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| **Up to 12 months before** | | | |
|  | Set a date |  | Find a wedding planner |
|  | Get inspiration and ideas (see Pinterest and inspiration board) |  | Find a photographer |
|  | Decide on a wedding style |  | Find a caterer |
|  | Set priorities |  | Find a florist |
|  | Set budget |  | Find a musician |
|  | Choose wedding party |  | Find a wedding dress |
|  | Find a venue for ceremony and reception |  | Order save the dates |
|  | Consider purchasing wedding insurance |  | If desired, set up a wedding website |
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| **10 – 11 months before** | | | |
|  | Start looking for dresses and accessories for bride and bridal party |  | Book a wedding planner |
|  | Reserve a venue for ceremony and reception |  | Book a caterer |
|  | Book a photographer |  | Decide on décor |
|  | Book a DJ/band |  | Start making a guest list |
|  | Book a florist |  | Research legal requirements for marriage in your state or country |
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| **9 - 10 months before** | | | |
|  | Plan a honeymoon |  | Start looking for favors |
|  | Start looking for invitations and stationery (wedding invitations, menu cards, thank you notes) |  | Choose dresses and accessories for bride and bridal party |
|  | Consider engagement photos or a pre-wedding photoshoot |  |  |
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| **7 – 8 months before** | | | |
|  | Find two hotels for guests coming from out of town |  | Reserve tables, chairs, linens, and anything else the caterer is not taking care of |
|  | Create gift registries |  | Reserve décor |
|  | Start deciding on hairstyle and makeup style |  | Choose cake |
|  | Book an officiant |  | Decide on menu |
|  | Begin thinking about wedding vows or readings for the ceremony (see free wedding vow generator on 101planners.com) |  |  |
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| **6 – 7 months before** | | | |
|  | Meet with officiant |  | Book a florist |
|  | Book cake |  | Book a musician |
|  | Schedule tastings |  | Finalize a guest list |
|  | Decide on outfits for groomsmen |  | Research and book transportation for guests if many are coming from out of town |
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| **4 – 5 months before** | | | |
|  | Choose flowers for reception, party, attendants, etc. |  | Finalize a rehearsal dinner guest list |
|  | Order wedding cake |  | Purchase or rent toasting flutes and serving pieces |
|  | Schedule dress fittings |  | Purchase or make a guest book |
|  | Book honeymoon flights and hotels |  | Order a flower basket |
|  | Book room for wedding night |  | Buy a ring bearer pillow |
|  | Discuss and plan pre-wedding parties or events (like bachelor/bachelorette parties, bridal showers) |  | Finalize any rental orders or adjustments |
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| **3 – 4 months before** | | | |
|  | Prepare playlists for DJ/band |  | Order menu cards |
|  | Book rehearsal dinner venue |  | Order wedding favors |
|  | Finalize reception menu |  | Order rehearsal dinner invitations |
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| **3 months before** | | | |
|  | Finalize honeymoon plans |  | Create RSVP list |
|  | Ensure passport is valid if honeymoon is abroad |  | Book spa and beauty treatments for you and your bridal party for week before |
|  | Plan ceremony |  | Plan reception seating |
|  | Experiments with hair to decide on hairstyle |  | Book mani/pedi/massage for day before |
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| **2 months before** | | | |
|  | Send wedding invitations |  | Get "Something Old, New, Borrowed, Blue" |
|  | Update RSVP list |  | Order transportation for wedding day |
|  | Begin writing wedding vows |  | Pick up wedding rings |
|  | Meet with officiant to plan the ceremony |  | Buy shoes and undergarments |
|  | Apply for marriage license |  | Finalize playlists with DJ/band |
|  | Finalize fittings for wedding dress and wedding party |  | Create a wedding day schedule and send to wedding party, vendors and officiant |
|  | Finalize seating |  | Consider preparing a welcome bag for out-of-town guests |
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| **1 month before** | | | |
|  | Give a copy of your honeymoon itinerary to someone at home |  | Call vendors to confirm date, time and location |
|  | Confirm honeymoon reservations |  | Update registries |
|  | Pick up marriage license |  | Delegate someone to return all rentals |
|  | Consider a teeth-whitening procedure if desired |  | Provide any specific song requests for special moments (e.g., father-daughter dance, bouquet toss) |
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| **2 weeks before** | | | |
|  | Pack for honeymoon |  | Prepare payments for vendors |
|  | Final dress fitting |  | Prepare cash tips for service providers |
|  | Follow up with guests who have not RSVP'd |  | Meet with photographer to discuss requests |
|  | Give caterer the final count |  | Break in wedding shoes |
|  | Prepare wedding day emergency kit |  | Send playlists to DJ/band |
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| **1 week before** | | | |
|  | Get haircut and color |  | Get spa and beauty treatments for you and your bridal party |
|  | Prepare all wedding clothes |
|  | Confirm day-of timeline with all vendors |  | Make any final adjustments with vendors |
|  | Prepare an overnight bag for the wedding night, if not returning home |  | Ensure someone is designated to gather and keep safe gifts/cards from guests |
|  | Ensure someone is designated for vendor questions on the day, so you're not constantly approached with questions |  |  |
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| **The day before** | | | |
|  | Get a mani / pedi / massage |  | Eat a good breakfast |
|  | Attend wedding rehearsal |  | Give wedding rings to the best man |
|  | Wedding day |  |  |
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| **After the wedding** | | | |
|  | Return all rentals |  | Send out thank you cards |
|  | Get wedding dress cleaned |  | Get photos and video |
|  | Consider preserving the bouquet |  | Review vendors online or provide testimonials if you were happy with their services |
|  | If changing your name, start the legal name change process |  |  |