

# SOUTHERN BRIDE

practical wedding planning

## Wedding Planning To-Do's for:

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### When you first get engaged

- Place an engagement announcement in the local newspaper
- List your engagement ring on your contents insurance
- If you are having an engagement party, set a date, draft a guest list and order invites
- Set up a wedding planning folder
- Start compiling inspirational images for a wedding planning vision board
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### When you're ready to get serious with wedding planning

- Determine a budget and consider who is contributing
- Start to pin down a wedding theme or feel - this helps determine which venues you visit
- Decide on a general wedding date - come up with 3 or 4 dates for flexibility
- Compile a guest list. Budget, theme & guest list will determine which venues you can use
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## Highest Priority Tasks

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> | <b>Book a Wedding Ceremony Venue</b><br><input type="radio"/> Research <input type="radio"/> Visit a few <input type="radio"/> Select Favourite <input type="radio"/> Pay Deposit  |
| <input type="radio"/> | <b>Book a Wedding Reception Venue</b><br><input type="radio"/> Research <input type="radio"/> Visit a few <input type="radio"/> Select Favourite <input type="radio"/> Pay Deposit |
| <input type="radio"/> | Set wedding date and time (in consultation with family & venues)   |
| <input type="radio"/> | <b>Book a Wedding Photographer</b><br><input type="radio"/> Research <input type="radio"/> Visit a few <input type="radio"/> Select Favourite <input type="radio"/> Pay Deposit    |
| <input type="radio"/> | <b>Book a Celebrant</b><br><input type="radio"/> Research <input type="radio"/> Visit a few <input type="radio"/> Select Favourite <input type="radio"/> Pay Deposit               |
| <input type="radio"/> | <b>Book a Caterer (if required)</b><br><input type="radio"/> Research <input type="radio"/> Visit a few <input type="radio"/> Select Favourite <input type="radio"/> Pay Deposit   |
| <input type="radio"/> |  |
| <input type="radio"/> |  |
| <input type="radio"/> |  |

## One Year to Eight Months Out

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> | Send Save the Date cards (if an out of town wedding or it's on a holiday weekend)  |
| <input type="radio"/> | Do you need a marquee, tables, chairs etc? Research and book   |
| <input type="radio"/> | <b>Book a florist</b><br><input type="radio"/> Research <input type="radio"/> Visit a few <input type="radio"/> Select Favourite <input type="radio"/> Pay Deposit |
| <input type="radio"/> | Choose and ask bridesmaids and groomsmen to be in the wedding party  |
| <input type="radio"/> | Go wedding dress shopping! Some dresses take months to arrive, go early for variety  |
| <input type="radio"/> |  |

## Eight Months to Six Months Out

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Book Wedding Musicians/Band<br><input type="checkbox"/> Research <input type="checkbox"/> Audition/Listen <input type="checkbox"/> Select Favourite <input type="checkbox"/> Pay Deposit         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Arrange wedding cars/transport on the day  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Arrange hiring a bus/guest transport and pick up points  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Decide what to do for your wedding registry  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Book an Invitation Designer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Research Ideas <input type="checkbox"/> Have consultation <input type="checkbox"/> Decide on design <input type="checkbox"/> Pay Deposit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Confirm ceremony, reception and bus timings (as these are needed for invitations)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Research wedding invitation wording  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Decide if you want a day-after BBQ or brunch (so you can add this to your invite)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Book a Make Up Artist<br><input type="checkbox"/> Research <input type="checkbox"/> Visit a few <input type="checkbox"/> Select Favourite <input type="checkbox"/> Pay Deposit                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Book a Hairdresser<br><input type="checkbox"/> Research <input type="checkbox"/> Visit a few <input type="checkbox"/> Select Favourite <input type="checkbox"/> Pay Deposit                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Book a Cakemaker<br><input type="checkbox"/> Research <input type="checkbox"/> Visit a few <input type="checkbox"/> Select Favourite <input type="checkbox"/> Pay Deposit                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Make sure your maid of honour and best man understand any duties (speeches, parties)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Begin looking for bridesmaid dresses   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Register for wedding gifts   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Pencil-book blocks of accommodation for out-of-town guests   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Collect measurements/dress sizes from bridesmaids and order dresses  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> |  |

## Six to Five Months Out

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Finalise wedding invitation design and order         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Groom to decide on outfit, and reserve or purchase   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Book a hotel room for your wedding night             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Decide on groomsmen's attire and reserve or purchase |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Purchase wedding rings                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Research favour ideas                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> |  |

## Four Months Out

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Send wedding invitations to guests                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Chose bridesmaid's shoes and other accessories to purchase        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Start making or buying favours                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Set a date for the hen's night and stag's do                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Buy wedding shoes and lingerie to take with you to dress fittings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Chose readings for wedding ceremony                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Notify/ask people who you'd like to do your readings              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Draw up a list of must-have songs (and a don't play list!)        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> |   |

## Three Months Out

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Agree on menu with caterer and give rough numbers   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Source wine and beer (if BYO venue)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Confirm flowers and table arrangements with florist. Confirm & order corsages and buttonholes (consider: Bridal Party, Parents, Grandparents, MC, Ushers) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Buy gifts for the wedding party   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Arrange where the separate wedding parties will get ready on the day  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Begin writing your vows if you're writing your own  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> |   |

## Two Months Out

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Apply for your marriage licence  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Confirm wedding day stationery with your Invitation Designer. Consider:<br><input type="checkbox"/> Seating Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Placename <input type="checkbox"/> Table # <input type="checkbox"/> Order of Service <input type="checkbox"/> Menu <input type="checkbox"/> Guest Book |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Start chasing RSVPS and finalising the guest list  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Seating plan: work out who will sit where at the wedding reception   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> |  |

# One Month Before

- Finalise your wedding vows if you're writing your own
- Submit specific wording for reception stationery to designer where possible
- Get your final wedding dress fitting (don't forget your shoes and lingerie you plan to wear)
- Visit hairdresser with veil or headpiece for a trial run of your wedding day hair
- Meet with celebrant/minister and check all formalities in order
- Get bridesmaids to try on dresses and get alterations if necessary
- Submit finalised seating plan to designer so seating plan can be drafted



## In the Lead Up

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Hold a wedding rehearsal   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Give a friendly reminder to those giving speeches                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Give best man wedding rings  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Collect suits and hire items   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Confirm when balance of payments required for venue, caterer, band, photographer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Pack a bag for the wedding night and arrange for it to get to the hotel          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Share your wedding day schedule and phone list with bridal party & vendors       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Get last minute beauty bits done - spray tans, nails, waxing etc                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Set up wedding ceremony and reception venues                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> |  |

## After the Wedding Day

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Return hire equipment                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Return suits                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Pay outstanding balances owing to vendors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Write thank you cards for gifts received  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> |   |