



LIFE MAGAZINES

MONTHLY A5 LOCAL LIFESTYLE MAGAZINES

WEDDING PLANNING - Countdown

As soon as possible:

- Tell everyone the good news! Make sure you let relatives and close friends know first so as to avoid 'surprised expressions'.
- If it is a church wedding, you will need to agree a date with the church and discuss your plans. If it is going to be a civil wedding then you need to book the venue or registry office.
- Take out some wedding insurance. With the increasing costs of these events it is wise to cover all eventualities.
- You need to decide on a budget - then double it as this is actually what those 'ice swans' are going to cost.
- Make the decisions about chief bridesmaid, other bridesmaids, best man, ushers and attendants. Then create new job titles and roles for those that were disappointed e.g. Chief Balloon Coordinator or Executive Envelope Stuffer.
- Create list of guests for the wedding, reception and the evening 'do'.
- Visit some reception venues and try lots of wedding cake! - Start diet for the wedding!
- Discuss menus with caterers/hotels.
- Book your reception and entertainment.
- Start looking for a wedding dress. Disappoint your Mother because you don't want to wear hers.
- Find and book a wedding photographer.

3 months to go:

- Discuss the order of service, music and the reading of banns (if applicable). Disappoint your Auntie because her six children cannot all do readings/play instruments, very badly, at your wedding.
- Order the wedding cake.
- Choose the florist and discuss bouquets, church flowers, button holes and sprays. Deal with an allergic reaction.
- Order the wedding stationery.
- Arrange fittings for wedding outfits.

- Choose your wedding rings together.
- Book the wedding transport - difficult when you want a horse-drawn carriage and he wants an Aston Martin.
- Organise the wedding gift list.
- Check passports/inoculations if honeymooning overseas.
- Book your first night/honeymoon.

2 months to go:

- Post invitations with the wedding gift list and don't forget directions to the venue and reception.
- Send out Thank you notes as gifts arrive.
- Organise wedding favours for the guests and relatives.
- Groom, best man and ushers need to organise wedding suits - i.e. someone's Mum.
- Book the hairdresser/make-up appointments for the morning of the wedding.

One month before:

- Make sure everyone in the wedding party knows what they have to do.
- Inform banks etc about the change of surname (if applicable).
- Compile music list for your wedding reception.

2 weeks before/in a last minute panic:

- Arrange the seating table plan for the reception venue- change it as people fall out/break up/express hatred for other family members.
- Have your Hen/Stag party – worry about what the other one got up to.
- Try on wedding outfit; cry, a lot.
- Arrange rehearsal at church/venue.
- Get cold feet, question everything about yourself and your partner, deal with a massive revelation from your parents and...live happily ever after.

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