

# PLANNING A MEMORABLE WEDDING DAY THE EASY WAY

By

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*Wedding articles written with you in mind...*

*plus*

*Forward Planning for a Memorable Wedding Day  
that works*

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This eBook was written for your personal use to help you plan the most exquisite memorable wedding day ever.

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## **An Introduction by Ana**

Congratulations he has proposed and you have accepted and are now sporting your very own engagement ring which for you is the nicest ring in the World. So well done to him and well done to you. It does not stop there because now the real work begins. Organising and Planning a Memorable Wedding Day can be a joy, providing that you are organised and have the right supporting material to get you to the church on time and have the day of your dreams.

My name is Ana and my own daughter was swept off to New York for a week end in January for that very reason and following a spectacular proposal she now sports the most magnificent solitaire diamond ring.

This is what got me thinking – where do you begin with planning a wedding, so I decided based on my own experiences of life I would set about helping any new couple with planning their most memorable wedding day, which led me to setting up a one stop shop for all the bridal party at <http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com>

During my research I have come across such great products as Bridal Gowns plus accessories to help make you the bride that turns heads as you walk down the aisle.

All types of wedding speeches that will have your guests in tears of laughter and leaving them looking for more.

How to make your own wedding flower centrepieces, plus wedding bouquets which will help in cutting down on costs.

Yes and many more wonderful things which can be found at <http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com>

**I also am providing you with free templates, for your use only, to set out your timelines for not only your Big Day but also for your wedding invitations.**

Every Bride needs to be conscious of her figure <http://www.needhelpwithdetoxing.com> so have found two great diets to ensure that you look and feel great not just on the day but for always. <http://www.lazychickdiet.com/?hop=aomos01>

**Articles written by Ana with you in mind.**

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## **Planning a Memorable Wedding Day**

He has asked for your hand in marriage and you have finally said, "Yes." Wow what a fantastic feeling, as this is the start of your new life as a couple. After the celebrations have subsided and all your family and friends have showered you with congratulations and prior to that much awaited big day, both of you have so many decisions to make and wedding related tasks to complete in harmony.

Planning in advance of what you need to do for your wedding day is the answer to stress free preparing for your wedding day. As planning your wedding together should be so much fun, enjoyable and equally as memorable as your big day. So your starting point should be both of you putting together a wedding timetable and assigning responsibility for each aspect of this timetable to each other - sharing is caring. What I am going to give you is a short list of wedding related tasks as well as a rough estimate of when the activities should be done. I will present you with tips and guidelines to keep you organized and help you think of everything that you must take into consideration in the course of planning for your wonderful memorable Wedding day. These are mere suggestions which should help you to adapt the correct mindset and get you organised. I find it is always better to have suggestions to work from as opposed to a blank sheet so my suggestions will help you both agree on the perfect schedule of activities that you both need to decide on - depending on your priorities.

Let me start at the Time of the Engagement - What ever you do don't forget to tell both parents first cause forgetting to do that would get you both off to a slow start. So you must tell your parents the happy news as soon as possible.

- A wedding planner is a great idea and not that expensive, especially when you consider a good experienced wedding planner can find everything you require for your wedding at the right price which could result in saving you lots of money. The wedding planner is also great for helping you keep track of all the appointments, payments and other wedding related activities that you must attend to.

- No doubt you had your photo taken at the time of the engagement well that is a great idea and a great keepsake. If you did not have it taken on the day then go to a professional photographer and get it taken by him/her and yes while you are there checks the photographer out for your own wedding day.

### ***6 to 12 Months in Advance before the Big Day***

**Step 1:** Pick your wedding date. First thing to do is to decide what time of the year you wish to get married and pick the wedding date. Bear in mind getting married in the summer time can be more expensive when organising venues etc. I would suggest spring, early autumn or Christmas time are great times for a wedding and would certainly cut the cost considerably.

**Step 2:** Book the church, registry office, or wherever you decide to have the wedding ceremony. Again remember a chapel/church wedding needs to be booked three

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months in advance. Second thing to be considered is where are you going to get married - chapel, church, registry office, hotel, back garden - the decision is yours. Now that you have the date and the location of your ceremony planned - next step is to decide on where you wish to have your wedding reception.

**Step 3:** Book the wedding reception. <http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com> for a mystery wedding location. Take your time on this one especially in this climate as most businesses are crying out for weddings so therefore that puts you in the driving seat so shop around and see who can give you the best deals. Don't be driven by cost remember it is your wedding day and the venue is something that you want everyone in attendance to enjoy and talk about for months afterward. Wouldn't it be nice to hear people saying that was the best wedding venue I was at, the food was great etc... Consider your budget when deciding on your wedding venue.

**Step 4:** Establish your budget and stick to it. Now it is time to consider the size of the wedding you are planning and who must you have at the wedding and who you wish to invite. My advice to you is to start your list with the people you want.

Now we are getting into the detail of what you need to support your day e.g. photographer, florists, musicians, caterer etc.

**Step 5:** - Look around for a photographer - again they are plentiful and pick one you like. <http://www.recommended.ie>

**Step 6:** - yes a florist is also important and you must have a good rapport with him/her. Perhaps even consider making your own wedding bouquet.

**Step 7:** Your music is extremely important as this sets the tone, the mood, the fun, and the enjoyment levels for your wedding so choose carefully, if you are going to have either a DJ or a band make sure that you hear them at another venue in advance and only then decide if this is/are the musician/s for you. <http://www.recommended.ie>

**Step 8:** Perhaps you are going to organise your own food well then choosing a caterer is an important decision for both of you to make and again find out where they are catering and go and taste the food and get feedback from the guests at this caterer reception. Most important, that you, obtain estimates for these services. If you are booking your reception at a hotel where the food is provided make sure you go for a taster menu in advance prior to making the booking.

**Step 8:** To be sure you get the gifts that you want leave a gift list with your favourite department store.

**Step 9:** Have fun picking the wedding dress just for you; this does not have to be expensive as long it looks fantastic on you to the extent of turning heads when you walk down that aisle, up that garden, or into that registry office. If you are planning on getting your wedding dress made now is a good time to start this process. Once again need I remind you that you must have a good rapport with the seamstress you pick and also make sure that she/he has a good reputation? Find out who they have made dresses for already and go and view them. Remember several fittings may be required for this.

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**Step 10:** Time to consider what colours and style of dresses you wish your bridesmaids to wear. The style should be complimentary to your own wedding dress. Set a date by which these need to be ordered.

### **4 to 6 Months in Advance before the Big Day**

**Step 1.** Now is the time for both of you to consider ordering your wedding invitations, stationery and thank you notes - this is one place that you could save money as you can make these yourself or get someone to make them for you at half the cost of what they are to buy in the shops.

**Step 2.** At this stage you will have decided on your photographer, your florist, your musician, and choice of food whether it will be complete by a caterer or be part of the venue you have selected. Go over all the details with each of these services to make sure that everything is as agreed upon. I would do this more than once.

**Step 3.** Grooms have the life, they have two decisions to make when it comes to their attire - do I rent a tuxedo or buy a new suit. I believe it is best to hire a tuxedo for groom, best men, and fathers of both bride and groom as there are great styles out there now and the wedding party looks so much better in the photographs this way.

**Step 4.** Now for the fun bit arranging the honeymoon, where to go, for how long etc. once this is decided then go ahead and make those reservations. Remember this will be the holiday of your dreams so make it a romantic one.

**Step 5.** Now it is time to confirm the delivery of the bridal gown and the bridesmaid's dresses.

**Step 6.** What about the mother of the bride and the groom - ask them do they need help in choosing their wedding outfits. It is tradition that the mother of the bride wears the same colour of the bridesmaids.

### **2 Months in Advance before the Big Day**

**Step 1.** Excitement is building the big day is getting closer so it is time to plan your rehearsal dinner.

**Step 2.** Perhaps you have some guests coming from far and wide - If so you may need to secure accommodation for them or an even better idea is to put suggested accommodation into the invitations and let them book their accommodation themselves.

**Step 3.** Make an appointment with your photographer to discuss where and when you want him to be on the day to capture the best bridal portraits for you.

**Step 4.** What about the cake - choose a cake type that you enjoy and make sure that you order the wedding cake right now?

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### **1 Month in Advance before the Big Day**

**Step 1.** It is getting closer and closer, at this stage you will probably already have decided on your wedding band set so now is the time to collect them and put them away safely.

**Step 2.** Send out the wedding invitations plus the R.S.V.P. with a self addressed envelope and remember to put a selection of accommodation into them for those guests who wish to stay over.

**Step 3.** Check the apparel for the wedding party - at this stage everyone should be dressed to perfection with matching accessories, shoes, bags, etc.

**Step 4.** Assign the role of organising your bachelor and hen's parties to the bridesmaid/s and best man/men.

### **2 Weeks Before your wonderful Wedding day.**

**Step 1.** Ensure that you have got your marriage license and any other legal documents in order for your wonderful wedding day.

**Step 2.** If the bride is going to change her name then it is time for you to order a new passport, make the relevant changes to your name and address on bank accounts and any other official documents.

**Step 3.** It is now time to test what wedding hairstyle and make up you wish to use on the day and have a practise run at this to see how the entire image suits you. Again grooms relax no need for you to do this.

**Step 4.** Double check with the wedding venue that all is as expected as this point.

**Step 5.** Go on a pleasure shopping trip to purchase the relevant gifts for your bridesmaid/s, best man/men and attendants. Don't forget to buy each other a gift for that day too.

### **1 Week Before your special Wedding day.**

**Step 1.** Ensure you have everything ready that you need to take with you on your honeymoon packed at this stage. Caution - do take the correct amount of kgs, in fact take less than you are allowed to leave room to bring back some lovely souvenirs from your honeymoon location.

**Step 2.** Wrap all gifts for the groom, bride, and attendants. (Keep each others gifts as a surprise for the day).

**Step 3.** Now it is time to schedule the wedding rehearsal - make this a fun day / evening. Relax you are almost there.

**Step 4.** Make sure everybody knows, especially the wedding party, of the exact time and place for your wonderful occasion on the wedding day.

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**Step 5:** Start preparing those wedding speeches. If you need help do go to <http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com> and I can get you prepared wedding speeches plus wedding toasts, not to mention prepare you to be the best MC ever.

**Step 6:** Planning on creating your own wedding vows and drafting up your own wedding love poems well again let me help you so go to <http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com> for all that information to make you be different and stand out in the crowd for your uniqueness.

### **On your memorable wedding day.**

**Step 1.** Start the day by getting up early and meditating to help you relax. See wedding fitness on my need help with weddings site.

**Step 2.** Make sure you eat a good breakfast - make the breakfast fun by having your immediate wedding party join you at the breakfast table.

**Step 3.** Have the hairstylist and make up artist arrive to your house at least 2 and half hours before you are due to leave.

**Step 4.** Take time out with you Mum or someone close to you to share a special moment.

**Step 5.** Relax this is your day, which you have well planned, so enjoy every minute of it.

**Congratulations.**



Create your own wedding centerpieces

## **Hints and Tips for your Wedding Invitations**

Choosing your wedding invitations is a joy for both of you as it can represent each of you in a classical, elegant or glamorous way or even in a plain traditional style. Think about it what do you do with a wedding invitation when you get it - comment on it - of course. We are all the same, so remember the wedding invitation for you can create a wow factor - so let that be the reaction to your wedding invitations. When posting your wedding invitations make it simple for you, yours friends and relatives that you are inviting, by placing a pre-printed card with a tick box for 'yes' - I will be there or "No" - sorry but can't make it, plus a stamp addressed envelope.

### **Hints and tips for your wedding invitations:-**

**Step 1:** Both to chose the wedding invitations you desire - let them reflect your romantic mood and who you are. Make sure you leave plenty of time for the wedding invitations to be printed and delivered to you, at least 8 weeks prior to your wedding date. Rule of thumb for sending out wedding invitations is 6 weeks prior to the wedding. This gives people the opportunity to keep that date free, get their new attire, and of course purchase that all important gift especially for you.

**Step 1:** 2. Who should the invitation come from? It is customary that the wedding invitation should appear to be sent from whoever is paying for the reception. e.g. Traditionally it has been the parents of the bride that provide the reception for their daughter, new husband, friends and relatives so if it is the brides parents that are paying, then the wedding invitation should state Jeff and Martha Jones invite you to the wedding of their daughter Frieda to Theodore Murphy on (date), at (time of ceremony and location) and afterwards in (Venue and Location) for a wonderful wedding reception - RSVP. If it is a joint effort where both parents and bride and groom are all chipping in for the reception then the invitations goes out from all, if it is the couple themselves then the invitations are sent out from both of you... etc...

**Step 1:** 3. Create an excel template with a list of all your friends and relatives that you wish to invite to your wedding. The suggested headings required for this list are, name address, divided into brides and grooms friends, brides friends and relatives, grooms friends, brides parents friends and relatives, groom friends etc.

**Step 1:** 4. Important decision to be made at this stage - will you be sending out evening invitations - if yes order separate evening invitations and for these there is no need for people to reply - ordering food for the evening guests is easy as the management at your reception venue will be able to let you know the quantities of food you will require that evening for all the invitees (this is a task that can be assigned to your best man so nothing for you to worry about). If "No" - then nothing further to be done on this.

**Step 1:** 5. Involve your parents in this list creation and give them a copy of your excel spreadsheet to add their selection of friends and relatives.

**Step 1:** 6. When asking your parents, to add to your list, be specific about the number of people they can invite and mention to them that they can have at least 6

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people on a cancellation list, so that when and if any apologies come in from their list they then can send out replacement invitations for those people.

**Step 1:** 7. Keep control of this excel spreadsheet and at all times ensure that the number of people you are inviting fits in with the number of people you have quoted to your wedding reception location.

**Step 1:** 8. Ensure you inform your parents as to what date they need to have completed the excel list invitation and return it back to you. When you receive this list back you may like to walk through whom your parents wish to have at your wedding and the importance of these people to them - so that you can be all knowledgeable on the day when meeting and greeting your parent's friends and their / your relatives.

**Step 1:** 9. As the acknowledgements are returned to you, place a tick beside the person's name on the excel spread sheet as either a yes or a no - set up a separate sheet for the Non acceptance people so that you can clearly see the exact numbers of people who have positively acknowledged your wedding invitation on the one sheet.

**Step 1:** 10. Where you have a standby list - match each non acceptance to a new invitation. Be sensitive about your stand by list nobody would like to hear that they are your seconds on your list of invites - so that is your secret. I love secrets.

**Step 1:** 11. Assign a follow up responsibility role to your bridesmaid (if bridesmaid not suitable aim for a close friend) to ensure that any invitation that you have not received an acknowledgment for, within two weeks, prior to your wedding date is followed up to a satisfactory conclusion.

**Step 1:** 12. Any disagreements over who to invite place those invitees to the end of your stand by list and if they come up then they should be there if they don't well you did your best.

**Step 1:** 13. Now you have all your invitations and acknowledgements on one sheet which makes managing your invites very easy.

**Step 1:** 14. Make life easy and simple for yourself by completing the necessary preparatory work well in advance of your wedding date. Life is for living right now so go on and enjoy every moment.



## **Wedding Traditions and Their Meanings**

During most ceremonies the tradition was always to include 'till death do us part and that was how it was. Rumour had it that they both lived happily ever after.

Yes romantic it is. The man and the woman, in most countries, leave their families to be as one, and form a new family. It feels as though it has been like this for always. Throughout the millennia, the concept of family and marriage have been so closely knotted together that it is sometimes impossible to separate one from the other. So let tradition continue by joining together two wonderful people in your chosen ceremony.

Marriage is present in every culture, in some form with some differences in the laws, norms, and cultures. Yes all cultures still recognize the union of man and woman living together under one roof. What a wonderful union this is which is one to be continued by both of you. From the different cultures throughout the world and the ages, Marriage has evolved in so many ways. There are diverse ways of celebrating marriage in each culture. Yet in each culture, there has always been one thing that has remained the same - marriage has always been one to be celebrated with the utmost of festivities, with singing, eating, and celebrating. Us Irish still manage to maintain these festivities to a very high standard.

It is the old fashioned traditions that take place at these celebrations that continue to be filled with meaning and origins, which in some cases are both comical and shocking.

### **Tying the Knot**

I always thought that this was the joining of two people together in marriage but now the truth has to be told. During ancient tribal times, the bride would usually be wrapped in a sheep with a knot out in front. This was to symbolize virginity. So I leave what 'Untying the knot' was for the groom to your imagination. For both of you I would stick with my way of thinking and that is simply the joining together of two people in marriage.

### **Best Man**

In the cave men days it was the best man's duty to abduct potential brides from other tribes by clubbing the poor damsel over the head and drag her back home - so those comedy sketches we have seen of this type of thing have an element of truth in them. That was not his only duty as it was also his job to ward off the angry relatives of the bride. So in the early days, it was not uncommon to see the best man swinging his axe while the groom got hitched. Now a day it is the best man's job to take the pressure off the groom by ensuring the wedding day goes smoothly. So let's keep it that way.

### **The Wedding Cake**

Tradition has it that the groom's family would make up the wedding cake which would be a pound cake that would be "pound up" and crumbled and tossed at the couple as a sign of fertility. Now a day they use either rice or confetti - yes you stick with the confetti. Cakes now tend to be stacked in large layers and it is said the higher the stack the more glamorous the cake. Whereas in the past these stacks represented a

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symbol of fertility, and couples would stack these cakes to symbolize how many children they wished to have - so what about that. I bet you that is news to you. Another tradition which still continues in Ireland today is taking a piece of the wedding cake home with you, especially for the singles at the wedding festivities, and placing it under your pillow to enable you dream about your future bride or groom. That is a good tradition to continue as we all love a bit of romance and anything that helps us get it is just great.

### **Today**

Whereas we may be less barbaric today, we still like the idea of doing it our way and yet so many of us go for the traditional way every time and sure what can be wrong with that after all your wedding day is a very special day and while these traditions are filled with meaning they can go a long way towards making your wedding day even more memorable. Some of these traditions laced into your speech would make for lots of fun and enjoyment - so go on relax and enjoy your day in keeping with tradition.



## Your Wedding Day with Divorced Parents

It is now your wedding day and you have divorced parents - how embarrassing or is it? What about the wedding reception seating?

You have just got engaged and the main thing that you are worried about is the fact that you are children of divorced parents and what to do? Your Dad is an embarrassment and only thinks of himself. Your Mum is your best friend and in a new relationship, that your father does not know about. Wow what a situation and your forthcoming wedding is suppose to be the best day of your life!

How can it be? Easy - here are some hints and tips to help you get on with preparing for your wedding day and make it the best day of your life. Both of you are paying for the day and you do not wish this day ruined. So what is your biggest issue - the paying for the day or the fact that your Dad is an embarrassment?

Let us say that it is your Dad is an embarrassment. Ok - how do we deal with that?

**Scenario 1:- Brides' or Groom's Mum in new relationship while Dad is on his own. Groom's parents both together.**

**Step 1:** 1. Remember this is a wedding day for both of you the bride and the groom - so whether it is the Brides' or groom's father that is the embarrassment then make sure that he is made aware of this.

**Step 2:** Get the introductions over with before the wedding day.

**Step 3:** Introducing your Dad to the groom's / brides' family is not an issue so let that be the first introduction.

**Step 4:** Introducing your Dad to your Mum's new man and family is going to be an issue - but still make sure that this happens sooner rather than later.

**Step 5:** Your Mum's relationship and how your Dad deals with this is not your issue, so let your very capable Mum handle the introductions.

**Step 6:** Your Mum should arrange to meet your Dad with her partner at the earliest convenience for both of them.

**Step 7:** This subject of introductions to be dealt with by your Mum.

**Step 8:** Get your Mum to agree for all three of them to meet socially to enable your Mum's partner and your Dad to meet each other, they do not have to like one another, but at least this will get the first meeting out of the way.

**Step 9:** This is your Mum's issue not yours - so put this notion of your Dad misbehaving at your wedding day out of your mind.

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**Step 10:** Your (bride or groom) friends and relatives know your Dad of old and know what he is capable of so there are lots of people available to protect you from any unpleasantness on the day.

**Step 11:** Your Uncles will make great buffers for you - so you have nothing to worry about - don't have uncles then your male friends.

**Step 12:** All you need to do in that case is enjoy the preparations for the day, which will lead to both of you (the bride and the groom) having the time of your life on your happy wedding day.

### ***Consider the following seating arrangements in this scenario:***

Perhaps yourself and your groom would like a nice romantic table for just the two of you at the top of your reception venue with everyone else sharing round tables throughout the banquet hall. OR Perhaps round tables for all and let the guests and yourself sit at one of the round tables and to hell with tradition of having both sets of parents at the top table. Put the groom's parents with the grooms relatives and family.

Place the brides Mum with her partner and his immediate family (if they have any). Place the brides Dad with your uncles and family relatives on his side at their own table. Place groups of friends together at other tables.

In this scenario you may wish to forget about mixing the people on the tables - but remember do whatever you believe will work and again enjoy your Wedding day.

Another plan is that you do not have any named seating and let everyone find their own seating. This could work well as the people who are assigned to look after your Dad on the day will put him sitting in the best place for all concerned and this will have nothing to do with you.

You have just got engaged and your biggest concern is how to plan the wedding keeping the situation of your divorced parents in mind. This time it is the Dad that is in a new relationship. Easy - your Mum is your best friend and she only wants what is best for you.

### ***Scenario 2 - Bride or Groom's Dad in a relationship and Mum on her own, while Mum on other side also on her own as she is widowed.***

**Step 1:** Most times brides are closer to their Mum's than their Dad's so no harm for you both to go with your Mum when meeting your Dad and his new relationship. Even if you are closer to your Dad than your Mum this suggestion will still work.

**Step 2:** This can be a more amicable situation as both being involved does not leave one parent at a lose end on their own.

**Step 3:** Next meeting should be for both sides to meet up including the Dad and his new relationship.

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**Step 4:** Seating arrangements will be fine here as the both Mum's can sit at the top table (if there is one) while so too can the Dad while his partner can sit with friends of the family.

### **Scenario 3. *Both parents divorced yet both in new relationships.***

This is the least confusing scenario and one that can be managed very easily.

**Step 1:** Once again you need all couples to meet before hand and this is something that you can arrange and be present at.

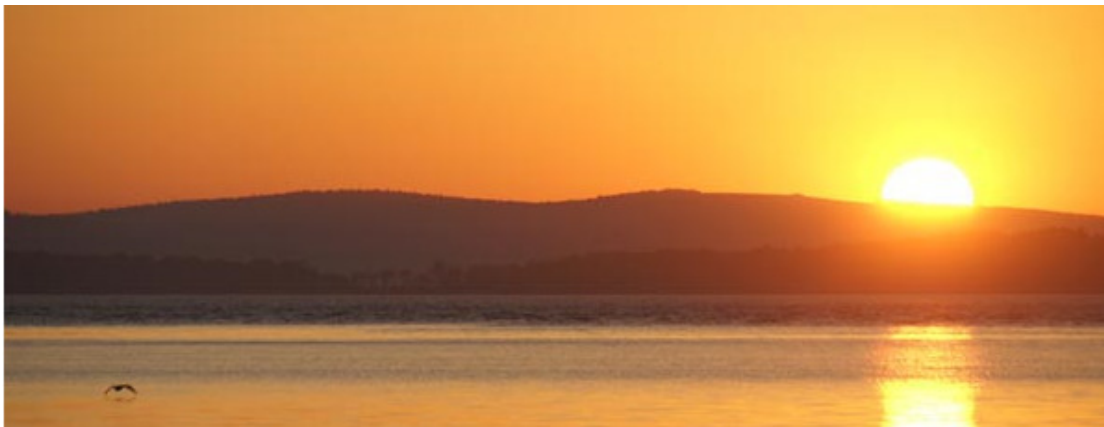
**Step 2:** Where it is the Brides parents that are divorced, while the groom's parents are still happily together, I have witnessed it where both parents walked the bride down the aisle one on either side and this looked ok.

**Step 3:** Also at that same wedding as well as the parents of the groom being at the top table so too were each of the divorced parents and they both sat on either side of the happy couple as a couple. Yes this too was good. As this showed everyone was involved in the wedding.

**Step 4:** Also when it came to the wedding invitations as both parents were paying for the wedding the wedding invitations were sent out from both parents inviting everyone to enjoy this moment with them.

When it comes to your Wedding Day you can make it yours and no one can dictate what you must and must not do. The main thing is that you both set up your wedding day to be the best day of your life. Trying to consider everyone on the day will end up with no one being pleased. So remember do your own thing and most of all enjoy what it is you do.

**After all this is your 'I do' day.**



There is a beautiful old saying “*Never let the sunset on an argument*”.

## Frequently asked questions by Parent's of the Groom

*Q. Which side of the church is to be reserved for the Bride's family and friends?*

1. The left is for the bride and the right is for the groom.

*Q. What is the role of the parent of the Groom?*

A. The role of parents of the groom is changing. Traditionally, the parents of the groom are the least involved members of the wedding party. But they don't have to be. Below are some suggestions as to how the Grooms' parents can be involved.

*Q. Who's paying?*

A. Although custom dictates that the bride's parent's pay for the bulk of the wedding, today most people are only too well aware of the expense involved and **both sets of parents may want to share the costs between them**. The couple themselves often contribute too. **If you are sharing the costs, it's best to make sure you have a good working relationship between you all**. You need to make a list of who's paying for everything, so that no misunderstandings arise.

If you're not sharing costs equally, one common solution is that the groom's family provides the wedding cake and pays for any food at the evening reception. If you can afford it, it's a nice gesture to make.

**Getting involved.** Parents of the groom can do more than help out with the finances, however. This can range from the mother of the groom offering to bake the cake, to the groom's parents offering to pay for some aspect of the reception as a present to the couple, be it the champagne, the music or the venue.

*What traditionally are the groom's parents responsible to pay for during the wedding planning and wedding?*

The groom's parents should host a rehearsal dinner prior to the wedding. They may also choose to contribute to the wedding if they desire. In most cases, the groom's parents have limited responsibilities, but can be involved as much as the wedding couple would like. Traditionally, the groom's mother confers with the bride's mother on what colour gown she is wearing, so as not to go with the same shade. The groom's parents may walk down the aisle in advance of the rest of the wedding processional and take their seats.

The old tradition is that the Groom's parents should pay for the alcohol. Since there are always those few that make pigs of themselves when the alcohol is free it's acceptable to give tickets to the bar for two free drinks (legal for driving after a meal of course.) Some father's pay the whole bar bill, but it can be expensive.

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*Q. What shall we wear?*

A. Choosing your outfits is part of the wedding fun. Apart from the limits imposed by the degree of formality of the celebrations, there's plenty of scope for choice. Modern mothers of the groom don't even have to wear a hat if they don't want to — although if you've always fancied yourself in a Royal Ascot-style number, now's the time. It is the bride's mother who will first select a dress for her daughter's wedding. A gown of complimentary colour and similar styling is then chosen by the mother of the groom. Tradition says Mother of the groom must wear long if the mother of the bride is wearing long or short if she wears short. The colour should not match the bridesmaids nor the bride's mother, but compliment both.

The father of the Groom traditionally wears tops and tails if that is what the Groom is wearing.

**Q. Does the father of the Groom make a speech?**

A. It might not be customary for the father or mother of the groom to make a speech but sometimes the bride and groom decide that they want to break with this particular tradition. If the couple want you to speak, there's no reason why you shouldn't. **Go on break with tradition and make that speech.**



## **Wedding Tips on How to Relax**

Coming up to your wedding, relaxation is very important to ensure you look your very best on the day. Here are some tips to help you relax.

**Relaxation** – breathing correctly acts as a natural tranquilizer for the nervous system and so the deeper you breath, the calmer the mind become. Acquiring the ability to relax totally is something very few people achieve but the benefits of practising relaxation techniques can stand you in good stead for coping with the stress of your wedding.

**Follow these simple steps to achieve full relaxation:-**

1. Lie down on a comfortable mat in a quiet room, legs outstretched, arms resting gently by your sides,
2. Close your eyes and take a few slow, deep breaths.
3. As you inhale, tense all the muscles in your body, feel them tighten and become taut. Then, as you exhale become aware of all the tension ebbing away.
4. Bring your shoulders up to your ears as far as you can, making sure that your head stays flat on the mat, count to five and then slowly drop your shoulders back to their original position.
5. Now for your arms. Tense them; as you do so they will automatically draw in nearer to your body, hold for a count of five, and then release. Become aware of the tension ebbing away as your arms fall limply to either side of your body.
6. Then repeat the tension and relaxation sequence with your abdomen, buttocks legs and feet.
7. If it is not possible to lie down and do these relaxation exercises then practise relaxation visualization, close your eyes and visualize yourself doing these relaxation exercises and the advantages of this method is that it can be done anytime anywhere or any place and can act as a great stress relief exercise

You may feel I have not got time to do this as I am far too busy – take the time to do this cause when you are finished you will gain the relaxation benefits and feel totally relaxed and far more efficient and effective in achieving your goals.



## **Wedding Preparations - Benefits of Yoga**

You need to ensure that you get plenty of relaxation coming up to your wedding and no better way of doing this than through Yoga. Meditation through yoga positions for beginners helps you to achieve that long wanted harmony that synchronizes with the body. With all that you have to do for your wedding you will find that your brain will become clogged and confused. So this is where yoga relaxation is something that vitalises your body, your mind, your whole-self, all at the same time.

Wedding Stress or in fact any kind of stress, is the number one distraction that will take control over you and have you less focused. Doctors, Osteopaths, Clinical researchers are all probably in agreement that Yoga helps to keep the body healthy, supple, and strong. Your all round physical well being benefits immensely. Not only does it benefit your body, but also your mind. Relaxation yoga relieves you of anger, depression, stress and fear. Your mind develops enormous sustaining power. You are able to work and sleep better which will help to keep you looking your best on your wedding day.

I am now going to share with you some of the key benefits that you can gain from practising yoga in readiness for your Wedding Day:-

1. Yoga is what will help you be in prime condition for that wedding day of yours. Yoga keeps body and mind happy. A happy body and a happy mind will strengthen your inner source to ensure you are always in control.
2. More importantly, Yoga also increases the lubrication of joints, ligament and tendons. Where else can you get a well researched yoga positions to exercise the different tendons and ligaments of the body. Yoga will get all your bits working both on and off the dance floor for a really exciting wedding event. Have the right Yoga props e.g. yoga ball exercises so simple and so good for you.
3. Yoga exercises relax the body enabling fatigue to be removed from the body and mind.
4. Yoga is known to increase flexibility and helps you with an exercise routine that gets at all joints and areas that are in need of physical attention. Doing Yoga, will give you the posture you need for walking down that aisle.
5. Yoga offers a complete detoxification of the body. Detoxification is what helps your skin look wonderful for your wedding day so Yoga will go along way to supporting your efforts to look your best. This helps in the flushing out of toxins from every nook and cranny of your body as well as providing nourishment up to the last point. This leads to benefits such as delayed ageing, energy and a remarkable zest for life. Delayed ageing is the one that we are all in favour of.
6. Yoga strengthens the back, neck, and abdomen. Relieves trapped gas, flatulence, constipation, and increases appetite. Girls mind those appetites coming up to your wedding be sure to eat a well balanced diet. Mind you it also aids digestion which can reduce those bulges around the waist and teaches you balance.

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7. Through Yoga all muscles, tendons, ligaments, and joints are kept supple, strong and toned. Most of all, what every bride desires, it enables you to relax.

Remember the more relaxed you are the more you will achieve.

*Happy Wedding day.*



## Quotes which may be useful for your Wedding Speeches

**Dream what you want to dream; Go where you want to go; be what you want to be, because you only have one life and one chance to do things you want to do.**

**May you have enough happiness to make you sweet, enough trials to make you strong, enough sorrow to keep you human and enough hope to make you happy.**

**The happiest people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they make the most of everything that comes along their way.**

**The brightest future will always be based on a forgotten past; you can't go forward in life until you let go of your past failures and heartaches.**

**When you were born, you were crying and everyone around you was smiling  
Live your life so at the end you're the one who is smiling and everyone around you is crying.**

*An exert from 'No Glass Ceiling, Just Blue Sky' by Marcy Blochowiak Part of the Simple Truths of Library given to me by Tony Kelly – thanks Tony just love it*



Follow your dreams"

***“The true way to soften one's trouble is to solace those of others” – Madame De Maintenon.***

**“The secret to happiness is not in doing what one likes to do, but in liking what one has to do” – Anonymous**

***“A good character is the best tombstone. Those who love you and were helped by you will remember you when forget-me-nots have withered. Carve your name on hearts, not on marble” – Chalres H. Spurgeon, British preacher and writer.***

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“Discontent is the source of all trouble, but also of all progress, in individuals and nations.” – Berthold Auerbach

***“The true measure of a man is how he treats someone who can do him absolutely no good.” – Ann Landers***

*“True independence and freedom can only exist in doing what’s right.” Brigham Young*

***“Don’t ask for a light load, but rather ask for a strong back.” – Anonymous***

“Challenges are what make life interesting, overcoming them is what makes life meaningful.” Joshua J. Marine

***One isn’t necessarily born with courage, but one is born with potential. Without courage, we cannot practice any other virtue with consistency. We can’t be kind, true, merciful, generous, or honest.” – Maya Angelou***

To dare is to lose one’s footing momentarily. To not dare it to lose oneself.” Soren Kierkegaard.

***“My parents told me that I could do and be anything I really wanted. I believed them.” Molly McDonald.***

*“No one can make you feel inferior without your consent.” – Eleanor Roosevelt*

***“You can tell more about a person by what he says about others than you can by what others say about him.” Anonymous***

“Each time someone stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope.” – Robert F. Kennedy

***“The pessimist complains about the wind. The optimist expects it to change. The leader adjusts the sails.” – John Maxwell***

“He that would be a leader must be a bridge.” Welsh proverb

***“To accomplish great thing, we must not only act, but also dream, not only plan, but also believe.” – Anatole France***

“Nothing is so strong as gentleness, and nothing is so gentle as true strength.” – St. Francis De. Sales

Be your own poet and create your own wedding vows and poems to make your day very special.

***“To succeed... you need to find something to hold on to, something to motivate you, something to inspire you.” – Tony Dorsett***

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*I came across these quotes in the Dec09/Jan10 Think Big magazine and just loved them so thank you Think Big for sharing these with us under the heading **AS YOU THINK***

### ***Blooper quote***

*“There are three sorts of people in the world, those who can count and those who can’t.” – Anon.*

*Warren Buffet – “It’s not that I want money. It’s the fun of making money and watching it grow.”*

*I was listening to Christopher Howard’s CD this morning and loved both of these sayings: - “Nothing breaths success like success.” And “You can’t think about what you don’t want without thinking about it.”*

<http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com> to help create, your very own wonderful wedding vows, and love poems.

## **Wedding Day Complete – Things to do**

### **Things, that have to be complete after the wedding.**

In your preparations, for your wedding day, be sure to include the things to do after the wedding day is all over. Assign these duties to your friends and family to have completed while you are enjoying yourself on your honeymoon but make sure that they leave the nice things that have to be completed just for the both of you, like your wedding album. So just because you've skipped down the aisle and sailed off into the sunset doesn't mean your wedding planning is really over. So follow my helpful checklist for tying up loose ends after you've tied the knot.

#### **1. The wedding dress.**

Firstly arrange for your Mum or one of your friends to take the wedding dress home for you after the wedding day and make sure that they dry clean wedding dress. It is best to dry clean wedding dress to get it looking as good as new as soon as possible after the big day. When purchasing the dress get recommendations from your Bridal boutique on a professional dry cleaner that specialises in dry cleaning wedding dresses. Once your wedding dress is back from the dry cleaners ensure that it is stored in its original box in a cool place. When you come back from your honeymoon you can have fun thinking of things you can do with your wedding dress e.g. sell it on eBay, give it away to someone you know, who is less off than you are (remember what we give away comes back to us tenfold). Give it to Oxfam - I was amazed to see Oxfam doing Price per click in Google for wedding dresses - so go talk to them perhaps they will pay you for your wedding dress. Traditionally the wedding dress was kept until the first born and a christening gown was made from part of the wedding dress for the newly born infant for his/her christening day.

#### **2. What about your wedding bouquet.**

Traditionally the wedding bouquet is thrown behind you for all the ladies to catch and the one lady that catches it signifies that she will be married within the year. Other traditions are where a parent has passed on - all flowers are placed on their grave. If neither of these appeal to you - great cause I came across this great idea in a wedding magazine which is to preserve wedding bouquet and have it framed and it just looks fantastic. Google preserve wedding bouquet and you will find someone suitable in your area to preserve your wedding bouquet and place it in a beautiful frame, which will last for years to come. Endeavour to get your flowers there as soon as possible after your wedding cause the fresher the flowers look the better the picture. If you are off on your honeymoon then assign this duty to your bridesmaid and emphasise the importance of this being complete sooner rather than later. Again remember the fresher the flowers the better the end result.

#### **3. Return all wedding suit hire wear.**

This is one for the best man - assign this duty to him to ensure that all wedding suit hire is returned safely to the wedding suit hire company sooner rather than later.

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### **4. Change your name, change of names, however, this needs to be complete sooner rather than later.**

First decision that needs to be made on this is are you going to take your new husband's surname if yes this is something that only you can do and if you wish to have your married name on your passport you would want to make sure that this was complete at least 4 weeks before the wedding. This, along with your driver's license will need to be complete prior to the honeymoon, whereas the rest can wait. When you return from your honeymoon then you will need to change your name on your Bank Accounts, and credit cards. You may also need to consider things like your email address, business cards, deeds, will and insurance policies. Contact each organisation for specific details but do make sure you have your marriage certificate handy for each application and procedure.

### **5. Settle your bills.**

If you have any outstanding invoices left to pay do it now after all who wants to be paying for their wedding months later. There is a saying which states 'Never put off to-morrow what you can do to-day.' So go do it, actually this is a good one to assign to your beloved new husband.

### **6. Inform your employer.**

This is very important as this can have tax implications as being married will change your tax status. You need to decide if you want to settle your taxes jointly (generally recommended) or separately. Do talk to an accountant if you are unsure of the implications. There are many reasons to let your employer know that you are married. A changed surname will require a new email address, but will also need to be added to company files etc.

### **7. Complete your thank you cards.**

This is a fun thing to do which can wait until you are both back from your honeymoon, and it is a task for both of you. Enjoy remembering the gifts you received from everyone, the ones you loved and the ones you got a good laugh at. The ones you kept and the ones you exchanged to be more in your taste - yes this can be fun. Tradition has it that thank you cards should be sent out 6 weeks after the wedding. Personalised messages are much nicer than standard messages and it is especially appealing where you mention the very gift that you received from each individual - this always brings a smile to people's faces when they get the thank you card signed by both of you.

### **8. Wedding Album.**

The wedding album is for you and no one else but if you do not do this immediately it will never get done - I know what I am talking about. Seize the moment after your honeymoon and spend an evening or two picking out your favourite snaps for inclusion. This will bring you a lot of laughs, fun and enjoyment and will take you back to moments in your wonderful wedding day so be prepared to take your time on this one and do open a bottle of bubbly. Most photographers will make a selection for

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you and if you are too busy then go with this option but think of the fun you will have missed out on.

That completes my list of things to be complete after the wedding if you think of more things that should be added to my checklist, do visit my website and let me know what else should be included.

**Here is to joy and happiness to you both for a long and happy marriage.**



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# Wedding Planner

Steps	Action	Suggestions	Responsible	Review Date	1st Visit	Final Visit	Comments
	<b>6/12 months in advance of your Wedding Day</b>						
<b>Step 1:</b>	<p><b>Pick your wedding date.</b>                      First thing to do is to decide what time of the year you wish to get married and pick the wedding date. Bear in mind getting married in the summer time can be more expensive, especially when organising venues etc. I would suggest spring, early autumn or Christmas time are great times for a wedding and would certainly cut the cost considerably. If you can - do go for a week day as this can cut as much as 20/30% from the overall cost of the venue. Set a budget and decide who is responsible for that.</p> <p>Once you have set the date be sure to <b>book the chapel, church, registry office</b>, or wherever you decide to have the wedding ceremony. As soon as your date is known now is the time to contact the Priest, Minister or Registrar. Again remember a chapel/church wedding needs to be booked three months in advance.</p> <p>Second thing to be considered is where are you going to get married - chapel, church, registry office, hotel, back garden – the decision is yours. Now that you have the date and the location of your ceremony planned – next step is to decide on where you wish to have your wedding reception.</p>						
<b>Step 2:</b>							

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<p><b>Step 3:</b></p>	<p>Book the wedding reception. Visit possible venues before booking your dream location. Take your time on this one especially in this climate as most businesses are crying out for weddings so therefore that puts you in the driving seat so shop around and see who can give you the best deals. Don't be driven by cost remember it is your wedding day and the venue is something that you want everyone in attendance to enjoy and talk about for months afterwards. Wouldn't it be nice to hear people saying that was the best wedding venue I was at, the food was great etc...</p> <p>Consider your budget when deciding on your wedding venue.</p>						
<p><b>Step 4:</b></p>	<p>Establish your budget and stick to it. Now it is time to consider the size of the wedding you are planning and who must you have at the wedding and who you wish to invite. My advice to you is to start your list with the people you want.</p> <p><a href="http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com">http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com</a></p> <p>Now we are getting into the detail of what you need to support your day e.g. photographer, florists, musicians, caterer etc.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com">http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com</a></p>					
<p><b>Step 5:</b></p>	<p>Look around for your preferred photographer – again they are plentiful and pick one you like. View their work in advance, talk to someone who has already used this photographer before. Remember it is important that you both like your photographer and that he/she likes you. You are in charge of your wedding day but you need the experience and advice of your photographer to be able to grab the best shots.</p>						

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<b>Step 6:</b>	<p>Yes a florist is also important and you must have a good rapport with him/her. Perhaps even consider making your own wedding bouquet. Why not have fun making your own..... Visit <a href="http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com">http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com</a> for the know how.</p>				
<b>Step 7:</b>	<p>Your music is extremely important as this sets the tone, the mood, the fun, and the enjoyment levels for your wedding so choose carefully, if you are going to have either a DJ or a band make sure that you hear them at another venue in advance and only then decide if this is/are the musician/s for you.</p> <p>Perhaps you are going to organise your own food well then choosing a caterer is an important decision for both of you to make and again find out where they are catering and go and taste the food and get feedback from the guests at this caterer reception. Most important that you obtain estimates for these services. If you are booking your reception at a hotel where the food is provided make sure you go for a taster menu in advance prior to making the booking. Make a social occasion of this and bring both sets of parents, especially if the bride's parents are doing the paying.</p>				
<b>Step 8:</b>					
<b>Step 9:</b>	<p>To be sure you get the gifts that you want leave a gift list with your favourite department store.</p>				

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	<p>Have fun picking the wedding dress just for you; this does not have to be expensive as long it looks fantastic on you to the extent of turning heads when you walk down that aisle, up that garden, or into that registry office.</p> <p>If you are planning on getting your wedding dress made now is a good time to start this process. Once again need I remind you that you must have a good rapport with the seamstress you pick and also make sure that she/he has a good reputation? Find out who they have made dresses for already and go and view them. Remember several fittings may be required for this.</p> <p>Time to consider what colours and style of dresses you wish your bridesmaids to wear. The style should be complimentary to your own wedding dress. If getting your dress made be sure to do up a timeline starting at your ordering date, right through to the various fitting dates up to and including the final collection. .</p>					
<p><b>Step 10:</b></p>	<p>Don't forget about you wedding transport - how do you wish to get to the church, limo, horse and carriage, motor bike - you name it the choice is yours. But don't forget and book it now.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.recommended.ie">http://www.recommended.ie</a></p>				
<p><b>Step 11:</b></p>	<p>Chose the best man, ushers, bridesmaids, pageboys and flower girls.</p>					
<p><b>Step 12:</b></p>	<p><b>4 to 6 Months In Advance Before the Big Day</b></p>					

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<p><b>Step 1:</b></p>	<p>Now is the time for both of you to consider ordering your wedding invitations, stationeries and thank you notes - this is one place that you could save money as you can make these yourself or get someone to make them for you at half the cost of what they are to buy in the shops. Timeline template available for your wedding invitations on my site.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com">http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com</a></p>				
<p><b>Step 2:</b></p>	<p>At this stage you will have decided on your photographer, your florist, your musician, and choice of food whether it will be complete by a caterer or be part of the venue you have selected. Go over all the details with each of these services to make sure that everything is as agreed upon. I would do this more than once.</p>					
<p><b>Step 3:</b></p>	<p>Grooms have the life they have two decisions to make when it comes their attire - do I rent a tuxedo or buy a new suit. I believe it is best to hire a tuxedo for groom, best men, and fathers of both bride and groom as there are great styles out there now and the wedding party looks so much better in the photographs this way. For the groom, select attire.</p>					
<p><b>Step 4:</b></p>	<p>Now for the fun bit arranging the honeymoon, where to go, for how long etc. once this is decided then go ahead and make those reservations. Remember this will be the holiday of your dreams so make it a romantic one.</p>					
<p><b>Step 5:</b></p>	<p>Now it is time to confirm the delivery of the bridal gown and the bridesmaid's dresses.</p>					

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<b>Step 6:</b>	<p>What about the mother of the bride and the groom - ask them do they need help in choosing of their wedding outfits. It is tradition that the mother of the bride wears the same colour of the bridesmaids. For Bridal party wear and accessories visit Bridal Gowns on my site. <a href="http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com">http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com</a></p>						
<b>Step 1:</b>	<p><b>2 Months In Advance Before the Big Day</b></p> <p>Excitement is building the big day is getting closer so it is time to plan your rehearsal dinner.</p>						
<b>Step 2:</b>	<p>Perhaps you have some guests coming from far and wide - If so you may need to secure accommodation for them or an even better idea is to put suggested accommodation into the invitations and let them book their accommodation themselves.</p>						
<b>Step 3:</b>	<p>Make an appointment with your photographer to discuss where and when you want him to be on the day to capture the best bridal portraits for you. <a href="http://www.recommended.ie">http://www.recommended.ie</a></p>						
<b>Step 4:</b>	<p>What about the cake - choose a cake type that you enjoy and make sure that you Order the wedding cake right now?</p>						
<b>Step 1:</b>	<p><b>1 Month in Advance Before the Big Day</b></p> <p>It is getting closer and closer at this stage you will probably already have decided on your wedding band set so now is the time to collect them and put them away safely.</p>						
<b>Step 2:</b>	<p>Send out the wedding invitations plus the R.S.V.P. with an self addressed envelope and remember to put a selection of accommodation into them for those guests who wish to stay over.</p>						

## PLANNING A MEMORABLE WEDDING DAY THE EASY WAY

<b>Step 3:</b>	Check the apparel for the wedding party - at this stage everyone should be dressed to perfection with matching accessories, shoes, bags, etc.							
<b>Step 4:</b>	Assign the role of organising your bachelor and hen's parties to the bridesmaid/s and best man/men.							
<b>Step 1:</b>	<b>2 weeks in Advance Before the Big Day</b> Ensure that you have got your marriage license and any other legal documents in order for your wonderful wedding day.							
<b>Step 2:</b>	If the bride is going to change her name then it is time for you to order a new passport, make the relevant changes to your name and address on bank accounts and any other official documents.							
<b>Step 3:</b>	It is now time to test what wedding hairstyle and make up you wish to use on the day and have a practise run at this to see how the entire image suits you. Again grooms relax no need for you to do this.							
<b>Step 4:</b>	Double check with the wedding venue that all is as expected as this point.							
<b>Step 5:</b>	Go on a pleasure shopping trip to purchase the relevant gifts for your bridesmaid/s, best man/men and attendants. Don't forget to buy each other a gift for that day too.							
<b>Step 6:</b>	Start organising your wedding speeches, and remind the best man to get going on his. Make it easy for everyone and purchase this wonderful eBook full of wedding speeches for everyone. Go to my site <a href="http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com">http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com</a> especially for these.							
	<b>1 Week Before your special Wedding day.</b>							
	<a href="http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com">http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com</a>							

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<b>Step 1:</b>	Ensure you have everything ready that you need to take with you on your honeymoon packed at this stage. Caution - do take the correct amount of kgs, in fact take less than you are allowed to leave room to bring back some lovely souvenirs from your honeymoon location.					
<b>Step 2:</b>	Wrap all gifts for the groom, bride, and attendants. (Keep each others gifts as a surprise for the day).					
<b>Step 3:</b>	Now it is time to schedule the wedding rehearsal - make this a fun day / evening. Relax you are almost there.					
<b>Step 4:</b>	Make sure everybody knows, especially the wedding party, of the exact time and place for your wonderful occasion on the wedding day.					
	<b>On your memorable wedding day.</b>					
<b>Step 1:</b>	Start the day by getting up early and meditating to help you relax.					
<b>Step 2:</b>	Make sure you eat a good breakfast - make the breakfast fun by having your immediate wedding party join you at the breakfast table.					
<b>Step 3:</b>	Have the hairstylist and make up artist arrive to your house at least 2 and half hours before you are due to leave.					
<b>Step 4:</b>	Take time out with you Mum or someone close to you to share a special moment.					
<b>Step 5:</b>	Relax this is your day, which you have well planned, so enjoy every minute of it.					

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## Timeline for our Wedding Invitations

Timeline	Action	Suggestions	Comment	Dates
16 weeks prior to wedding date	Commence looking for wedding invitations		<a href="http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com">http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com</a>	
14 weeks prior to wedding date	Order selected wedding invitations			
12 weeks prior to wedding date	commence creating list of guests		Any guest being invited that you both cannot agree on place them at the end of the stand by list.	
9 weeks prior to wedding date	Complete and co-ordinate the entire wedding list which includes your parents choices and your stand by list		Don't forget your god parents they deserve a special invitation.	
9 weeks prior to wedding date	purchase envelope and stamps to be included with wedding invitations		Ensure that you purchase enough stamps for sending the invitations as well as for the return to sender envelopes.	
8 weeks prior to wedding date	Commence writing out of the invitations		Neat writing is essential and pick the person with the neatest writing to do this task. Using silver or gold inked pen is a good idea.	
7 weeks prior to wedding date	Go through completed list of invitees with both parents		Find out who is who from your parents - as this helps you later for the table settings.	

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<b>6 weeks prior to wedding date</b>	Send out wedding invitations		Place exact date as to when invitations were sent out and what date you expect the RSVP (Repondez s'il vous plait - Respond please) to be returned.	
<b>4 weeks prior to wedding date</b>	Check the number of acceptances received		Place these names on the Yes - Acceptance excel sheet Tab	
<b>4 weeks prior to wedding date</b>	check the number of non acceptances received		For every non-acceptance received place their details on the No - Non acceptance excel spreadsheet Tab and put who is to be invited in their place on the same sheet.	
<b>4 weeks prior to wedding date</b>	Go through stand by list and send out new invitations in place of your non acceptances		Check whose list the cancellations have come from and ensure the option of taking from the stand by list is giving to the owner of the invitation list. E.g. Brides, Grooms, Brides Parents, or Grooms Parents.	
<b>2 weeks prior to wedding date</b>	Nominate best man, bridesmaid or one of your closest friends to follow up on the wedding invitations.		Any returns not received either phone or email to encourage a response.	
<b>1 week prior to wedding date</b>	Print off a few versions of your completed wedding list and give a copy of it to the hotel, to your parents, and of course keep one for yourself.			
<b>Week of wedding</b>	Check through list for the last time to ensure all who said they would be there are ok.	<a href="http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com">http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com</a>	For relaxation exercises go to Category:- wedding fitness	

Forward Planning that works  
<http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com>

**PLANNING A MEMORABLE WEDDING DAY THE EASY WAY**

<b>Version Control</b>				
<b>Version</b>	<b>Required stage of the process</b>	<b>Edited by whom:</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Version 1.</b>	Bride and Grooms first attempt at their list			
<b>Version 2</b>	Should include selection from both parents.			
<b>Version 3</b>	Represents acceptance and non acceptance			
<b>Version 4</b>	Completed list			

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List of invitees						
	Bride and Grooms mutual friends	Acceptance	Non Acceptance	Date Invitations Sent	Date Returned	Comments
1						Any special comment made by one of your guests that could be used in your wedding speech. (For suggestions on wedding speech do visit my site). <a href="http://www.needhelpwithyourweddings.com">http://www.needhelpwithyourweddings.com</a>
2						
3						
4						<b>Please be aware</b> that you can increase the number of rows in relation to the number of people you can have at your wedding.
5						
6						<b>Please be aware</b> that these groups are just a suggestion and can be changed relevant to your requirements
7						
8						
9						
10						
	<b>Brides' friends and relatives</b>					
11						
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						





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**List of Non- Acceptance and replacement name**

	Bride and Grooms mutual friends	Non Acceptance	Replacement Invitation	Whose guest??	Comments
1					Ensure that you match the returns to the person's original list and enable them to send out a new invitation to one of their stand bys.
2					<a href="http://www.needhelpwithyourweddings.com">http://www.needhelpwithyourweddings.com</a>
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
	<b>Brides' friends and relatives</b>				
11					
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	<b>Groom's friends and relatives</b>				
21					
22					
23					

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24						
25						
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30						
	<b>Brides' parents friends and relatives</b>					
31						
32						
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37						
38						
39						
40						
	<b>Groom's parents friends and relatives</b>					
41						
42						
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50						<a href="http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com">http://www.needhelpwithweddings.com</a>

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**THE END OF MY eBOOK AND THE BEGINNING OF THE REST OF YOUR LIFE**

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