn Games:** Set up lawn games like giant Jenga, cornhole, or croquet for outdoor receptions.
9. **Sparkler Exit:** Have a grand exit with sparklers held by your guests, creating a magical and picturesque moment.
10. **Wedding Bingo:** Create bingo cards with wedding-related terms or moments, and have guests mark them off as they occur during the day.
11. **Cultural Touches:** Incorporate cultural traditions or rituals that hold significance for you and your partner.
12. **Polaroid Guest Book:** Provide a Polaroid camera for guests to take snapshots and leave them alongside their well-wishes in a guest book.
13. **Themed Stations:** Set up themed stations like a DIY flower crown station, temporary tattoo station, or a flip-flop station for tired dancing feet.
14. **Fireworks Display:** End the night with a dazzling fireworks display to light up the sky and leave a lasting impression.