

GEORGINA ALEXANDER

WEDDINGS & EVENTS

Congratulations, it's time to start planning your big day!
This handy checklist will help keep you on track during the wedding planning process,
and guide you through what to do when.
Happy planning!

First things first...

- Insure your engagement ring!
- Discuss with each other the type of wedding you both want
What's important to you both and your must haves you're both on the same page before you start planning
- Set your wedding budget
Establish your top priorities and areas where you want to save/splurge. Set up a spreadsheet to track spending
- Gather inspiration
Explore Pinterest and start pinning wedding inspiration, keeping expectations realistic

12 months to go

- Draft your initial guest list
This will give you an estimate of guest numbers, which are key for your budget, venue and catering.
- Decide on ceremony type, define wedding style and wedding vision
Civil, religious, celebrant ceremony; country house wedding, marquee wedding as examples.
- Hire a professional Wedding Planner
- Decide on your preferred wedding date and location
Think about your favourite season / location / time of year you want to get married.
- Invest in wedding insurance
- Research venues and visit your favourites
Visit your shortlisted venues before you decide on your final choice. Some venues do book up 12 - 18 months in advance, so be sure to tick this off your list early.

- Confirm the Registrar / Church is available on your preferred date
- Confirm your wedding venue
Review & sign contract (make sure to check what is included in the venue hire, don't assume that because you see something in the venue it is included as part of the venue hire), pay deposit.
- Set up a wedding website

11 months to go

- Research and shortlist suppliers
Gather information on services and costs for all the suppliers you'll need.
- Choose and book your key suppliers
Caterer (if not provided as part of your venue) / photographer / videographer / florist
- Research wedding dresses and boutiques and start dress shopping
Most dress boutiques need 6 months to order your dress in for your first fitting.
- Give notice / register your intention to marry
- Choose your bridesmaids / best man / others you want to include in the bridal party

10 months to go

- Send Save the Date cards to your confirmed guest list
- Research ideas for venue décor / styling
- Choose and book ceremony musicians
- Choose and book DJ / band / reception / evening entertainment / other entertainment
- Book wedding car and post-wedding transport
For arrival at the ceremony (if needed); and for you from the wedding reception to your accommodation at the end of the night
- Arrange guest transport (if required)

9 months to go

- Order your wedding dress
- Choose and book hair and make up artist
- Choose your bridesmaid outfits and accessories
- Decide on Groom's / Groom's party outfits
Hired, made-to-measure, High Street.
- Set up your wedding gift list / registry
- Book your honeymoon
- Choose and book cake designer, order cake samples, order your wedding cake
- Choose and order your wedding invitations

8 months to go

- Reserve accommodation for you and your guests
- Choose the readings / poems for your ceremony
- Choose your ceremony and reception music

6 months to go

- Finalise your guest list and send wedding invitations
- Dress fittings
- Buy wedding rings
- Choose and order wedding favours (if you opt to have them)

4 months to go

- Hair and make-up trial
- Menu tasting with your caterers
- Draft your table plan
- Write your vows

2 months to go

- Follow up outstanding RSVP's
- Order on the day stationery

1 month to go

- Confirm your suppliers and venue/s, double-check timings
- Final dress fitting with your accessories
- Reconfirm final numbers and dietary requirements with your caterer
- Finalise table plan and organise place cards
- Settle final balances with your suppliers and venue
- Collate a 'must have' photo list for your photographer / videographer

1 week to go

- Reconfirm bookings and timings with all suppliers and venue/s
- Ceremony rehearsal
- Beauty treatments

The day before

- Final checks for details and timings for the day
- Gather all your wedding décor / personal items ready for the big day
- Pack your overnight bag
- Relax and get a good night's sleep!

The day is here!

- Stay hydrated and don't forget to eat
- Relax, enjoy, and embrace the love

After the wedding

- Thank your supplier team
- Dry clean your wedding dress and have it preserved
- Preserve your bridal bouquet
- Touch base with your photographer/videographer
- If you're changing your name, you'll need to contact the bank/DVLA/your employer/etc
- Send thank you cards for gifts received