

## Planning your event - Step by Step

Create your Wedding Reception Itinerary from the sample program below. Change or delete steps as required.

The information below is merely a guide to help you get organized and should not be seen as a set of rules to adhere to! After all, this is your special day of days!

- Light music is playing awaiting your guest's arrival to the reception venue.
- Your guests arrive at the wedding reception. They are greeted by a wedding reception usher and/or the reception manager.
- On arrival, the drinks waiter offers your wedding guests a choice of either an alcoholic or non-alcoholic beverage.
- Your guests are either given their table numbers or escorted to their tables. In some cases the guest can look up their own table number on a board, and seat themselves.
- A food waiter walks around offering canapés to the wedding guests while they are mingling with other wedding guests.
- The Master of Ceremonies (MC) announces the newlyweds pending arrival, and that dinner will be served soon. The MC then asks your guests to make their way to their seats.
- The bridal party is announced. The Master of Ceremonies introduces the bridal party. Firstly to be introduced are the bride's parents, then the groom's parents. Then it's the bridesmaids and groomsmen, maid of honour and best man, the page boy and flower girl, and last but not least, the newlyweds!
- The newlyweds and bridal party are shown to the bridal party table.
- The bride's father makes a short speech and welcomes everyone to the wedding reception. He then thanks your guests for coming.
- The first and second course of dinner is served to the wedding guests, along with beverage top ups.
- The best man makes a toast to the newly married couple.
- More wedding speeches and stories can be told during and after dinner, to entertain the guests. (Optional)
- The MC or DJ announces the first dance for the newlyweds.

- After the first dance, the rest of the bridal party is asked to join the dance floor.
- The MC or DJ announces that everyone else can join the dance floor.
- After approximately half an hour to 45 minutes, the MC or DJ announces the cutting of the wedding cake.
- The newlyweds cut the cake. The food waiter then arranges to have the cake cut into smaller pieces and either allotted and served for desert, or into cake bags for the guests to take home as a memento of the day.
- Everyone is asked to join the newlyweds on the dance floor area, or similar. The groom then removes and throws the wedding garter. (Optional)
- The bride then throws a bouquet usually a bridesmaid's bouquet or a special bouquet that was arranged with the florist. (Optional)
- Wedding cake and coffee or tea is served to the wedding guests.
- The guests are then offered to continue dancing and enjoying themselves.
- The newlyweds change into their going away outfits and have another dance. (Optional)
- The newlyweds thank their wedding guests; say their goodbyes then head off to the honeymoon suite for their special wedding night festivities!

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