

Stage 1 –As soon as possible

Decide on your wedding style / theme and the time of day / season you would like to be married	
Agree on the ceremony that suits your occasion – civil, religious, home or abroad	
Decide on your budget	
Decide upon your wedding vows –established or personal	
Decide on your wedding invitations style professional or personal	
Establish a guest list, then let your friends and family know with either a phone call, ‘save the date cards’ or invitations.	
Consider wedding insurance	
Consider a wedding planner	
Start looking at brides dresses and choose your wedding party, bridesmaids, best man etc.	
Decide on your honeymoon	
Think about hen / stag celebrations	

Stage 2 –Ideally 12 months before

Confirm the booking of the ceremony	
Confirm the wedding reception venue	
Have your first meeting with minister / superior / registrar for your service. Agree a time schedule.	
Confirm vendors:	
Stationary	
Photographers / Video	
Florist	
Cake	
Wedding Cars	
Entertainment	
Guest Accommodation	

Stage 3 –Ideally nine months before

Book honeymoon	
Obtain quotes from your key wedding suppliers and then make provisional bookings	
Confirm bridesmaids, best man, ushers etc.	
Agree the music for your first dance	
Confirm arrangements with you minister and discuss the service, readings and music	
Give notice to the superintendent registrar if holding a civil ceremony or partnership	

Stage 4 – Ideally four to six months before

Choose your wedding stationary (this will need to be designed, proofed and printed and then sent approximately three months before the wedding day).	
Order and purchase wedding rings	
Decide on your dress and organise dress fittings if applicable	
Plan / Purchase your accessories	
Decide on your dress code for other members of the wedding party.	
Book hairdresser and make up	
Order cake	
Select or begin making your wedding favours	
Finalise the details of your wedding ceremony	
Set up your gift list	
Send out invitations with maps, accommodation options and your gift list information and any special instructions	
Arrange your rehearsal date with other members of the wedding party	
Finalise honeymoon plans, and book travel insurance	
Check your passports if going abroad (passports are the one document that can be changed up to three months before you get married to show our married name. Be aware that your new passport will only be valid from the date of your wedding as it will be post dated).	
Organise vaccinations and visas	

Stage 5 – Ideally three months before

Choose your wedding stationary (this will need to be designed, proofed and printed and then sent approximately three months before the wedding day).	
Order and purchase wedding rings	
Decide on your dress and organise dress fittings if applicable	
Plan / Purchase your accessories	
Decide on your dress code for other members of the wedding party.	
Book hairdresser and make up	

Stage 6 – Ideally two months before

Discuss hairstyle / make up and book final appointments	
Write personalised wedding vows if necessary	
Choose and purchase gifts for the parents and attendants and parents	
Buy the marriage license from the registrar if applicable	
Start and test out getting ready on the day – for example, if you are thinking of self fake tan now is the time to practise. Trial your ideas for make up, hair and nails	
Arrange a delivery / pick up date for your dress and other wedding party attire	
Confirm the number of guests to the venue	
Book travellers cheques / foreign currency	
Finalise transport	

Stage 7 -Ideally one month before

Finalise menu and drinks selection	
Finalise the seating plan	
If you are changing your name write to banks and other agencies to inform them	
Buy your honeymoon wardrobe and essentials	
Draw up your list of any must-take photos for the day. Have a final discussion with your wedding photographer	

Stage 8 –Ideally two weeks before

Draw up the seating plan	
Try on your entire outfit to ensure that everything works	
Mentally run through where everyone will be on the big day and how they will get to and from there.	
Arrange your honeymoon money	

Give final confirmation of the number of guests to the venue and or caterers	
Confirm the details with all your suppliers	
Hold rehearsal with your wedding party	
Pack for your honeymoon	
Ensure that all speeches are being prepared	
Decide who will be responsible for your handbag, make up and overnight bag. Make sure they understand what you will expect of them.	

Stage 9 – Ideally one week