

# Things to Do List

## 6 to 24 Months Ahead

- Subscribe to the Wedding Day Sourcebook
- Attend every Bridal Show you can!  
Check [www.cjcevents.com](http://www.cjcevents.com)
- Announce your engagement in hometown newspapers
- Discuss and decide on the atmosphere you'd like at your wedding
- Talk to family & fiancé about budget
- Decide wedding size
- Talk to clergy or J.P. and arrange ceremony location & date
- Find a reception location available on your date
- Plan wedding theme and colors
- Choose your wedding party
- Compile your guest lists, collect addresses; set up a system to track RSVP's.
- Select all your formalwear
  - gown
  - veil
  - shoes & nylons
  - petticoat or slip
  - jewelry
  - purse
  - handkerchief or lucky items
- Select bridesmaids dresses
  - shoes & nylons
  - jewelry
  - hairpieces
  - gloves
- Select tuxes and accessories
- Register for wedding gifts in your hometowns
- Choose a photographer and let him/her know if your ceremony location has any restrictions about lighting, standing on the altar, etc.
- Choose a videographer
- Choose a cake
- Choose musicians for ceremony (find out if your church allows outside musicians or secular music)
- Choose musicians for reception and let them know exactly what you want them to play
- Choose a florist
- Locate a caterer, if necessary
- Locate and rent a tent and/or decorative items such as an arbor, wishing well for cards, balloons & helium tank, etc.
- Sign up for dance lessons
- Send deposits to all your vendors; keep all your contracts in one file with your payment schedules.
- Arrange transportation from your house to the ceremony, from the ceremony to the formal photography location, from there to the reception, and from the reception to the honeymoon night location.

## 4 to 6 Months Ahead

- Reserve accommodations for your out-of-town guests
- Select and order your invitations and thank-you cards
- Arrange your honeymoon travel
- Help mothers choose dresses
- Look for a place to live and shop for home furnishings
- Order rings and engraving
- Decide on favors to match your theme

## 2 to 4 Months Ahead

- Address wedding invitations
- Collect items to stuff into invitation, including registry cards, hotel reservation information, directions, etc.
- Buy enough postage for invitations and RSVP envelopes
- Purchase gifts for your spouse-to-be and your attendants
- Plan the rehearsal dinner and send invitations

## 1 to 2 Months Ahead

- Make hair and makeup appointments for yourself and your bridesmaids
- Have final dress fittings
- Attend showers and send thank-yous
- Plan a get-together with your bridesmaids to give them their gifts/accessories
- Collect luggage and clothes for honeymoon
- Purchase or make ring pillow, guest book, toast glasses, cake knife, etc.
- Arrange for basket or other location for cards containing money that arrive during the reception
- Get blood test and marriage license (fewer than 30 days before the ceremony)
- Mail invitations

## 2 Weeks Ahead

- Plan to change your name on your Social Security info, driver's license, credit cards, & bank accounts -- you will need a certified copy of your wedding certificate.
- Make a seating plan for the reception; write placecards

## 1 Week Ahead

- Pack for honeymoon
- Pack an emergency kit for the wedding day containing a sewing kit, extra nylons, comfortable shoes, hairspray, bobby pins, kleenex, Pepto Bismol, etc.
- Rest and relax -- you're getting married! Have a massage or a facial - just for yourself and your sanity.