## Planning your Event – Step by Step

11	Months Before:
	Arrange for both families to meet and celebrate if possible
	Purchase a wedding organiser and some magazines for some inspiration
	Plan the engagement party for no more than 3 months from your announcement. Set a date, choose a location and decide on a guest list. Create invitations and send to guests.
	Record cards and gifts received and send personalised thank you notes
	Decide on a wedding budget
	Start guest list
	Determine time frame for your wedding date. Choose a few dates that don't conflict with other events taking into consideration that some guests may need to travel long distances.
	Choose a colour scheme. Collect ideas and create an inspiration board including colours, themes and styles
	Shortlist your venues for the ceremony
	Shortlist your venues for the reception
	Book ceremony venue and record payment in your budget planner
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10	Months Before:
	Begin looking for a dress
	Begin looking for a celebrant that suits your style, theme and personality
	Book celebrant and record payment in budget planner
	Choose your bridal party and formally ask them to be in your bridal party
9	Months Before:
	Shortlist wedding photographers
	Shortlist wedding videographer
	Shortlist wedding Florist
	Shortlist Band/DJ
8	Months Before:
	Investigate bridal registries
	Book Wedding Photographer
	Book Wedding Florist
	Book Wedding Videographer
7	Months Before:
	Research accommodation options for out of town guests
	Send out "save the date cards"
	Select dress and pay deposit, recording the payment in your budget planner

Shortlist Cake suppliers

6	Months Before:
	Research invitation or stationary supplier. Decide on a theme that covers all aspects of the stationary. Invitations, RSVP cards, name cards and thank you cards
	Meet with ceremony musicians and discuss music choices for ceremony
5	Months Before:
	Book with makeup artist, hair stylist and any pre wedding beauty therapies that are needed (nails, tinting, waxing, spray tanning, manicures, pedicures, facials etc)
	Book trial date with makeup artist and hair stylist
	Gather bridesmaids for dress shopping or fittings
	Gather the Groom and Groomsmen for suit fittings. Record any deposits paid
	Book accommodation for your wedding night (make sure it's the honeymoon suite!)
	Prepare detailed accommodation options for out of town guests catering to as many tastes and budgets as possible
	Plan and Book your honeymoon. Remembering to check the weather and make sure you book the honeymoon suite!
4	Months Before:
	Purchase wedding accessories for the day including jewellery, veil, shoes, underwear and handbags Attend trial with makeup and hair artist to finalise colour scheme and style required
3	Months Before:
	Confirm bouquets, button holes and ceremony flowers with florist ensuring your flowers will be either "in season" or available on the day
	Finalise bridal party accessories including shoes, handbags and wedding jewellery for bridesmaids and ties, Cufflinks and socks for groomsmen
	Find wedding jeweller to make wedding bands
	Finalise bridal registry and obtain cards to include with invitations
	Design and create wedding bonbonniere
	Book wedding cars/transportation
2	Months Before:
	Finalise guest list
	Finalise invitation wording, font and style
	Finalise menu
	Bride maids to organise hens night (provide a list of names and addresses)
	Obtain travel visas for international honeymoon. Check passport validity
	Decide on readings for ceremony and ask readers to be a part of the day (the longer they have to rehearse the better)
	Schedule dress fittings with dressmaker for the last 3 fittings
	Supply full guest list to Maid of honour and best man for bridal shower/kitchen tea and rehearsal events
	Send out invitations
1	Month Before:
	Confirm travel arrangements have been made for out of town guests
	Finalise ceremony programs and have them printed
	Obtain legal requirements and ensure all paperwork is completed before the deadline
	Purchase guest book
	Bridal party gifts (don't forget you ushers, readers, close family, flower girls, ring bearers and the celebrant)
	Write your vows and send to celebrant to review

4 Weeks Before:		
	Arrange rehearsal with entire bridal party and celebrant	
	Finalise play list for DJ (if you don't want to provide a full play list, supply "genres" that you would like)	
	Finalise play and "do not play" songs with live music band including: introduction, first dance, cake cutting, father/daughter dance and last dance.	
	Finalise ceremony music selections and send the list to your ceremony musicians.	
	Final accessories including hairpiece and jewellery	
	Collect wedding rings - make sure you try them on!	
	Create a wedding day schedule covering off all elements including bridal party and suppliers.	
	Final dress fitting	
	Finalise readings and any other special touches to the day	
	Finalise numbers for the reception	
	Provide reception venue with running sheet on suppliers and when to expect them	
	Create a seating chart and provide details to reception venue including any signage that may be required	
	Confirm pick up details with florist	
	Prepare toasts and speeches	
	Send addresses to transport/car suppliers	
	Confirm times and locations with photographer/videographer	
	Provide photographer with a list of must have pictures (include parents, special guests etc)	
	Shop and pack for your honeymoon (make sure you check the weather!)	
	Put together an emergency kit (aspirin, makeup, hairspray, safety pins, mints, band aids)	
	Deliver place cards, guest book, pens, cake knife, toasting flutes, and all other reception items at the reception venue.	
Af	ter the big day:	
	Ensure all invoices are paid in full	
	Record gifts and send thank you notes, no later than 8 weeks after your wedding	



Arrange name change details