

SOUTHERN BRIDE

practical wedding planning

Wedding Planning To-Do's for:

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"/>	Book a Wedding Ceremony Venue <input type="radio"/> Research <input type="radio"/> Visit a few <input type="radio"/> Select Favourite <input type="radio"/> Pay Deposit
<input type="radio"/>	Book a Wedding Reception Venue <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"/>	Book a Wedding Photographer <input type="radio"/> Research <input type="radio"/> Visit a few <input type="radio"/> Select Favourite <input type="radio"/> Pay Deposit
<input type="radio"/>	Book a Celebrant <input type="radio"/> Research <input type="radio"/> Visit a few <input type="radio"/> Select Favourite <input type="radio"/> Pay Deposit
<input type="radio"/>	Book a Caterer (if required) <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"/>	Book a florist <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"/>	
<input type="radio"/>	
<input type="radio"/>	
<input type="radio"/>	
<input type="radio"/>	

Eight Months to Six Months Out

<input type="checkbox"/>	Book Wedding Musicians/Band <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 <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 <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 <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 <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"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<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: <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"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<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"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<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"/>	