

52 Tips & Advice On Planning Your Wedding

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Part 1 – WEDDING VOWS

Quote

Happy marriages begin when we marry the ones we love, and they blossom when we love the ones we marry.

- Tom Mullen

You should take your time when deciding on your wedding vows and personalise them to suit you and your partner and don't be influenced by what other people expect you to do.

This is one of the most important parts of the wedding because it is after the recital of your vows that you will be officially married.

More and more people are becoming very creative with their wedding vows and this adds a personal touch that represents what you and your partner believe your marriage means to the both of you.

It is a chance for you to both express your true thoughts on why you are getting married and what it will mean for you in the future.

Here are the typical wedding vows...

“I [your name] take you [your partners name] for my lawful [wife/husband] to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, until death do us part”

Many people use these traditional vows as the foundation that they will modify to suit their needs by adding personalised touches where they like.

Some people find the traditional vows a bit too formal and the wording no longer appropriate to get the true meaning of their care for one another across. If that's the way you feel then changing them is the right solution for you.

These words are more important than all the wedding speeches combined so it is well worth spending as much time as necessary to come up with something that is really special.

Get ideas from books and poetry and songs. Bounce ideas off one another and you will soon know when you have hit the perfect combination that will lead you into your married life.

Just remember to never stop having fun because that's what it's all about – getting the most happiness in your life by sharing it with someone you love.

Recommended Reading

[Wedding Vow Toolkit](#)

[Marriage Vows & Wedding Vows](#)

Part 2 – WEDDING SPEECH

Quote

I am like a falling star who has finally found her place next to another in a lovely constellation, where we will sparkle in the heavens forever.

- Amy Tan

As with all other aspects of your wedding, don't be influenced by tradition when it comes to the wedding speech.

This can be as formal or informal as you like and it is your choice to decide whether you want long or short wedding speeches.

Make sure that you do know what people are going to say if they are giving a speech as there is nothing more embarrassing that to have someone reveal some information that you don't want made public on your wedding day.

Often people don't realise that they shouldn't be mentioned particular events so it is always wise to discuss the contents of any speech before the event.

The people who are giving the speeches also need to understand that there might be people from various different generations at the wedding and what might be acceptable for younger members at the reception might not go down as well with the older generation.

If you are preparing a speech for yourself then take a copy of it to the wedding so you don't forget anything or forget to thank people for the work they have done or the support they have given you.

You should write your speech in such a manner as though you are talking to friends as it will be a lot more natural and you will be less likely to make mistakes or forget what you are saying.

Read it aloud to your partner and see what comments might help you to improve. It is only when you read it aloud that you will realise if it is a suitable speech or not as we often write in a different manner than we speak.

Start preparing your speech early on in the planning as you will probably want to make changes along the way as you get closer to the day.

Having a copy of the speech will also help reduce the chance of nervousness affecting the outcome because you can always refer to the notes and always talk (or read) slowly to give yourself time to breathe and it will also help people to hear what you are saying.

Recommended Reading

[Wedding Speeches](#)

Part 3 – WEDDING CAKES

Quote

If you have love in your life it can make up for a great many things you lack. If you don't have it, no matter what else there is, it's not enough.

- Ann Landers

A wedding cake can be as simple or as extravagant as you like and accordingly can be relatively inexpensive or enough to break the bank.

The reason wedding cakes are often so expensive is due to the intricate work that is involved and the many hours of labour that are required to create the decorations.

For some people this is an expense that they feel is unnecessary and a simple cake or alternative form of 'symbolic food' such as a favourite dessert or something similar can be used.

More often than not however people prefer a traditional wedding cake and in keeping with the rest of the theme of the wedding it is generally decorated in colours similar to those of the flowers and any other decorations at the reception.

Certainly by reducing the size of the wedding cake it can help to keep the costs down and also by keeping the cake less intricate in its decorations you can save yourself a lot of money.

You can also use your flower arrangements or other forms of decoration that are more cost-effective to enhance the look of the wedding cake and keep the cake itself relatively plain and simple.

It really is a case of weighing up the expense with the importance that you put on the style of cake that you prefer and whether you can save money elsewhere to get the cake you desire.

Once again do your research and get some prices from various different suppliers of wedding cakes and also consider asking your friends and family if they know anybody who does cake decorating as many people do it for a hobby and will be only too willing to help out on the special occasion.

Often you can get somebody to create your cake for the cost of the materials alone and this can be their gift to you for your wedding rather than paying for something else.

One important thing that you must remember however is to check their work to see if it is up to a standard that you would be happy to have at your wedding and don't feel obliged to use their services if you aren't satisfied.

Recommended Reading

- [Wedding Cakes](#)

[Create Your Own Wedding Flowers](#)

Part 4 – BRIDAL PARTY DRESSES AND SUITS

Quote: The love we give away is the only love we keep.

- Elbert Hubbar

Once you have decided upon your own wedding dress and a suit that your partner will be wearing then it is time to look at the dresses of your bridesmaids if you intend having bridesmaids in your wedding plans.

The bridesmaid's dresses should complement yours but they should also be chosen with the bridesmaids input to ensure that they also feel good on the day and look their best by wearing a dress that complements their personalities and their colours.

By getting your bridesmaids involved in choosing the dresses they will feel a lot more comfortable with the final decision and they will also be doing their part to help you with the planning and decision making and that can help to relieve some of your stress.

Try to get a flow with all aspects of the wedding so that even the flowers that you choose for yourself, and those that your bridesmaids will have and any other members of the bridal party will be the same as or complimentary to the floral arrangements that are used to decorate the reception or any other aspect of the wedding day.

By coordinating all these various aspects you will get a very professional look to the wedding and this will enhance the photos and show that a lot of care and decision-making has gone into making your wedding such a special day.

Suits for the best man and any other men in the bridal party should also be chosen at the time that the groomsman decides upon the style of his suit, once again creating a coordinated and professional look to the whole of the bridal party.

These should all be fitted before the wedding and booked well in advance to ensure that there are no problems with a shortage of suits on the big day.

One aspect that many people overlook, that can have quite a big impact particularly in the wedding photographs, is to get everybody to wear the same type and style of shoes. These can be hired along with the suits to save.

Recommended Reading

[Amazing Wedding Planning](#)

Part 5 – WEDDING INVITATIONS

Quote

A happy marriage is a new beginning of life, a new starting point for happiness and usefulness.

- Dean Stanley

Sorting out your wedding invitations can be a stressful time for many people as it becomes difficult to decide who should and who shouldn't come to your wedding.

These decisions are often determined by your finances where it is just not practical to invite everybody you would like to come to your wedding and obviously this causes concern over whether you will be offending people by not inviting them.

The reality of the matter is there are only a limited number of people that you will be able to invite and they should be your friends and family that are closest to you.

These are the people who you associate with throughout the year rather than those you feel obliged to invite whether you have seen them in the last 12 months not.

You have to realise that this is your day and you want to celebrate it with those people whom you care about the most and who you believe should be there to share this special occasion.

When you look back on your wedding in the years to come it is nice to think that the people who you wanted to be there were there for you.

Throughout your life people come and go but those who are special to you at the time of your wedding are the ones that you need to consider adding to your invitation list.

Plan your list like any other aspect of the wedding by writing a comprehensive list of everybody who you would consider coming.

Then you need to take into account the expense of having those people and start reducing the list accordingly until you have your final decision that you feel happiest with.

If you and your future husband are happy with the final outcome then that is all that really matters.

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Recommended Reading

[USA - WEDDING STATIONERY & FAVOURS](#)

[UK - WEDDING INVITES](#)

Part 6 – WEDDING POETRY

Quote

You were born together, and together you shall be for evermore - but let there be spaces in your togetherness. And let the winds of the heavens dance between you.

- Kahlil Gibran

A lot of people like to include poetry in their wedding invitations and also in their VOWS.

Some people also like to recite poems at the reception and this can add a really nice touch to the speeches.

You can get some good ideas for wedding poetry from wedding cards and these might even help inspire you or your partner to create your own poems for the wedding.

One relatively simple way to help you write your own poetry for your wedding is to write down all the words and comments that you would like to say in a series of sentences and then go to a site like www.rhymezone.com on the internet and find words that rhyme with the words at the end of each sentence.

By rearranging the sentences and making appropriate changes you can create your own poetry that will be unique to your wedding ceremony.

The rearrangement of the words might mean you will need to add or remove phrases until you have a nice flowing poem.

You will need to read it out aloud as this is the best way to see whether the poem flows or whether you need to add or remove 'filler' words.

It can be fun writing your own wedding poetry however if you or your partner find it too difficult to get it sounding as you would like then you might need to consider using some prewritten wedding poetry that you should be able to find with a search on the internet or as previously mentioned from wedding cards.

You can even use this poetry as a base for the foundation of your own poems where you just need to substitute specific words so the poem relates to you and your partner.

It's also worthwhile asking friends or family if any of them are good at writing poems as they could help you out to get your own unique wedding poetry.

You might be surprised how many people you know who are good at writing poems.

Recommended Reading

[LOVE LETTERS](#)

Part 7 – WEDDING HAIRSTYLES

Quote

The sum which two married people owe to one another defies calculation.

It is an infinite debt, which can only be discharged through all eternity.

- Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Decide well beforehand on the hairstyle that you will be having on your wedding day and make sure that you use your regular hairdresser or choose someone that you can trust and book them well in advance to make sure they are available on the day.

Get them to prepare your hair in the weeks preceding your wedding so you can see that you will be satisfied with the final results and make any changes sooner rather than later to ensure that you will get the right look on the day.

Let your hairdresser know what your wedding dress will look like and also the flower arrangements that you will be having as this can influence the style of hair that will look most appropriate.

Your hairdresser might even need some flowers to add to your hair so make sure that they are delivered early enough on the day to be included in your hair preparation.

One other factor that you might need to consider is whether you will have a backup hairdresser should anything untoward happen to the one that you plan to have preparing your hair on the day.

As your wedding is a one time event you need to make sure that you have all contingencies covered as anything can go wrong.

Make sure also that your backup hairdresser knows precisely what type of hairstyle is required.

You could even take some photos of your preparatory hair style so that you have something to show should another hairdresser be needed.

In addition to all these points that you need to remember you should also phone your hairdresser in the days before the wedding to see that everything is in order and once again on the day or night before the wedding as a last minute checkup and reminder.

Recommended Reading

[USA - HAIR EXTENSIONS & HAIR PIECES](#)

[UK - 1001 Forever Beauty Tips](#)

Part 8 – WEDDING SONGS

Quote

No, there's nothing half so sweet in life as love's young dream.

- Thomas Moore

The choice of your wedding song is very important as this is something that will continue to bring back memories of the happy day for years to come each time that you hear the song played.

You and your partner should try to choose a song that means something special to the two of you.

There is no set rule that states you must have one wedding song as the main song for your wedding so consider having a couple of songs if you feel that you would both like to choose songs that have some special meaning for the both of you.

Many people also like to choose songs that will fit in with the theme of the wedding and this is particularly important if you have a special theme that requires specific music.

If you are having a theme wedding then this will also probably dictate most of the other music that you will choose particularly if there is a dance after the reception.

You will also need to consider how this music will be played and whether you will have a live band, a DJ or record your own selections of music for the whole wedding.

The expense of hiring musicians or DJ's will also have some influence on what you choose.

It makes a nice touch if you can afford a live musician to play your wedding music however if you do make that choice then make sure that you see them performing live at other venues before you make a final decision.

At least you will know that you will get a professional result if the music is recorded.

And don't forget to double check the sound system and even consider having a backup source of music should anything go wrong with your first choice.

Recommended Reading

[MUSIC](#)

Part 9 – WEDDING FLOWERS & ARRANGEMENTS

Quote

When you love someone all your saved up wishes start coming out.

- Elizabeth Bowen

There is such a huge variety of lovely flower arrangements that are available these days that it can be difficult to decide on which arrangement to use.

Fortunately there are a lot of magazines that feature the various wedding arrangements that will help with your decision-making.

Another good area of research is with the flower companies that have their businesses online on the Internet as they are catering to a vast market and they generally have the widest range of flower arrangements available.

They are also up with the latest trends - and yes there are trends with flower arrangements that change from year to year.

If the wedding party clothing is in neutral colours then it makes it a lot easier to choose whichever flowers you prefer. If the bridesmaids have specific colours in their dresses then you will need to coordinate the flowers with these so the overall look of the wedding party is cohesive.

When choosing your flowers and the colour schemes that you intend to use they will need to complement your clothing, your bridesmaids clothing and the decorations that you intend to use at your reception and even your choice and decoration on your wedding vehicles.

All the decisions made in the planning of your wedding flowers should consider all aspects of the wedding just as you would if you were painting a picture.

This is where a wedding planner can come in handy as they are experienced at planning the whole process and know how to put the whole package together to look as one.

Flowers are so important that it is well worth spending your time on good research.

You should also consider getting your flowers from a reputable online flower store as they are in the business of delivering flowers in top condition on time all the time and this is so important on your wedding day.

Recommended Reading

[USA florist- Nationwide Same Day Delivery](#)

[Create Your Own Wedding Flowers](#)

Part 10 –WEDDING RINGS

Quote

Marriage is a book of which the first chapter is written in poetry and the remaining chapters written in prose.

- Beverly Nichols

Many people have broken with tradition when it comes to wedding rings these days and often they will only get the one ring that serves both as a wedding and an engagement ring.

This is purely up to the individual and also, as with everything else in the wedding arrangements there is the limiting factor of finances that will determine to some extent what type of ring or rings are purchased.

Depending on the type of ring that you prefer you will usually find that there are vast differences in the prices that the various jewelers will charge so time taken getting prices can save you a lot of money.

Many men don't like to wear rings and this is a personal preference that will need to be discussed between the bride and groom.

There can be many reasons why men don't like to wear a ring and the upside of that is you can afford to spend more on your own ring.

With men there are often other practical factors that need to be taken into account with their decision whether or not they will wear a ring.

With certain professions it is actually dangerous for the man to wear a ring that could get caught in machinery or similar circumstances.

If you and your partner have differences as to what should be expected with the ring selection then take your time and discuss all aspects of this and treat it as a process of improving your communication skills while allowing each other to enjoy the freedom to still be able to express their own personal preferences even though there is now another person to consider in their life.

The rings are merely a symbol and not as important as the true feelings and the trust that you have for one another.

Recommended Reading

[ENGAGEMENT AND WEDDING RINGS](#)

Part 11 – WEDDING FAVOURS

Quote

When you meet someone who can cook and do housework, don't hesitate a minute
- marry him.
- Anonymous

Choosing your wedding favours can be a lot of fun and this form of gratitude goes a long way to show the guests that you have at your reception that you appreciate them for being there.

Wedding favours are big business these days and a whole industry has sprung up offering many and varied different types of wedding favours to cater for the increased demand.

Good wedding favours can be relatively inexpensive however depending on the number of guests you have at the reception, as with anything else, the costs can soon mount up.

You might even like to consider creating your own wedding favours as many people appreciate the fact that you have gone to the effort of creating something yourself and taken the time to show your appreciation by putting that into your own personalised wedding favour.

You might even like to try something completely different and this can only be limited by your own imagination. Surprises such as this are often the things that many people will talk about in the years to come whenever they think about your marriage.

It's quite nice if you can tie in the wedding favour with the overall theme of your wedding including the colours.

If the favour is something more permanent rather than chocolates or some other food item then people will be able to keep it as a memento of the day.

You might find that elderly guests in particular like the fact that they can have something that they can treasure as a reminder of your wedding in the years to come.

Even the wedding favours that are available for purchase at the major stores can be personalised with the name of you and your partner on them and this can be done for a relatively small expense in most cases.

You can also give a slightly different wedding favour to your family and members of the bridal party as an extra special sign of appreciation for their help and support.

Recommended Reading

[USA - WEDDING STATIONERY & FAVOURS](#)

[UK - WEDDING STATIONERY](#)

Part 12 – WEDDING DRESS

Quote

We come to love not by finding the perfect person, but by learning to see an imperfect person perfectly.

- Sam Keen

A wedding dress is one of the most important aspects of your wedding planning and you can spend a lot of money on getting the dress that you desire.

Don't leave this to the last-minute particularly if you are getting your dress made for you as it can become very stressful if the final fitting is left to the last-minute.

This also applies to any other dresses or clothing for other members of the wedding party.

If you are dieting or anticipating reducing weight before your wedding then still get a dress fitting done well in advance and allow for changes to be made right up to the date of your wedding.

Don't leave the overall choice and fitting of your wedding dress too late as there have been many occasions where brides have been stressed on their wedding day trying to get their dress sorted.

As with any other aspect of your wedding you should try various different wedding dresses to see which one looks the best on you. Get wedding magazines and books and have a look at what other brides are wearing to see what the current fashions are and to find a style that suits you.

It is only through doing this research and trying the dresses on that you will find the one that you will be happiest with.

There are so many styles available that you have a virtually unlimited choice and quite often it is a lot easier to find a pre-made dress than to get one specifically made and find that it is not something you are completely happy with.

You can always have a standard dress modified to your requirements once you know that it is what you want.

Generally this is a cheaper option than getting a dressmaker to make a dress specifically for you as it is not until you try the dress on that you can be 100% sure whether you like it or not.

You can also be assured of the quality of the dress making and the details with a ready made dress and you still have the option to add accessories or make any changes that you see fit.

Recommended Reading

[Amazing Wedding Planning](#)

Part 13 – WEDDING INVITATION WORDING

Quote

Love is blind, but marriage restores its sight.

- Georg C. Lichtenberg

One of the big stumbling blocks that many people seem to have when they are planning their wedding is the wording that they should put in the wedding invitations.

The simple solution is to always put in your wedding invitation words that you would use when talking to the people you are inviting even if you anticipate having a completely formal wedding.

You are after all inviting your close friends and family and there is nothing better than a personal touch that actually emphasizes your personality when inviting them to your special occasion.

Put words in your invitation that you would like to have sent to you. Words that would make you feel special about being invited to somebody else's wedding.

Keep it light free and happy and make people feel as excited about your wedding day as you are.

Discuss it with your partner and bounce ideas off each other - This makes a lot easier than sitting down on your own trying to write up an invitation.

If you're the sort of person who likes to joke and fool around then add some humor to your invitation and make people laugh and smile when they read it.

There are no set guidelines with any aspect of your wedding and your wedding invitations are no different.

The freedom is yours to do exactly what you like at your wedding and your wedding invitations should emphasize that fact to everyone who is coming.

Once you have prepared the wording for your invitations let them sit for a while and go back to them after a week or two to see whether you still happy with the final outcome.

Often a reread can make you change your mind where you might consider other things to be more appropriate.

By getting everything done well ahead of time you have more opportunity to make changes before the deadline to send them out.

Recommended Reading

[UK - WEDDING STATIONERY](#)

Part 14 – HAIR STYLES

Quote

Only two things are necessary to keep one's wife happy. One is to let her think she is having her own way, the the other, to let her have it.

- Lyndon B. Johnson

To ensure that your hair style is the best possible on your wedding day there is nothing like getting professional advice from hairdressers who have had the experience of preparing the hair of others on their wedding days.

While the most important thing to remember is how your hair will look on the day it is also a good idea to keep in the back of your mind any other woman who are a part your wedding party, such as your bridesmaids, and if at all possible have them get a similar hair style or one that will complement yours on the day.

This can be quite difficult to achieve if your bridesmaids have completely different hair and hair styles to yours but it is just another factor in the fine tuning of your wedding that can make a lot of difference particularly in the wedding photos.

If you have chosen a specific theme for your wedding then it can make all the difference if your bridesmaids follow along with that theme and in doing so have the appropriate hair styles to complement the theme.

It will certainly spoil the wedding photos if you have a traditional theme yet one of your bridesmaids had a punk rock hair style.

You might even need to consider who you choose to be your bridesmaids if this is going to have an impact on the overall look of your wedding photos and whether or not you will have any bridesmaids at all.

Once again it is your decision to choose what you like and if others are unwilling to comply with your requests then you need to make decisions accordingly to ensure that your day goes as planned.

Maintain good nutrition in the months leading up to the wedding and only use quality hair products to ensure that your hair is in top condition and looks healthy on the day.

Recommended Reading

[USA - HAIR EXTENSIONS & HAIR PIECES](#)

[UK - 1001 Forever Beauty Tips](#)

Part 15 – WEDDING PROGRAMS

Quote

Chains do not hold a marriage together.

It is threads, hundreds of tiny threads which sew people together through the years.

That is what makes a marriage last - more than passion or even sex!

- Simone Signoret

Having decided on your flowers will make it a lot easier to prepare your invitations and any other stationery that is required for your wedding.

By having the same colour and style of flowers on your stationery it goes another step further towards making the whole wedding look like a professionally prepared occasion.

You can see how the importance of taking the time initially to do your research and planning, with the input of your partner and other people who are involved in the wedding party, can make everything go a lot smoother and cause in a lot less stress.

It will also give you a final result that looks considerably better than if all the elements are decided individually.

By getting yourself diary specifically for your wedding planning it can make the whole process a lot easier as you will be able to determine how much time you have left to get jobs done and you will also be able to keep a record of when and where you have booked people.

This diary will become all the more important in the period just before the wedding when things can get hectic allowing you the reassurance that you will have

remembered everything without the need to be concerned about forgetting vital parts of the wedding.

If you give other people specific jobs to do write this in your diary as well and mark a time when they should have the job done. Be sure to get back to them prior to this date to check on progress as many people procrastinate and don't get their jobs done when they should do, no matter how much time they are given.

Running late for any aspect of your wedding is a sure way of becoming stressed and that is something you want to avoid at all costs.

If people can't get their jobs done in due time, then they need to know that they will be replaced by somebody else who you can rely on as your wedding is too important to be disrupted by individuals like that.

Recommended Reading

[Amazing Wedding Planning](#)

Part 16 – WEDDING PHOTOS

Quote

Love does not consist of gazing at each other, but in looking together in the same direction.

- Antoine de Saint-Exupery

The quality of your wedding photos is extremely important as they are your chance to capture the moments for life so it is well worth taking plenty of time to get the best photographer possible dependant once again on finances.

If you are working to a tight budget then it might be necessary to rely on family and friends to take the photos of your wedding and if that is the case then make sure that you have several people taking the photos so you have a wider selection to choose from.

Where there are no professional photographers present you are going to have to rely on quantity to help you find the quality shots that you will be pleased with.

Fortunately these days most people seem to have access to digital cameras so it isn't going to cost any more for them to take hundreds of photos and that will allow you a wider selection to choose from.

These digital cameras have very high resolutions with even medium priced ones offering almost professional quality prints and one other aspect of digital photography that will play into your favour is that fact that you can use these digital images and enhance and manipulate them with programs such as Photoshop to get a truly professional image.

It might even be well worth investing in a good digital camera yourself as you can get someone to use it for taking photos at your wedding and then you can then take it away on your honeymoon to capture all the images of that too.

They are a relatively small investment for the ongoing enjoyment that they can bring with the unlimited photos that you will be able to take.

There are even services available these days where professionals can take your digital images and upgrade them for you with digital imaging allowing you to only pay for the specific images that you have chosen as special.

Recommended Reading

[HOW TO PHOTOGRAPH A WEDDING
PHOTOGRAPHER](#)

Part 17 – WEDDING TOASTS

Quote

Love is composed of a single soul inhabiting two bodies.

- Aristotle

Wedding toasts can be a fun time for everybody where individuals get the chance to celebrate the wedding couple and also those people who are or are unable to attend the wedding.

The wedding toasts can be at any time of your choosing like anything else with the wedding.

Generally the toasts will be done either before or after the meal but feel free to do whatever suits you even if you feel you would like people to get up and make toasts during the meal.

If the food has been prepared and your guests are hungry and waiting, then it might be wise to leave the toasts until after the main course as often people get a bit agitated if they are waiting for their food and it is being delayed by somebody who is talking.

Sometimes even the best laid plans change in the course of the day, and when that happens you really just need to go with the flow and enjoy the occasion without getting stressed.

If you have any specific people you would like to toast yourself this should also be listed in your wedding plans to make sure that you don't forget on the day and it is a wise decision to keep a little note with you with reminders of particular aspects such as this that you don't want to miss out on doing.

You might also like to consider nominating a person as toastmaster who can control the toasts and the people talking and ensure that the whole reception process runs smoothly just as a conductor would do with an orchestra.

Ask friends or family to see if anybody would like the job as toastmaster taking into account the fact that most people will generally prefer not to speak in front of a crowd.

If you can't get someone you know to act as toastmaster then you might need to hire a professional for the job.

It will cost more money but at least you know it will be a polished performance and they usually know how to 'work' the crowd if you give them sufficient input beforehand.

Recommended Reading

[WEDDING SPEECHES](#)

PART 18 – WEDDING IDEAS

Quote

To love someone deeply gives you strength. Being loved by someone deeply gives you courage.

- Lao Tzu

A good place to get wedding ideas is from the many different wedding magazines and books that are available.

There are also many wedding books that you can get through the local libraries but many of these are sometimes outdated so current magazines are the best choice.

A lot of people like to style their weddings these days based on celebrity weddings that they have seen and that might be one area that you could take a look at the get some ideas.

You can also go to the local churches and reception areas when you know there are weddings in progress to see what other people are wearing and doing to give you ideas for your own wedding.

Go to the wedding shops and look at the way that they display the wedding gowns to give you some idea of the combinations of materials and how they will work with the various bouquets and other flower arrangements.

Most of the shops will have wedding albums that you can look through and if you see something that you like it is easier to copy knowing that it will look right rather than trying to create your own style if you don't have professional advice to put it all together properly.

Even look at the window displays at the various wedding shops to see all the other ancillary displays that they have to help promote their dresses as these will also help to add flair to your wedding and particularly at the display at the reception.

The more you look around and see what other people are doing the more ideas you will get which will make the whole process a lot easier.

There is so much information that is freely available, that giving yourself enough time planning for the wedding, will ensure you create a theme that you can be happy with on almost any budget.

Recommended Reading

[Amazing Wedding Planning](#)

PART 19 – WEDDING PLANNING

Quote

Marriage is that relation between man and woman in which the independence is equal, the dependence mutual, and the obligation reciprocal.

- Louis K. Anspacher

Where there are important jobs that need to be done on the day of your wedding you need to consider who you will make responsible for these jobs whether they are family, friends, or somebody that you need to pay to ensure that you get the job done right and on time.

While it might be nice to get members of your family and friends involved in these important jobs, if you know that they are unreliable you will be doing yourself a disservice to leave the responsibility in their hands.

It might be better to get them involved in something else as you don't want any last-minute hiccups destroying your plans and this can happen so easily when the wrong people get involved.

While these decisions might be difficult for you to make, where you don't allow friends and family to get involved in specific aspects of your wedding, the important thing to remember is that everything needs to be run efficiently as it is such an important day in your life that will be remembered forever.

When people can't do the job efficiently they need to be replaced with somebody who can whether they like it or not.

Obviously you want to be diplomatic when friends and family are involved so that is why you need to sit down with your partner and go through the planning process

well in advance to determine who will do what and how you can keep other people happy without affecting your wedding outcome and your happiness on the day.

It is your day to plan how you and your partner like and that is something that you must remember throughout the whole process.

If people truly think of your best interests then they will be happy to help where they can, according to your instruction.

Sometimes this is the reason why people employ wedding planners who can go about running the wedding as they would do in any business and make decisions that could otherwise cause problems if they are made by you or your partner.

Recommended Reading

[Amazing Wedding Planning](#)

PART 20 – WEDDING NIGHT

Quote: If you press me to say why I loved him, I can say no more than it was because he was he and I was I.

- Michel Montaigne

People can often experience many different emotions on their wedding night as the buildup to the wedding can last months and there is a lot of stressful decisions and work that go into creating your wedding even if you have employed the help of a wedding planner.

Feelings of anxiety and other extreme emotions can be felt by one or both partners and the other partner needs to realise that this can be a normal occurrence at the end of all the preparation.

Even the planning of the honeymoon can be extremely stressful and where this involves flying to other countries the hours spent in air travel can bring about jetlag and extreme tiredness where emotions can become frayed.

Take your time and relax as much as possible as you have a lifetime ahead of you to consider everything that has been happening.

It might be best to plan a relaxing and stress free honeymoon rather than an adventure holiday if there have been any stressful times leading up to the wedding.

Many people often find that quiet time alone after the wedding is exactly what they need and the wedding night in particular might be the night that you get the best sleep you have had in a long time as all the stress and worry in the buildup to the wedding is over.

Don't place any great expectations on your wedding night or you might be disappointed as this is just one night in a lifetime together.

When there are no conditions placed on one another and no expectations then you will often find that you have a more relaxed approach and extreme emotions are unlikely to occur.

It is often not until you have unwound on your honeymoon that you can look back at all those little moments of your wedding and enjoy the things that made the day so special to you.

Recommended Reading

[Amazing Wedding Planning](#)

Part 21 – WEDDING SPEECHES

Quote: And think not you can guide the course of love. For love, if it finds you worthy, shall guide your course.

- Kahil Gibran

Wedding speeches can make or break the reception so you need to be very careful about whom you allow to make speeches at your wedding.

You must remember all the time that you and your partner are running the show and you get the full and final say on what happens at your wedding and that includes who speaks and to a certain extent what they say.

Generally, as you know the personality of the person who will be giving a speech, you will know whether you can trust them to refrain from saying anything embarrassing.

It has happened many times at weddings where a speech can get a bit out of hand if the person enjoys the limelight and talks too much or says the wrong things.

Jokes can often fall flat at weddings unless the person delivering them is adept at making other people laugh and in most cases it pays to err on the cautious side when adding too many jokes to the wedding speech.

Of course you want to keep your wedding a happy and fun event but it can get quite embarrassing when one joke after another falls flat.

Where possible discuss the topics that the person giving the speech will be covering beforehand and let them know if there are any matters that you would prefer them not to talk about and ask them to respect your wishes.

You don't want to have anything on your day that causes you any anxiety in any way and if everything else has been well planned and executed then the wedding speeches are the only area where you don't have full control apart from who you choose to allow to talk.

Many people are very uncomfortable at public speaking and even though they might be surrounded by friends and family it can be a harrowing event so you need to discuss this with anyone who you have asked to talk on your wedding day to ensure that they don't get stage fright at the last moment.

Recommended Reading

[WEDDING SPEECHES](#)

Part 22 – WEDDING GIFTS

Quote

**There is nothing that binds heart to heart so
Quickly and safely as to trust and be trusted.**

- Anonymous

These days when everybody seems to be so busy doing so many different things it makes sense to create a wedding list as a practical solution for those people who are unsure what to buy you as a wedding gift.

Many people are uneasy about creating these lists as there can be reluctance for some people to show that they are expecting a gift.

While you might have similar feelings the fact is; you are actually making the task of buying your gifts a lot easier for people if you create a register of gifts.

There are of course many different alternative approaches that you can use and one such approach that a lot of people have been using in recent years is to simply charge your guests a set fee to help cover the costs of the wedding in preference to receiving a gift.

This makes it a lot easier for all involved as you won't be getting gifts that you will not use and the people coming to your wedding will not have to spend their valuable time looking for a gift. It will be no more difficult for them than going out to a restaurant and paying for the meal.

Some people see this as losing a bit of the personal touch but the simple fact of the matter is it can be a lot more beneficial to you by covering the costs of the wedding and a lot easier for your guests who don't need to be concerned whether they are

buying the right present or not or whether they are spending enough on the purchase of your present.

It does take a lot of stress out of the gift buying process for a lot of people and is appreciated for that reason.

It is certainly well worth considering all the alternatives well in advance and some of these decisions will be based on the type of people that you are inviting to your wedding.

Recommended Reading

[USA - WEDDING STATIONERY & FAVOURS](#)

[UK - WEDDING STATIONERY](#)

Part 23 – WEDDING FLOWERS AND BOUQUETS

Quote

**Come live with me and be my love,
And we will some new pleasures prove
Of golden sands and crystal brooks,
With silken lines and silver hooks.**

- John Donne

You can spend a small fortune on wedding bouquets but they are like icing on the cake.

They are the dressing that can transform a wedding dress from beautiful to stunning or a photograph from plain to perfect.

Flowers can add the finishing touches to the reception tables and be a talking point for years to come.

They are the arrangements around the wedding cake and on the wedding cake table that can make almost any cake look impressive when designed and displayed correctly.

They can make your wedding photographs look bright and colourful and mirror your own personality.

Make sure that you look at all your options before deciding on your wedding bouquets and don't be satisfied with what is available at your local florist if you've seen something elsewhere that you desire.

If your florist can't deliver the arrangements that you want then look elsewhere as there are a lot of options available to you.

The big online flower retailers can get you almost anything you like even from other parts of the world if you so desire. It really is just a matter of finding what you want and paying for it.

Finances will dictate what you can afford in many instances but this is one area where you shouldn't shortchange if possible.

You can get quotes from the various different flower suppliers and often you will be able to save money by getting all your flower arrangements from the one place. It will certainly make the coordination of your wedding plans a lot easier.

Make sure that anyone you use has a good reputation and preferably find someone you know who has used the same supplier and can testify to the good service and quality of the flowers.

There are many options available so don't be satisfied with anything other than the best for you.

Recommended Reading

[USA florist- Nationwide Same Day Delivery](#)

[Create Your Own Wedding Flowers](#)

Part 24 – WEDDING ETIQUETTE

Quote

No cord or cable can draw so forcibly, or bind so fast, as love can do with a single thread.

- Robert Burton

Wedding etiquette is something that concerns a lot of people during their planning however here is the most important thing that you need to know about wedding etiquette...

You should feel free to do what you like on your wedding day provided it doesn't cause distress or embarrassment to anybody else.

This is unlikely to happen as the people you will be inviting to your wedding will be friends and family -- people who you care for and as such you will also care about their feelings.

You should also expect the same treatment from others. Everybody should just be acting naturally and having a fun day.

Certain theme weddings will require specific wedding etiquette and that is something that you must realise if you're planning on a theme wedding.

If you or your partner have specific ethnic backgrounds then it is possible that there are requirements that need to be met to keep all parties happy.

Differing religious backgrounds can also influence many aspects of the wedding and once again these need to be taken into account in the planning process to ensure that everybody is at ease and there is no embarrassing situation that could cause distress.

A lot of the traditional expectations of weddings are no longer adhered to as people prefer to do their own thing and this freestyle approach to wedding planning has made available a lot more choices in the planning process.

It is not necessarily made the job of preparing your wedding any easier but it can make a lot more fun.

Younger generations have become a lot more open to alternative wedding plans and while the older guests at your wedding might not be accustomed to this they are bound to enjoy the fact that you are unique and will be expressing your personality at your wedding.

Recommended Reading

[Amazing Wedding Planning](#)

Part 25 – WEDDING SUPPLIES

Quote

We are shaped and fashioned by what we love.

- Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

There are many businesses that are specifically involved in wedding supplies having everything that you would need for your wedding.

There are two things that you need to consider when contacting these businesses and they both revolve around your expenditure.

By going to the one location and dealing with somebody who deals with weddings on a regular basis you can save yourself money as they are set up to supply exactly what is needed as you would expect from a business such as that.

This should not however stop you from getting quotes elsewhere because you might find that with a little bit of shopping around and the right research you can save yourself money by getting the various different wedding supplies from more than one supplier.

Alternatively you can look at several wedding supply companies and take note of what they offer and what they are charging for their services and if you find one that you prefer more than the others, yet the price is slightly higher, you can discuss this fact with them and possibly get a better rate to attract their business.

They might have a schedule of fixed rates but most people are willing to negotiate to retain your business particularly if it involves a reasonable sum of money.

It also helps if you have been recommended by other people who have used them and have been happy with the service that they supplied.

By mentioning that you have come to them on the recommendation of other people and the fact that you will do the same provided they give you a good service you can often get a reduction in their rates.

Some people even make a suggestion to various different businesses about sponsoring certain parts of the wedding where their name will be present unobtrusively on certain wedding materials; an example of this would be a logo on the back of the wedding invitations.

This is just another way that you might like to consider to reduce the cost of your wedding and it is becoming a common practice with many people.

Recommended Reading

[USA - WEDDING STATIONERY & FAVOURS](#)

[UK - WEDDING STATIONERY & PERSONALISED GIFTS](#)

Part 26 – HOMEMADE WEDDING INVITATIONS

Quote

Love is perhaps the only glimpse we are permitted of eternity.

- Helen Hayes

You can save a lot of money by making your own homemade wedding invitations and not only that, some people who can afford to get their wedding invitations made often prefer to make them themselves just as another personalised touch to the wedding plans.

With digital cameras and digital imaging on computers it is a lot easier these days for people to create their own homemade wedding invitations.

There are many different forms you can choose for the words and most art shops have a wide range of papers that you can print your wedding invitations on.

It can add a lot to the excitement and anticipation of the wedding if you and your partner go out choosing the products that you will be using to make your wedding invitations.

You can also choose photographs of yourselves that you can add to your invitations and these can even include some special moments in your life that you would like to share with other people.

You can get good ideas by looking at the commercial wedding invitations that are available and even get samples of these to help you plan your own wedding invitations.

By saving the expense of going to a commercial printer or buying standard wedding invitations you can come up with something a lot more creative and the money that is saved can go into other areas of your wedding or your honeymoon.

It is still well worth considering particularly if there is enough time before your wedding date and you aren't rushed to get things done.

The initial cost of the materials to see whether you can produce something that is suitable is minimal and if all else fails you can always go back and order your wedding invitations from a professional service.

The process of trying to create your own will help you to get what you like if you do need to resort to a commercial supplier.

Recommended Reading

[WEDDING STATIONERY](#)

[LOVE LETTERS](#)

Part 27 – WEDDING RECEPTION

Quote

Love is the only gold.

- Alfred Lord Tennyson

Along with all the variety that people are adding to their weddings these days is the fact that people are choosing various different types of receptions that best suit their needs and their personalities.

While receptions at lunch or dinner time are still the most popular there are people who are having wedding receptions at other times of the day and often these are arranged to coincide with their honeymoon plans or other factors that make it more convenient to have a reception possibly in the morning or at brunch.

This also affects the type of catering and the costs involved in your wedding reception and can often be a lot more cost-effective to have your reception earlier in the day where different foods and alcohol are consumed and also where any after reception party might not be included in the wedding plans.

If you're planning a wedding on a budget then it is well worth considering alternate times for your reception as a cost saving exercise while still adding a bit of variety and personalisation to your wedding.

There are other factors that can also save you money by having your reception earlier in the day even to the extent of paying less for any musicians that you require as it will be at a time of day when there is less demand for their work and you can usually get it at a reduced rate.

Other things that need to be considered when determining what time you will have your reception include the season that you will be getting married in and whether you can rely on the weather to be suitable during that time of the year.

Once again you should keep an open mind and not stick to specific guidelines if you prefer to do something different or if your finances or personal situation dictate alternative preparations.

Recommended Reading

[Amazing Wedding Planning](#)

Part 28 – THE GROOM'S SUIT

Quote

Love is, above all, the gift of oneself.

- Jean Anouilh

Just as there are many options available for wedding dresses there is a wide range of suits available for the groom and time needs to be taken to make the best selection that not only fits him well but compliments the brides dress.

It's not necessary to buy a suit as there are many places now that will offer suits for hire and that allows you to choose from a wide variety of different styles and get the suit that you desire without having to worry about the expense of purchasing it.

It goes without saying that the wedding dress is the foundation for the design of the rest of the wedding including everything from the flowers to the bridesmaids dresses and the groom's suit.

It makes it a lot easier to stick with a theme where all elements of the wedding compliment one another.

Fortunately with the availability of suit hire businesses it has become a lot easier for the groom to get a suit that fits with the theme that has been determined by the wedding dress.

The groom should have a fitting well before the wedding to ensure that the suit is not only in keeping with the rest of the wedding design but is also comfortable to wear for the wedding. That specific suit needs to be booked for the wedding day and picked up beforehand to ensure that there are no problems.

Shoes, socks, ties and all other elements of the groom's attire can also be hired from these businesses so it is only a matter of doing the research beforehand to find the suit that you desire at the price that is within your financial means to get that aspect of the wedding planning sorted.

Once again you can save money by shopping around and getting prices from the various different hire companies and these savings can be put towards other wedding expenses.

Recommended Reading

[Amazing Wedding Planning](#)

Part 29 – WEIGHT LOSS FOR YOUR WEDDING

Quote

The goal in marriage is not to think alike, but to think together.

- Robert C. Dodds

While on the subject of weight loss it is something that needs to be mentioned if you are considering losing weight before your wedding.

Rapid weight loss can bring about all sorts of problems including heightened levels of stress and other health-related problems that can actually make you look drained and unhealthy on your wedding day.

If you do intend to lose weight then do it on a slow steady basis ensuring that your nutritional needs are met at all times so that you look healthy and glowing on your wedding day.

There will be additional stress in preparing for your wedding and this in itself can place additional nutritional demands on your body and by combining that with a weight-loss program could have a detrimental effect on the way that you look on your special day.

Consider well ahead of your wedding day whether you do intend to reduce weight and start sooner rather than later and be sure to supplement your diet with suitable vitamins and minerals to ensure that you remain healthy and look healthy on the day.

By giving yourself plenty of time to get in shape it will ensure that you get the desired results and actually enjoy your day fully.

Part of that planning process has to take into account the fact that any reduction in weight will require adjustments to be made to your wedding dress and you need to know that you will have somebody suitable to make those adjustments right up to the last-minute so that your dress fits well and emphasizes your shape to the fullest.

By maintaining your nutritional needs while on a diet other factors such as your hair condition and your fingernails will look their best on your wedding day.

If your weight-loss program includes any form of exercise make sure that you don't injure yourself before your wedding day and honeymoon as this can have a dramatic effect on your ability to enjoy the occasion.

Recommended Reading

[Master Cleanse Secrets 10 Day Diet](#)

[BodyBot Fitness Software](#)

Part 30 – GETTING HELP FROM OTHERS

Quote

A kiss is a lovely trick designed by nature to stop speech when words become superfluous.

- Ingrid Bergman

As part of your wedding plan you need to consider your financial position and whether you can afford the particular wedding that you anticipate having.

If other people are helping with the finances such as your parents you also need to consider what they can afford and whether it will create undue stress on their finances.

It is possible to have a very happy and memorable wedding without over extending your finances but you might need to change your plans accordingly to do so.

You and your partner need to discuss all aspects of the wedding and the costs involved and then consider the amount of money that you have available to cover these costs.

By over extending on the wedding itself you could be reducing the opportunity to have a more expensive and pleasurable honeymoon and this needs to be taken into account to determine which of these two choices are the most important to you and your partner rather than what you believe is important to everybody else.

Create a list of wants and needs and then work out the cost of these so you can prioritise which of them are essential to ensure that you have the wedding of your dreams.

By taking the time to get costs and compare them from various different places, including everything from the wedding venue to minor expenses such as hiring suits, buying flowers, buying the wedding cake and so on you can save yourself a considerable amount of money that can be spent on other things that are equally important.

You also need to consider that quite often expenditure runs a little higher than anticipated as last-minute changes or additional expenses can occur.

If other people offer help in any way provided it doesn't encroach on your wedding plans it is well worth accepting this help to reduce any financial or other stress before the day.

You will often find that family and friends are only too willing to help as people like to get involved in other people's happy occasions. Once again remember that you are in control and only accept help that will be beneficial to you.

Part 31 – GETTING OTHERS INVOLVED

Quote

Love is the expansion of two natures in such fashion that each include the other, each is enriched by the other.

- Felix Adler

Your engagement period gives you time to plan everything that is necessary for the wedding to run smoothly on the day and also the preparation of the honeymoon afterwards.

It gives you time to make decisions together to determine exactly what you want while making sure that you're both in agreement on all aspects of the wedding and honeymoon as it is a time of sharing for both of you.

In planning your wedding you need to understand that it is your special day for you and your partner and nothing else should influence your decisions in making it your day.

While other people might like to get involved you need to control the planning details completely to ensure that you are not being influenced by other people as this is a day that needs to be remembered by you and your partner for life and you want to remember it as a day when everything went your way.

While it is good to get family and friends involved they need to understand that their involvement is only welcome if they understand that you are in control of the planning process and as it is your wedding things need to be done your way whether other people like it or not.

This can all be done in a friendly and helpful manner and once family and friends understand this they should be only too willing to help out and make the day go a lot smoother and happier for everyone involved.

By giving friends and family specific tasks they will feel as though they are part of the planning process as most people like to get involved.

They will also be helping you with some of the work load and in doing so the whole process of planning should become a lot easier and the result should be a lot happier and stress free wedding day.

Recommended Reading

[Amazing Wedding Planning](#)

Part 32 – WEDDING QUOTES AND SERVICES

Quote

Happy and thrice happy are those who enjoy an uninterrupted union, and whose love, unbroken by any sour complaints, shall not dissolve until the last day of their existence.

- Horace

If you intend getting your wedding planned by outsiders then make sure you get plenty of quotes prior to employing anybody because the difference you can pay between one person and another can be substantial.

Check out as many wedding planners as possible and only consider those where you can get references from people who have used them and have been well satisfied with their work.

Once you're satisfied that you have found a selection of good planners then it is time to start deciding which ones you are likely to use based on their costs and recommendations that you have received.

It is not always the most expensive ones that do the best job and that is why references are so important in the decision-making process.

Even if you are doing your own wedding planning then at every stage of the planning process you should be getting as many quotes as possible for each aspect of the wedding as you go through your list.

Once again while you are getting quotes get as many references as possible to determine where you are going to spend your money. Sometimes for a small amount more money you can be getting a lot of extra services.

Also try to work with people you feel comfortable talking to and those who you believe understand you and what you will need from them to be completely satisfied.

If you develop a good relationship with the people you are employing you will often find that they will go the extra mile to help you achieve your goals and you will end up getting more than your moneys worth.

The money that you save by taking the time getting wedding quotes can go towards your honeymoon or even setting yourself up at home after the wedding is over so this is time well spent.

Recommended Reading

[Amazing Wedding Planning](#)

Part 33 – POPULAR WEDDING SONGS

Quote

A good marriage is that in which each appoints the other guardian of their solitude.

- Rainer Maria Rilke

There are many popular songs that people associate with weddings however more and more people are choosing songs that are appropriate for their particular time in life.

Songs that are popular at the moment are quite nice to choose for wedding songs simply because when you look back in the years to come whenever you hear that particular song you will associate it with your wedding and with that time of your life.

People often choose songs that are currently their favourites to use at their wedding rather than the traditional wedding songs that most people have used in the past.

This can often add a more upbeat or relaxed tone to the day and the simple act of choosing something different will also help others remember the day too.

It is entirely up to you what you choose and what makes you feel good. It's nice if you and your partner can share a special song that means something to you or where the lyrics might have some special significance.

Sentimental moments attached to a song can have a huge impact that will be remembered for the rest of your life and there is nothing more important than your wedding day so take your time to choose something that you feel is appropriate and fitting for the occasion.

Obviously the lyrics of the song will have great importance for most people and you can find the lyrics for almost any song ever written by doing a search on the Internet.

You might find that your choice of song could change after you have thoroughly reviewed the words in the lyrics.

Even the instruments that are used to play the wedding song can completely change the mood of the moment so that is another factor that you should consider and could be a good reason for hiring a live musician.

Recommended reading

[Music](#)

Part 34 – BEACH WEDDINGS

Quote

When you make a sacrifice in marriage, you're sacrificing not to each other but to unity in a relationship.

- Joseph Campbell

Dependent upon the weather, a beach wedding can be a unique and memorable occasion that has flair and casualness yet retains the romantic aspect of the freedom of being able to get away to the beach and do as you please.

It is also an opportunity to have a wedding that people will remember without the expense that is associated with booking a reception venue and the other expenses that go hand in hand with more formal weddings.

You will need to choose a location where you will be able to have your wedding ceremony without the intrusion of outsiders who could affect your plans and there are other factors that you need to consider including who your guests will be and how they will cope with the conditions as some elderly guests might find it a little bit difficult on the beach.

There are of course always solutions to these problems and most of them are relatively cheap.

If you are living in an area where there are beautiful beaches within a reasonable distance from yourself, your friends and your family then it is well worth considering a beach wedding because the beach in itself will add beauty to the occasion.

If you cannot rely 100% on the weather then you will need to look at alternative venues should the weather make it unsuitable for you to have your beach wedding.

You will also need to consider the tide times and whether or not there will be sufficient room on the beach for the wedding party to perform the ceremony suitably.

Like any other venue good planning and preparation will make all the difference on the day and even though a beach wedding is a very casual affair there is still certain planning that needs to go into ensuring that there won't be any problems with that particular setup.

Part 35 – GETTING YOUR WEDDING COLOURS RIGHT

Quote

**I have spread my dreams beneath your feet;
Tread softly because you tread on my dreams.**

- W.B. Yeats

It is important to choose your wedding colours at the beginning of your wedding planning process as this will affect all aspects of the wedding from your dress and flowers to minor details such as the colours of your invitation cards and so on.

If you start with a base colour that you like and work with complimentary colours to the other aspects of the wedding then you should be relatively safe in creating a harmonious and visually pleasing wedding ceremony.

With theme weddings a lot of the colours will be determined by the theme and to some people this can actually make it a lot easier with choices.

It is often a good idea to have a discussion with your photographer before finalising your colours as these can have a dramatic effect on the outcome of your wedding photos.

A good photographer will be able to look at the venue, your own skin colours and that of your partner, your choices of clothing and flowers and any other factors that you have listed on your wedding checklist and give you a good idea of whether there will be anything that will have a detrimental effect on the photographs.

It is times like these that the advice of professionals is most welcome and can have a huge impact on so many other factors.

It is well worth investing the extra money if at all possible to get professional advice in these matters before you start spending the money on purchasing dresses flowers and so on.

If you were to hire a wedding planner they would coordinate all these various different aspects of the wedding and ensure that they will all tie in with one another for a harmonious event.

Don't fret if you can't afford this type of advice however because you can always copy other wedding arrangements where you find someone who has similar colours and preferences as your own.

Part 36 – WEDDING THEMES

Quote

Two souls with but a single thought - Two hearts that beat as one.

- Friedrich Halm

You need to make your wedding day a fun and memorable occasion and the best way to do this is to personalise the wedding procedure in a way that mirrors your own and your partner's personalities.

There are so many different aspects of the wedding day process that you can personalise and you should realise that you don't need to follow the usual wedding protocol just because that's what people expect.

Discuss all aspects of your wedding with your partner and make notes of what you would like to do on the day to ensure that it will be memorable and you will look back at it in the years to come remembering it is a really happy occasion.

Many people these days have theme weddings and these can be as subdued or outrageous as you like. It really doesn't matter what other people think provided you are having fun and your partner is to.

You should allow yourself plenty of time to plan for your wedding and particularly if you have a specific theme that involves a lot more planning.

It might be well worth considering getting a wedding planner in to help you with your preparations as they are doing this on a regular basis and know the shortcuts to help you have a happy and stress free day.

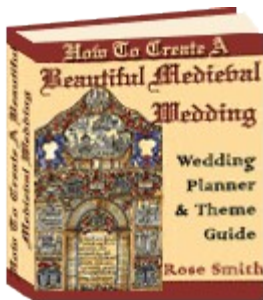
Talk to a few wedding planners first before deciding whether you want to use their services or whether you need to use a wedding planner at all.

Their prices can vary enormously depending on how involved you want them to get and the type and size of your wedding plans.

If you have a particularly busy lifestyle then a wedding planner can take a load off your mind by getting the majority of the work done for you while you go about your everyday work and this will lead to a less stressful wedding day when the time comes.

That in itself, could be worthwhile spending the extra money and investing in a good wedding planner.

Recommended Reading



[How To Create A Beautiful Medieval Wedding](#)

Have the fairy tale wedding of your dreams! Receive a wealth of information to help you plan a wonderful Medieval theme wedding when you order the ebook **How To Create a Beautiful Medieval Wedding**. This guide is filled with tips, tricks, and creative suggestions to make your wedding planning easy and enjoyable



[Wild West Wedding Roundup](#)

Transform your special day into a legendary western wedding! If you have a thing for cowboys, horses and everything country, then you'll want to check out this complete western theme wedding planner. From super cost-saving advice to detailed ideas on decorating, entertainment, menus and more, you'll find everything you need in the **Wild West Wedding Roundup** e-book to ensure your wedding is a yippee yahooping success

[Sensational Seaside Weddings](#)



Are you ready to stop "surfing" the Net and get down to planning your beach wedding? Then check out Sensational Seaside Weddings today! This complete beach themed wedding ebook covers all aspects of planning a wedding by the seashore in addition to a bonus chapter that covers 6 specific and unique oceanside wedding themes

Part 37 – WEDDING CHECKLIST

Quote

You have to kiss a lot of toads before you find a handsome prince.

- Anonymous

One of the first things you should do once you decide you are getting married is to create a checklist of all the things that you think are necessary to create a smooth running event where all your needs will be met.

You will be quite surprised as you start writing out your checklist how it will grow and grow over the weeks and months as you move towards your wedding and getting additional input from your partner and other people will help you realise everything that is required.

Rather than trying to go into too much detail right from the start it is best to begin your checklist with the most important items and then go into more depth on your list as you think more and more about those items.

So you would start your list of the basic headings of; dress, flowers, reception, guests.

Then under each of these headings you would go into more detail so that under a heading such as dress you would list your wedding dress, your bridesmaid's dresses and possibly even your mother and mother-in-law's dresses as they will be in the wedding photos and will need to coordinate their clothes with yours for the best photo results.

Then you would start listing the various different places you need to investigate to get your dress sorted and that might include getting wedding magazines, contacting

dressmaker's, going to wedding dress shops and trying on the various dresses and so on.

Then you drill down even further in these lists and write down prices of the various solutions that you have found.

As you can see the list will grow bigger and bigger until you find every solution that suits your needs.

You can then create another list of items that have been solved and these can be checked off as they are implemented; for instance the second list might have the date where you will get your dress fitting, the name address and phone number of the dressmaker and other such details that you will need at hand at all times.

By staying well-organised at all times and keeping all these details in one place you will find that the time leading up to your wedding will be a lot less stressful and quite possibly less expensive.

Part 38 – CHEAP WEDDING DRESSES

Quote

He early on let her know who is the boss. He looked her right in the eye and clearly said, "You're the boss."

- Anonymous

It's possible to spend an incredible amount of money on a wedding dress when in reality the final outcome will be determined more on whether the dress fits you properly and enhances your looks and figure.

Cheap wedding dresses that are good fitting and well styled can look a lot better than expensive wedding dresses that are inappropriate for your particular physique. Do a lot of shopping around for deciding on your final wedding dress because you will be surprised at the amount of money you can save by making the right decisions and also you might find that you will get a dress that you feel a lot more comfortable from some of the shops that offer ready-made wedding dresses rather than getting one specifically made for you.

If your finances are particularly tight then you might even need to consider secondhand wedding dresses and while you might not like to think about this at the time the fact of the matter is that most of these have only ever being worn once so you are effectively getting a new dress for a price that is considerably less than the first person paid for it.

Many people have had the pleasure of wearing designer wedding dresses that might have only required a little bit of adjustment here or there for a fraction of the cost price that they would have to pay to get one made specifically for them.

And the best part of all is that nobody ever needs to know or will know how much or where you got your dress from.

It's not about the cost of the dress but rather how it looks on you and how you feel in it on your special day.

After the wedding you can sell it on again to defray costs if you like too.

Recommended Reading

[Amazing Wedding Planning](#)

Part 39 – WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Quote

Every mother generally hopes that her daughter will snag a better husband than she managed to do, but she's certain that her boy will never get as great a wife as his father did.

- Anonymous

It is crucial that you get a good wedding photographer because these will be the only images captured of your wedding.

You can't go back and do it again if you find that the photographs are not good enough.

As a backup measure get all your friends and family to bring their cameras as well because quite often with a lot of people taking photos you will find that some of them come up with excellent photos that you might like in preference to the professional photographers images.

When employing the services of a photographer try to find other people who have used that particular photographer at their wedding and find out whether or not they were completely satisfied with the work that was produced.

Look at their wedding album and see whether you like the arrangements and the quality of the photos for yourself as everyone has different quality standards and what might seem good for one person might not be good enough for you.

Make sure that the photographer has backup cameras in case anything goes wrong as even though this might seem very obvious it has happened on many occasions

where photographers have had equipment failure on the wedding day with no alternative backup to save the day.

You don't want to be the person who has to suffer that fate on your wedding day.

Always be prepared for anything and assume that nobody else is 100% prepared and by doing that you shouldn't have any problems.

Take your time to interview any prospective photographers and make sure that you feel comfortable with the person you are dealing with as having a good understanding of one another's needs will ensure that you get the best possible photos.

Check out the photographers particular style because they all have their preferences and these need to coincide with what you want.

Recommended Reading

[HOW TO PHOTOGRAPH A WEDDING
PHOTOGRAPHER](#)

Part 40 – KEEP IT SIMPLE TO REDUCE COSTS

Quote

Compromise: An amiable arrangement between husband and wife whereby they agree to let her have her own way.

- Anonymous

It is possible to have a perfectly good wedding without all the additional frills and expenses that go with a traditional wedding even to the extent that you might decide to not have any bridesmaids, or a best man, flower girls or other members of the wedding party.

While people traditionally have other members in the wedding party it is not essential and a lot more people are choosing not to have them these days simply to reduce the expense that is involved.

Any additional features that you have in your wedding will involve more expenditure such as flowers and dresses for the bridesmaids and flower girls and the hiring of suits and shoes for the best man and other men in the bridal party.

If you're working to a budget you should also consider reducing the number of people that you invite to your wedding and don't feel obliged to invite people who you haven't contacted for some time as obviously if these people were important to you, you would have made more contact with them over last months or years.

Having a theme wedding can also add costs as all aspects of the wedding will need to tie in with that theme from the clothing to the decoration and even down to the invitation cards.

There is usually a lot more work and planning involved with a theme wedding so if you're working on a budget you need to consider whether this is an important aspect of your wedding not.

One benefit of reducing the costs in other areas of the wedding preparations is you will have more money to spend on yourself and your partner and as you two are the whole focus of the wedding that might be a better use of your time and money.

Recommended Reading

[Amazing Wedding Planning](#)

Part 41 – PLANNING SAVES COSTS

Quote

A good marriage is one which allows for change and growth in the individuals and in the way they express their love.

- Pearl S. Buck

Just as you would plan any other project and determine the costs in advance you need to do the same thing with your wedding.

Spend plenty of time preparing a list of your wants and needs and make sure that you don't miss out on anything by digging deeper into every section on your list with the help of your partner.

Once you believe you have a full and comprehensive list then it is time to start getting some prices and adding these to the list and then totalling them to see how much your anticipated cost of your wedding will be.

You need to take into account also the costs generally overrun your original estimates so if you are close to budget with the planned estimates then you can assume that you will go over budget by the time the wedding plans are finalised.

With this in mind you need to start going back over the various aspects of your wedding and seeing if you can pare down some of your costs.

There are many ways in many different areas where you can save money without compromising the quality of your wedding and the enjoyment of your wedding day.

The more time and effort you put into research, pricing and sourcing of items that are needed for your wedding the more economical the final outcome will be and

quite often you will be able to get more than initially expected by saving in various different areas.

Let others have a look at your list and ask them for their ideas and recommendations. You might be surprised at some of the good advice that people are able to offer.

They might also help to remind you of items that you have left off the list.

It is a good idea to talk to others who have recently married as they will have the points firmly in mind of any requirements that you have forgotten to include.

Part 42 – YOUR WEDDING DRESS IS AN EXTENSION OF YOUR PERSONALITY

Quote

There is nothing nobler or more admirable than when two people who see eye to eye keep house as man and wife, confounding their enemies and delighting their friends.

- Homer

One of the highlights of your wedding should be choosing the dress that you intend to wear and this should not be influenced by any outside factors or other people.

You shouldn't feel pressured whatsoever into wearing any specific style of wedding dress.

This is a time when you can express yourself in a manner that you can remember for the rest of your life.

Just as you have chosen your partner you should find a dress that you love and that you feel good wearing.

It is wise to get the advice of people who have some idea of dress sense and can help you choose a dress that is not only gorgeous but flattering for your particular body shape.

A dress that suits you will also make you feel a lot more comfortable

Getting professional help even in the form of a beauty consultation can make a huge difference to the way that you look on your wedding day and it is well worth

investing some time and money on this aspect of your wedding even if you have to save money elsewhere and reduce costs on other aspects of the wedding plans.

The bride is the center of attention on the wedding day and it is more important than other factors such as the reception and decorations.

Getting in good shape and improving your nutrition in advance of your big day can also help you look a lot healthier and happier and help you to maintain a glowing look throughout the course of the day.

It can be a very tiring day with all the fuss and bustle so being in shape and well rested before the big event will make life a lot easier. Don't stress out if you feel you aren't in the shape that you would prefer to be in as that will just have a detrimental affect on the occasion – Just do the best you can in the time you have and then enjoy every moment of it without further concern.

Recommended Reading

[Amazing Wedding Planning](#)

Part 43 – GROOMING THE GROOM

Quote

A successful marriage requires falling in love many times, always with the same person.

- Germaine Greer

While it goes without saying that most of the attention will be on the bride on the wedding day it is still very important that the groom looks his best also.

One of the best ways of doing this is by following some form of exercise regime in the weeks and months prior to the wedding to get in shape and feel more energised.

As with the bride, the groom should not overdo it to such an extent that it could cause injury that might affect the enjoyment of the wedding day or the honeymoon thereafter.

By maintaining good nutrition in the months prior to the wedding his hair and skin will look a lot healthier and if he has been following an exercise regime and even his clothes will tend to fit better.

The groom should also get his hair styled by somebody who he is comfortable with and is sure will make a good job before the wedding day.

Don't leave it to the last minute and make sure that you've decided on the hair style well in advance of the wedding day.

It's all about planning as this is the only way to be assured of a good outcome at the end of the day and the groom needs to be on that 'to do' list of things to get sorted just like everything else.

Don't try new hairstyles if there isn't enough time for it to grow back out should it ever need changing.

Too close to the wedding is not the time to start getting radical with things such as hairstyles.

Any other major changes in life can cause stress and this can be reflected on the grooms face and this will also be seen in the photographs so try to lead a steady and relaxed lifestyle prior to the wedding.

Recommended Reading

[Master Cleanse Secrets 10 Day Diet](#)

[BodyBot Fitness Software](#)

[Body Building & Weightloss](#)

Part 44 – SETTING THE SCENE AT THE RECEPTION

Quote

Remember that happiness is a way of travel, not a destination.

- Roy Goodman

By remaining completely organised throughout the whole process of your wedding planning you will bring together a cohesive package that sets the scene for a wedding that will be memorable for not only you and your partner but for all your guests.

By creating an overall plan and then fine tuning every stage of the plan you will be treating your wedding organization like that of a well tuned business where the outcome will always be positive.

You will be able to look at all aspects from the flowers, lights, music, table settings and anything else that is required at the reception to all blend in with one another and complement each other.

The reception is a time where people congregate and mix with one another and depending on the style of the wedding you are having most of their time will be in the reception area so a lot of thought needs to go into making that a pleasurable experience for them.

If you are getting your wedding photographs taken while people are waiting for you at the reception area then make sure you have organised music, drinks and even some light snacks to help them pass the time while they are waiting for you.

Create an atmosphere at the reception that you find pleasing to yourself as this will be an extension of your personality and as the people attending the reception will be

close family and friends they will appreciate the fact that the decoration shows your true personality.

Depending on where the reception is being held these decorations can transform an austere looking area into a place of harmony and unity with the inclusion of things as simple as some nice pot plants placed about the venue.

Whatever you do at the reception area will generally be dictated by your finances but that still leaves plenty of opportunity in most cases to create something that you will be proud of with a little imagination.

Recommended Reading

[Amazing Wedding Planning](#)

Part 45 – MAKE A VIDEO OF YOUR WEDDING

Quote

There is no more lovely, friendly and charming relationship, communion or company than a good marriage.

- Martin Luther

Making a video of your wedding is something that you should consider because it is wonderful to look back in later years and see the way you were on your wedding day and those people who were there to help celebrate with you.

If you can't afford a professional to take a video then ask around your friends and family to see if any of them have video cameras that they would like to bring along to the wedding and capture your day on film.

You'd be surprised how many people have videos these days and how many will be only too willing to capture the moments for you.

If you can get a few people doing this then you can take the time after your wedding to edit them yourself or even pay a professional to create one wedding video from the various copies that you can keep and possibly give or share with your friends and family.

With amateurs filming on their own video cameras you will often find that they capture different parts of the wedding that a professional might miss -- those funny occasions that happen with certain members of the family that a professional would not think to film.

There are a lot of ways for an amateur to edit their own videos these days and you can add voice-over comments and many different things to the video as you are editing it.

You can actually have quite a lot of fun creating your video after the wedding as you remember the various aspects of your happy day.

With the price of video cameras having come down quite considerably in recent years you might even like to consider, finances allowing, buying a video camera for yourself that you can take away with you on honeymoon to capture those special moments too.

Part 46 – ARRIVE IN STYLE

Quote

**To the world you may be one person,
but to one person you may be the world.**

- Bill Wilson

It is your wedding and you have the freedom to do what you like on your special day so consider arriving in style on something other than the norm.

How about a helicopter or a horse and cart!

Be a little bit daring and make a grand appearance and you don't have to stick by the traditional rules of the bride and groom arriving separately either.

If you've gone to the expense of hiring a limousine then enjoy it together and arrive at your wedding drinking champagne while you experience every moment of the day with one another.

Don't be burdened by old rules that say you can't do this or that -- do what you like and love every moment of it.

It should be a day of total fun and relaxation from the time that you wake up in the morning to the time that you leave the reception to enjoy your honeymoon together and onwards for the rest of your life.

Consider any forms of transport that you or your partner might be passionate about and see if there is anyone who might be able to help out on your wedding day.

There are many people with hot rods, Ferraris and various other types of vehicles who would charge a fee to drive you to your wedding in their vehicle.

Naturally the two of you won't be able to go if your choice is a Ferrari unless you can find somebody who will give you the keys to the car for the day.

There are unique vehicle rental companies also where you can choose a special vehicle for your transport but there is often quite a substantial fee involved and it might even be cheaper turning up in a helicopter however you need to take into consideration getting your hair and dress blown around when getting out of the helicopter.

There always many things to think about and doing so well before the wedding is always the best policy.

Part 47 – DISCUSS YOUR CONCERNS BEFORE THE BIG DAY

Quote

To keep your marriage brimming, with love in the wedding cup, whenever you're wrong, admit it; whenever you're right, shut up.

- Ogden Nash

If you have any concerns about any aspects of the wedding then you should be discussing it with your partner well before the wedding day.

It is not often for most people that everything goes 100% smoothly when preparing for the wedding and unless you can communicate any differences of opinion during this stage then there are likely to be problems later in your wedded life so now is the time to discuss any concerns that might be distressing you.

Planning a wedding often brings out areas that need discussing with your partner and more often than not these areas are concerned with either partners friends and family.

While it might seem to be a common form of joke, in reality the in-laws often cause the most problems with couples and the best solution is to generally allow each partner to deal with their own parents to ensure that everything goes smoothly.

If you aren't happy with how this is handled then discuss it with your partner and expect the support that you should be getting at this stage to ensure that you will still be getting that sort of support after you are married.

Sometimes you will find that partners have various issues with each other's friends and these also need to be resolved where possible to ensure that you will support one another first and foremost.

If either partner has friends that will be in attendance at the wedding that are a cause for concern for the other partner then get the problem solved as soon as possible and if necessary decide whether or not anybody who could cause trouble should be invited to the wedding or be left off the list.

Sometimes these are tough decisions but they have to be made and the sooner the better. You don't want to allow anything to deter from your happiness on your wedding day.

Part 48 – CONSIDER YOUR GUESTS PREFERENCES

Quote

There is only one happiness in life,
to love and be loved.

- George Sand

It can be difficult when deciding on the layout of the reception area where people are to be seated as often people associate that with their importance to you.

The simple fact of the matter is everybody can't be seated at the same table -- or can they? This does of course assume that the size of your wedding party is more than can fit around one table and even then some people might wonder why they can't be seated next to you rather than at the other side of the table.

Oh the stress of it all! -- you certainly don't need the stress when planning all the other aspects of your wedding but it is something that needs to be taken into account of with the help of your partner and also considering your guests preferences of where and whom they might like to be seated next to.

The traditional method of having a bridal party seated at a table at one end of the room and everybody else in rows facing them does not have to be adhered to and often there are alternatives where more people can feel like they are as important as everybody else at the reception.

Consider having the bridal party seated at a table in the middle of the reception with all your friends and family seated all round. This is one alternative that you might decide to use but the layout is entirely up to you in a manner that you find most suitable.

Rather than trying to mix up both sides of the family it might be better to keep the seating arrangements where people who are familiar with one another can be at the same tables. Once again this is just a suggestion as you might find that based on the personalities of the families and friends they might enjoy sitting with one another and get to know each other better.

You and your partner know the best answer to that one and it is something that needs to be discussed not only with each other but possibly also with some selected people who will be attending the reception to see what their thoughts on the matter are.

Make everyone feel important and be sure to circulate whenever possible to greet and thank everybody who has attended your wedding. Often with bigger weddings it is very easy to miss talking to someone so that is one area that you will need to pay special attention.

Part 49 – TAKE SOME TIME OUT TO ENJOY LIFE

Quote

Trip over love, you can get up. Fall in love and you fall forever.

- Anonymous

The longer you give yourself to plan your wedding the less stressful it will.

Even if you have decided on a short-term engagement where you need to get your wedding arrangements done in a minimal amount of time it is still wise to take some time out occasionally to enjoy life and not get so overwhelmed by the process of planning your wedding.

This will reduce the chance of you becoming stressed and miss out on the enjoyment that can be had from picking and choosing the various different elements of the wedding.

Get other people to help where possible to take some of the load off you and allow you a little more time to look after yourself and your health.

Take a little bit of time out before the wedding and get a relaxing massage and a beauty treatment to help unwind and feel better about yourself and also to be better prepared for your wedding day.

Keep your supplement intake up to ensure that items such as your fingernails are in top condition and don't become brittle and break before the big day.

Spend a little bit of money on yourself and it will show in your wedding photographs.

Your partner should also take time out from work and spend a little time on rest and relaxation no matter how busy life might be.

It might even pay to get away for a weekend to spend some time alone just relaxing and only discussing aspects of the wedding if you feel inclined rather than feeling pressured to tick off another job that must be done before a certain date.

Friends and family will often be only too willing to help out and give you a break as most people understand the work and the pressures involved in arranging such an event.

Accept any help that is offered as there will always be more than enough for you to do even when others offer their services.

Part 50 – FINDING A GOOD CATERER

Quote

Love is a symbol of eternity. It wipes out all sense of time, destroying all memory of a beginning and all fear of an end.

- Anonymous

People will always remember the food at a wedding and while you don't need to go overboard with the expenditure, good planning can ensure that your guests will be impressed with the food without breaking the bank.

Where finances are tight consider changing the time of day and the type of meal as people won't be expecting to get quite so much food for a wedding brunch or lunch as they would for an evening meal.

You can do your own catering if you've got the time and you have people with the ability to prepare good food that you can trust to be reliable and come through when needed.

You can also spend the varying amounts of money on employing caterers who are accustomed to servicing weddings.

Wedding catering is big business these days and there is a lot of competition in the market so you have a lot of choices to suit most budgets.

The first step is to do some ringing around just to get an idea of the estimates for the number of guests that you have coming.

Often reception houses will have their own caterers or specific caterers that they use and can be relied on.

This can be an easier solution and more often than not the best solution both financially and for the quality of the food as they will be familiar with preparing and displaying the food in familiar surroundings.

Talk to the places that you are considering having your reception and see what sort of package they can come up with for the venue and the caterers combined.

By having a theme wedding this will often dictate the type of food that you will be having and that can determine whether it will be expensive will not.

A theme wedding might also dictate your choice of caterers and might reduce your available alternatives. This can often push up the price and will need to be taken into consideration.

Part 51 – HOW TO HANDLE THE ALCOHOL

Quote

One should believe in marriage as in the immortality of the soul.

- Honore de Balzac

Alcohol is a very expensive part of the wedding arrangements and it can use up a lot of your available cash very quickly.

Having an open bar can be very dangerous for your wallet particularly if your guests prefer spirits or other expensive beverages.

You can limit the time that the bar is open or the type of beverages that are available. The time of the day or night that you have your wedding can also affect the type of alcohol that is preferred and the quantity that is drunk with most people less likely to drink as much if the wedding is earlier in the day.

Many people are having alcohol free weddings these days and that is an alternative that you might like to consider or even just offering the cheaper beverages such as beer and wine rather than champagne and spirits.

It might also be well worth considering just having specific amounts of alcohol on each table to maintain a level of consumption that your wallet can handle.

Often people will have an arrangement where everybody gets one glass of champagne when they arrive at the reception area and this can be a nice touch where you can have some control over the amount of consumption.

From there you can offer a choice of red and white wines on the table and possibly have beer on tap for a certain time at the reception.

You are free to mix and match your plans to suit your guests, your wallet, and the way that you would like to see your wedding run.

At the end of the day no one specific aspect of the wedding should have so much emphasis as to affect the overall enjoyment of the event.

If there are wedding guests that you know will consume too much alcohol then you will need to take this into consideration when planning your beverages.

Part 52 – STAG PARTY AND HENS NIGHT

Quote

Marriage is the perfection of what love aimed at, ignorant of what it sought.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

The stag party and the hen's night can be a lot of fun but don't let the fun on the night before your wedding spoil the wedding day itself with a headache, a hangover or having yourself looking pale and washed out with dark rings under your eyes from a lack of sleep.

After all the planning you've done in the weeks and months leading up to the wedding you don't want to blow it by acting silly the night before your wedding as so many people have done over the years.

You want to be looking and feeling your best on your wedding day and alcohol will certainly not help at all as it dehydrates you and the affect of this can even show up in your wedding photographs.

Try to remain hydrated in the days leading up to your wedding and your skin will look in a lot better condition, you will have a lot more energy and feel better on the day and you be able to handle the demands that are placed upon you throughout the day.

There will be plenty of time after the wedding to party it up without having to worry about the consequences the next day if you so desire but to spoil what should be the most important day of your life due to a few hours of fun is something that you should consider before you overdo it with alcohol or staying up till the early hours of the morning.

Many couples are now combining the hen's night and stag night together so the women and men can both enjoy the occasion as one.

Another alternative is to have a dinner party where it is a little bit more civilized but everybody will still feel good the next day.

There are so many alternatives to the traditional hen's night and stag party that quite often even your friends will enjoy the fact that you have chosen something different to do rather than following the norm.

Recommended Reading

[Bridal Shower/Hen Party Games](#)

[Stag Party Games](#)