

## TIME TABLE

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Organized planning will ensure you enjoy every minute of your wedding day. Begin planning efforts for a large formal wedding at least twelve months beforehand.

### *Twelve Months or More Ahead*

- Select a wedding date. (Select backup dates in case site or church is already booked)
  - Consult fiancé and parents on budget and financial support.
  - Set budget and number of guests to be invited.
  - Decide type of wedding: informal or formal.
  - Choose and secure the ceremony location.
  - Choose and book officiant.
  - Choose and secure the reception location.
  - Buy wedding rings.
  - Book wedding consultant, if applicable.
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### *Eight to Twelve Months Ahead*

- Order gown and accessories: veil, lingerie, gloves and shoes.
  - Compile guest list from both the bride and groom's families.
  - Choose and notify attendants.
  - Select and order attendants' gowns.
  - Select caterer.
  - Select photographer.
  - Select floral designer.
  - Select and order wedding cake and cake top.
  - Select balloon decorator.
  - Select videographer.
  - Select and register bridal registry items.
  - Select music for ceremony.
  - Select music/entertainment for reception.
  - Plan details of reception.
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### *Six to Eight Months Ahead*

- Plan details with floral designer.
  - Order invitations, announcements, personal stationery, thank-you-notes and save-the-date cards.
  - Have map to reception designed and printed (include with invitation).
  - Reserve limousine transportation for the bridal party.
  - Reserve or arrange transportation to and from the ceremony and reception for out-of-town guests.
  - Reserve rental equipment: tables/chairs
  - Find a new place to live.
  - Finalize honeymoon plans with fiancé.
  - Reserve accommodations for out-of-town guests.
  - Book engagement portrait photographer.
  - Hire stylists for wedding hair and makeup.
  - Hire a "day of" coordinator to orchestrate the ceremony and reception, if applicable.
  - Get into a consistent exercise routine
  - Send save-the-date cards
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### *Four to Six Months Ahead*

- Book calligrapher.
  - Select men's formalwear.
  - Book room for wedding night.
  - Choose and order favors.
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### *Two to Four Months Ahead*

- Announce engagement in local newspapers.
- Address wedding invitations.
- Choose groom's and attendants' gifts.
- Confirm delivery dates of all dresses.
- Discuss details of menu with caterer.
- Discuss ceremony with officiant.
- Choose readings and confirm vows for ceremony.
- Schedule the rehearsal.
- Confirm rehearsal dinner arrangements.

### *One to Two Months Ahead*

- Buy hose and any remaining accessories needed.
  - Have final dress fitting.
  - Pick up rings; check engraving.
  - Buy guest book, pen, toasting glasses, unity candles, garter, cake knife and server, flower girl's basket and ring bearer's pillow.
  - Confirm all professional services in writing.
  - Print wedding programs.
  - Mail invitations.
  - Practice hairstyle with veil if doing your own hair for wedding.
  - Set a date with your fiancé to get the marriage license.
  - Make name change to proper documents.
  - Remind your bridesmaids of final gown fittings.
  - Plan bridesmaids' party.
  - Have formal wedding portrait taken.
  - Pick up gown or have delivered.
  - Write thank-you notes for gifts received.
  - Assign friends or family to assist with boutonnieres, guest book, gift table and cake cutting.
  - Send request lists to photographer, videographer and musicians.
  - Plan bouquet preservation.
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### *Two Weeks Ahead*

- Double check attire and accessories for all members of the wedding party.
  - Confirm time and date of wedding rehearsal with wedding party.
  - Review reception seating plans and prepare place cards, if necessary.
  - Schedule appointment for manicure.
  - Arrange for cleaning and preservation of gown upon return from honeymoon.
  - Write toasts for rehearsal dinner and wedding reception.
  - Address announcements to mail on wedding day.
  - Confirm honeymoon arrangements.
  - Break-in wedding shoes at home.
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### *One Week Ahead*

- Have final conversations with caterer, florist, baker, photographer, musicians and videographer.
  - Give final count to reception facility and caterer.
  - Host and/or attend bridesmaids' luncheon.
  - Pack for honeymoon.
  - Get going-away outfit ready.
  - Purchase traveler's checks.
  - Confirm responsibilities assigned to family and friends.
  - Finalize seating chart.
  - Send change of address information to post office.
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### *One Day Ahead*

- Confirm pickup times with limousine and/or other transportation.
  - Groom and groomsmen try on formalwear and shoes for fit.
  - Rehearsal and rehearsal dinner.
  - Present attendant gifts to wedding party at the rehearsal dinner.
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### *Your Wedding Day*

- Mail announcements.
- Mail gift to parents to thank them for their help and support.
- Get married!