



EVERNESS FILMS

*THE  
ULTIMATE  
VANCOUVER  
WEDDING  
GUIDE*

2020 / 2021

# *INDEX*

## PART ONE: THE FOUNDATION

Budget, Time of Year, Guest List, Vendors, Venue

PG. 4

## PART TWO: THE DETAILS

Choosing Your Wedding Party, Creating a Registry,  
Creating a Timeline, Making a Website

PG. 14

## PART THREE: THE DESIGN

Classic, Romantic, Bohemian, Vintage, Rustic,  
Modern, Luxurious, Alternative, Natural, DIY

PG. 23

## PART FOUR: HIRING

Questions for every vendor

PG. 34

## PART FIVE: FINAL TOUCHES

Obtaining a marriage license, Finalizing Guest List &  
Seating Chart, Figuring out the Rehearsal Dinner

PG. 46

## PART SIX: AFTER THE WEDDING

Complete marriage license, thank-you notes,  
takedown wedding registry & website, preserve  
everything, legally change name, review vendors.

PG. 54

We've also created complimentary  
worksheets to help you solidify all of the  
decisions you're making. Feel free to follow  
along with the worksheets as you're reading.



## *CONGRATULATIONS*

I see that someone is rocking some new bling on their finger! Congratulations, this is a crazy exciting time for the two of you. If you downloaded this guide, you probably live or are getting married in the beautiful Vancouver area. I'm a wedding videographer located in Vancouver, so I've accumulated some insider knowledge over the years. From venues to how to survive a rainy wedding day, we will cover it all.

## *YOU'VE JUST GOT ENGAGED... NOW WHAT?*

No one tells you what to do after that. There weren't any courses in school that taught you which relatives you are obligated to invite, how to pick cake flavours or how to preserve a wedding dress. I know this feeling, every single couple I've worked with has experienced this feeling. It can be a lot to take in all at once. My first tip is to just breathe and gain some perspective. Yes, this day is important, but it is only one day. It's easy to get caught up in creating the most perfect day imaginable, but try to keep in mind that the reason you are doing this is to celebrate your love. Deep down, a wedding is a celebration & union of two people who want to build a life together. I want you to remember this as you read through this pamphlet. Now let's build the foundation!





# PART ONE: *THE FOUNDATION*

Anything successful needs to be built on a strong foundation. This is no different for wedding planning. Think of these things like the support beams for your home. Once they are decided, they are stable. You can always paint the walls and add furniture, but you can't change the foundation of your home. Once you have a clear understanding of these things, it will give you clarity through all of your decision makings.

## What to decide before anything else

1. Budget
2. Time of Year
3. Guest List
4. Vendors
5. Venue



# BUDGETING

Money can be a tricky topic as it varies so much from couple to couple. But this is really something you want to nail down early as it will impact every decision you make down the line. Is either of your families going to pitch in? Do you have a significant wedding day savings? What do you prioritize on the day of? It's good to aim for the minimum of your budget and then give yourself a few thousand for wiggle room.



## BALLPARKS

Venue: \$3000-10,000

Wedding Planner: \$2000-3500

Catering: \$27-70 per person

Wedding Gown: \$280-2250

Bridesmaid Dresses: \$150-250/dress

Tux: \$280-1650

Cleaning & Alterations: \$200-500

Wedding Videographer: \$2500-3500

Wedding Photographer: \$2600-4500

Wedding DJ: \$400-1800

Ceremony Music: \$600

Florist: \$800-3000

Officiant: \$350-500

Marriage License: \$100

Wedding Transportation: \$600

Rentals: \$1000-2800

Wedding Cake: \$600

Wedding Bands: \$1000-5000

Makeup + Hair: \$150-600

## VALUES

Now, what you spend all depends on the type of person you are and what you value. If I'm honest, your day is going to fly by. Investing in high-quality photography & videography is one of my greatest pieces of advice. Even if you don't consider yourself sentimental, having the option to go back and see the little things that you may have missed will mean the world to you in twenty years. "I regret not having one. I thought that I'd never watch it and I'd have my pictures, but there's a lot of your wedding that, as the bride, you don't get to see. For example, I wish I could see what was going on inside my ceremony tent before I got there. I wish I could see my bridesmaids walk in. The whole thing went by so fast—I'd kill to have more memories of it." —starrbuk13

# TIME OF YEAR

Are you a beachy summer couple? Maybe you've always imagined autumn leaves as your wedding backdrop. The time of year you choose will impact the venue you choose, so after you deal with your budget, this is where you need to put your attention.

## WINTER

### Pros:

- Things are cheaper! Sometimes a lot cheaper. Many vendors will even give discounts because it's the off-season. Be sure to ask all of your vendors if they do off-season discounts.
- Snow is a beautiful backdrop. If you want a snowy wedding, this is the perfect time of year to head up to Grouse, Mount Seymour, or maybe even Whistler.
- Snowy weddings makes colours pop! The white snow neutralizes all of the colours in the trees so any colour you decide to add will stand out.
- Snow also acts as great lighting for photos.

### Cons:

- The major holidays will be coinciding with your wedding.
- Many people may be away visiting friends & family across the country. Keep this in mind while planning. You'll have to bundle up a bit if you plan on getting photos done outside which may not be the look you're going for.
- You'll most likely be greeted by rain if you're getting married on the mainland. But hey, maybe rain is your thing!
- Daylight is an issue during the winter. With the limited amount of bright hours, you might find yourself having to push all of the events forward.



## *SPRING*

### Pros:

- There's nothing more romantic than blooming flowers, cherry blossom trees and lush greenery as a backdrop for your wedding.
- Friends & family will most likely be around to attend as there are no major holidays to attend or crummy weather to avoid.
- You have no restrictions on what you can wear! The weather is usually milder.

### Cons:

- There is a higher potential of being rained out of an outdoor venue. Spring is allergy season.
- If you or your spouse has seasonal allergies, this might not be the best time of year to capture those everlasting photos.
- Spring is busy in the wedding world! Many vendors book up quickly for this season and you won't be able to get any sort of off-season discounts.

## *SUMMER*

### Pros:

- You have so much daylight! Some days get dark at 9 pm, so you don't have to worry about running out of light.
- Flowers are in bloom which means you'll have a wide variety to choose from when designing your bouquets.
- Typically, there are fewer holidays to work around.

### Cons:

- Although warmer weather allows for more creative flexibility, high heat is something to be aware of when planning outdoor ceremonies, wardrobe, lighting for photos, etc.
- Summer vacation may steal some of your guest lists.
- There is a lot of daylight, which is great for the wedding itself, but not so great for photos. Group photos & portraits shouldn't be taken when the sun is directly above your head or it will create some nasty shadows.
- Summer is the most common season to get married which means prices go up and vendors will be booked much further in advance.

## *Autumn*

### Pros:

- Beautiful colours will be all around you. If you like warm tones and cozy fall vibes, this could be the perfect time of year for you.
- The weather is usually more temperate. There is less likely a chance that you'll be rained out of your ceremony.
- Possible off-season discounts!
- Lots of seasonal decors to choose from.

### Cons:

- Possible holiday/sports interference's (Thanksgiving, Halloween, football season, etc)
- Daylight savings time ends in Autumn, which may cause conflict with having enough light for photos & videos.

(Note: British Columbia may be ending daylight savings time as soon as 2020)





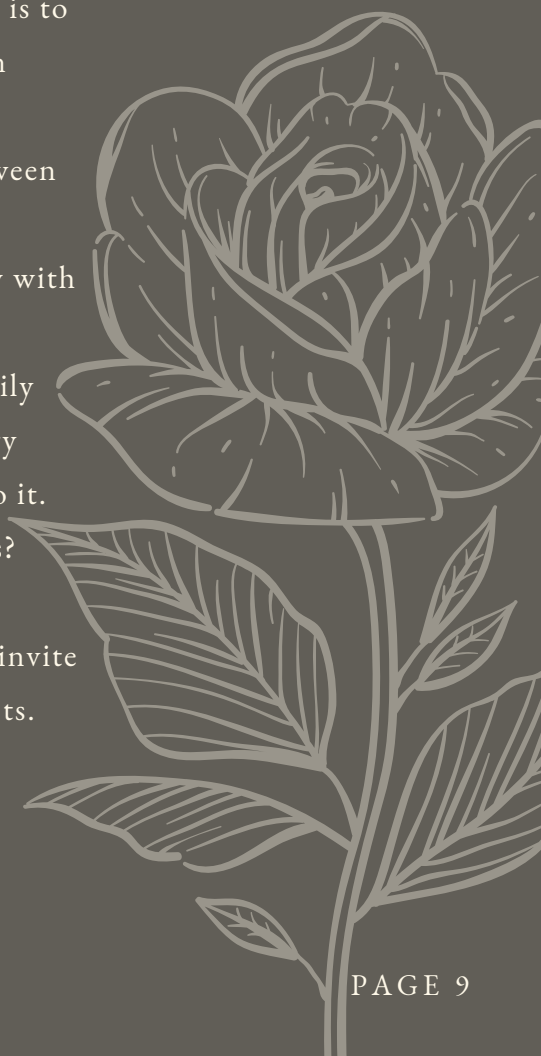
# *GUEST LIST*

Having a rough guest list is something you should create very early on in the wedding process. Not only is this one of the biggest wedding expenses, but it also affects every venue choice you make. If you have a very large guest list, you will pay more for a venue that will be able to accommodate all of the people.

## *START ASKING YOURSELF QUESTIONS*

It's important to start asking questions about your guest list like:

- Do we want to invite coworkers? (Inviting coworkers can get messy and cause an uncomfortable work environment if some were not invited, a good rule of thumb is to only invite 2-3 coworkers. If more than that, invite your whole department.)
- Are we splitting the invites evenly between both sides?
- Are our parents helping out financially with the wedding? Will they want to invite specific people? Are we inviting all family (second & third cousins included?). Try deciding on a cut-off point and stick to it.
- Are we going to be accepting plus-ones? (Make sure to specify this on your invitations). It is common courtesy to invite along any serious partners of your guests.
- Do we want children at the wedding?



# VENDORS

## WHAT TO BOOK & WHEN

### 1. Venue

- Your venue will always be what you want to book first as they book up the fastest. This is one of the foundational pieces that you will then base the rest of your wedding purchases off of.

### 2. Wedding Planner

- Believe it or not, wedding planners can actually end up saving you money in the long run. If you plan on hiring one, they should be one of your first purchases so they have the most time to understand what you want on your wedding day.

### 3. Catering

- Whether plated, buffet, family-style, or cocktail-style, find a catering company that works for your budget and venue.

### 4. Wedding Photographer & Videographer

- Your favourite wedding photographers & videographers book up fast, to ensure you'll have the best quality memories on your wedding day, book your photographers & videographers as soon as you decide on a date.

### 5. DJ & Ceremony Music

- Next up is your music. Whether you've chosen to have a DJ or band, 9 months is a good amount of time to secure your date with them.

### 6. Officiant

- You can't have a wedding without an officiant so try to make sure you've found one you click no less than 8 months out from your wedding date. (An amazing Vancouver-based officiant company I'm fond of is Young Hip & Married, they're just the best).

### 7. Florist

- By this point, you should have a pretty clear idea of the style for your wedding. Make sure you've taken some time to seek out a florist that resonates with the style you're looking for. Don't be afraid to show them your Pinterest board, the more information they have about what you want, the better.

### 8. Wedding Cake

- Don't order your cake until you've made all of your wedding style decisions. Although, if you've already ordered your flowers, you should be fine!

### 9. Transportation

- Limos? Fancy cars? Carriage ride? Shuttle bus? Make sure you book some transportation for yourselves and possibly your guests if parking might be an issue.

### 10. Hair & Makeup Artists

- Give yourself at least 3-4 months to book a makeup artist. If time permits, try to book a "trial" run at least a few weeks beforehand so you get a chance to perfect your look.



# BOOKING TIMELINE

## 12 MONTHS

Wedding Planner  
Wedding Venue  
Catering Company

## 9 MONTHS

Wedding Dress Shopping  
Wedding Photographer  
Wedding Videographer

## 8 MONTHS

Save the Dates  
Officiant  
Florist

DJ & Ceremony Music

## 7 MONTHS

Order Wedding Dress  
Order Bridesmaids Dresses  
Tuxedo Purchase/Rental

## 6 MONTHS

Wedding Cake  
Decor Rentals

## 5 MONTHS

Transportation Rental  
Accessories (rings, shoes,  
necklaces, all things that  
sparkle)

## 3 MONTHS

Makeup Artist  
Hair Stylist  
Wedding Bands

GO GET  
MARRIED

# *VENUES*

## *SIX QUESTIONS*

Start with answering these six questions...

1. Outdoor or indoor ceremony?
2. Time of year? (Will you need an alternate venue if you get rained out?)
3. Time of day?
4. How big is your guest list?
5. How much of our budget should be devoted to venue? (Usually a good chunk of your budget will be devoted to venue)
6. Urban or forested?

After you figure out these six questions, your potential venues should be narrowed down significantly. Don't sign onto the first venue you see. Make sure that you shop around. Look through prices, packages, restrictions, etc. Even if the first one you contact is the one you love, make sure to reach out to a few other venues just to get a ballpark of pricing.



# VANCOUVER VENUES

## Unique Venues

- Vancouver Art Gallery
- The Loft at Earls
- Bloedel Conservatory
- Vancouver Aquarium

## Beachy Venues

- The Boathouse
- Brockhouse

## Elegant Venues

- Hycroft Manor
- Fairmont Hotel Vancouver
- Rosewood Hotel Georgia
- Pinnacle at the Pier Hotel

## Best Views

- Grouse Mountain
- Elopement in Stanley Park
- Mount Seymour
- The View (North Vancouver)

## Garden Venues

- Stanley Park
- The Chapel at Queen Elizabeth Park
- VanDusen Garden

## Best Barn Venues

- Roddick's Barn
- Maan Farms

## Best Venues Outside of Vancouver (BC)

- Fraser River Lodge (Agassiz, BC)
- Middle Beach Lodge (Tofino, BC)
- God's Mountain Estate (Penticton, BC)
- Kicking Horse Mountain Resort (Golden, BC)



## PART TWO : *THE DETAILS*

Now that you have a solid foundation built,  
we can move onto getting the little details  
out of the way.

In this section, we will  
discuss four key ideas:

1. Choosing Your Wedding  
Party
2. Creating a Registry
3. Creating a Timeline
4. Making a Website

# CHOOSING YOUR WEDDING PARTY

Choosing your wedding party is difficult. There are so many factors to consider, not to mention the risk of offending the people you care about. Those who choose to be in your wedding party will be there for your entire day. If something goes wrong, they will be your emotional support. Some advice is to think twice before you ask someone to join your wedding party, as you can't retract an invitation once it has been sent. Those chosen to be apart of the wedding party hold quite a high amount of responsibility, so try to ensure you choose trustworthy friends & family. Also, try to remember that there are no rules for a wedding party. You can have two maids of honour, have your brother in the bridal party, dress your bridesmaids in tuxedos or forego the whole tradition altogether.

## QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELVES

- What size do we want for each side?
- What is the maximum & minimum amount of people on each side?
- How well do the chosen friends & family members handle stress?
- Do we want our wedding party to be composed of mainly close friends or family? Maybe a mix of both?
- Does our budget allow for this many people?

# *CREATING A REGISTRY*

What is a registry?

A registry is basically a big gift list that you create for guests to buy you things you need to make your house a home!

How Much to Include on a Registry?

A good rule of thumb is to include double the amount of options as you have guests. Another good idea is to have gifts at various price points. This will give your guests more to choose from & not force them to spend out of their budget.

How Many Stores Do I Register With?

Choose between 2-4 stores to register with. Any more than that will become overwhelming for you to keep track of. Any less than that could make it challenging for guests to order from (especially if it's a physical store). Try to include a mixture of local stores & large department stores. This will make it easier for guests coming from out of town. If you are using one of the universal registry services, it's also a good idea to create a registry to a large department store as well, just in case there are some friends or family members who might prefer being old school.



# *CREATING A REGISTRY*

## *PART TWO*

When Should I Start My Registry?

Don't feel bad about creating a registry early! In fact, the earlier you complete it, the better. Many couples start planning their registry right after their engagement. This gives you the maximum amount of time to really think about what you need and value. Think about how much easier it will be for any guests attending engagement parties & bridal showers to shop for gifts! Plus, it's honestly a lot of work to think of hundreds of gifts you may want or need, so give yourself time. You can always add or remove items off of your registry later on.

### *HOW TO CREATE A REGISTRY?*

Browse stores (online or physical) to see which stores have styles that you resonate with. Some stores offer perks to those who register with them, don't forget to inquire about those. Once you've decided on a few stores, you can register with them OR you can create a universal registry website. The universal registry means that you can have items from any store you choose all in one list. The knot offers this service as well as Blueprint, Simple Registry, CheckedTwice, My Registry, Zola, All My Gifts, and Knack.

# TIMELINE

Timelines can be intimidating, but they don't have to be.

## QUESTIONS TO START WITH

- What are the time slots available at the venues we like?
- Do we want to have our “first look” during the ceremony or before the ceremony?
- What time should the ceremony start?
- Do I want to attend my own cocktail hour?
- Do we want to have the ceremony & reception at one venue?
- How much daylight will we have available (depending on the time of year)?
- Do we have a specific location where we want our portrait session to be? Is it close to our venues?
- How late do we want our reception to last? (This usually goes hand-in-hand with the amount of alcohol you'll be purchasing)
- Will my vendors stay late?

Consult your vendors to get estimates for how long things will take. Ex) Speak to your makeup artist to understand how long you should schedule getting ready.

If you and your spouse will be getting ready at different locations, ensure that your photographer & videographer have a “second shooter” or an “assistant shooter” so that you will have both moments captured.

If you prefer to have your first look during the ceremony, ensure that you have enough time after the ceremony to have your couples portrait session. This means you will most likely miss your cocktail hour.

If possible, have your ceremony music start playing earlier while guests are arriving.

If possible, try not to have your couples portrait session when the sun is at its peak.

When arranging group photos, consider creating a list to rotate through that includes all of the combinations of friends & family. This will help you prevent missing anyone.

If you are doing your couple's portrait session in the morning, try to schedule 15 minutes to sneak out of reception during golden hour (actual time depends on the time of year) to capture some romantic shots.

## TIPS

Consider pushing all of the important events you want to be captured closer together to save money on vendors. Vendors typically charge you their regular rate even if there's a break in your schedule.

Make sure you allow enough time for “getting ready” & bridal portraits, first-look, transportation to the venue, wiggle room for late-comers at your ceremony,

# ***TIMELINE***

## ***PART TWO***

### ***THREE DIFFERENT TIMELINES***

Three timelines to consider are:

1. A general overall timeline that you can look at and understand where everyone will be.
2. A vendor-only timeline that has the start and end times for different vendors. This is a great thing to send to your vendors to keep everyone on time.
3. A guest timeline that includes only the barebone location & start + end times for the ceremony & reception. This timeline is the timeline you'll include on either your invitations or your website.

### ***33 THINGS YOU NEED TO INCLUDE ON YOUR TIMELINE***

1. Getting ready (bride & groom)
2. Makeup & hair for bride & bridesmaids arrival time
3. Getting ready portraits for both sides
4. Bridal portraits
5. Letters (time to write them & time to read them)
6. Flower arrival
7. Food (you will get hungry)
8. Setup at venue
9. Transportation
10. First look
11. Couples portrait session

12. Ceremony music arrival & departure times
13. Officiant arrival & departure times
14. Ceremony start time listed on invitation vs. actual start time
15. Ceremony ques (music, entrances)
16. Ceremony beginning & end
17. Cocktail hour
18. Family/group photo session
19. DJ arrival & departure
20. Catering arrival & departure
21. Grand entrance

22. Welcome speech
23. Dinner
24. Toasts
25. Order of speeches
26. First dance
27. Parent dance
28. Dance floor open & close times
29. Cake cutting, bouquet toss, garter toss
30. Last call
31. Grand exit
32. Clean up at the reception venue
33. The time that everyone has to be cleaned up and out by

# TIMELINE EXAMPLE

When	What	Who	Where	Notes
8-10:30 am	MUA & Hair arrives, bridal party starts getting ready	Lisa, Alexis, Adrianna, Courtney, Becca	Hotel #1	Lisa will be bringing breakfast
8:50-10:00 am	Groomsmen start getting ready	Tim, Alex, John, Lucas, Gabe	John's house	John will supply breakfast
9:30 am	Photographers & videographers arrive	Photo: Holly & second shooter  Video: Taliya & second shooter	Hotel #1 & John's house	
9:45-10:00 am	Write letters (bride & groom)	Lisa & Tim	N/A	
9:45-10:30 am	Gabe picks up bouquets & boutonnieres	Gabe & florist	Flower shop	Gabe is to meet at Hotel #1
10-10:30 am	Groomsmen take limo to Hotel #1	Tim, Alex, John, Lucas		
10:30-10:50 am	Letter exchange & reading (do not see each other yet)	Alex delivers Tim's letter Becca delivers Lisa's letter	Hotel #1	Videographer will need to attach microphone
11-11:15 am	First look	Tim, Lisa, Video & Photo	Courtyard at Hotel #1	
11:15-11:45 am	Wedding party photos	Lisa, Alexis, Adrianna, Courtney, Becca Tim, Alex, John, Lucas, Gabe Videographer, Photographer	Hotel #1 Courtyard	
11:30 am	Lunch arrives		Hotel #1	Lunch is casual, eat in between photos
11:45-12:30 pm	Couples portrait session	Tim, Lisa, Photographers, Videographers	Park near Hotel #1	
12:30-1:45 pm	Wiggle room			
1:45- 2:30 pm	Limo takes everyone	Lisa, Alexis, Adrianna,		
	from Hotel #1 to Venue	Courtney, Becca Tim, Alex, John, Lucas, Gabe		
2:15 pm	Officiant & ceremony music arrive	Officiant, ceremony music	Venue	
2:30	Scheduled ceremony start time		Venue	
2:45-3:30 pm	Actual ceremony		Venue	
3:30- 5 pm	Cocktail hour & group photos, catering arrives to setup	Photographers, catering	Venue	

# *TIMELINE EXAMPLE CONTINUED*

4:30	Band arrives and sets up (sound check)	Band	Venue	
5 pm	Everyone moves inside to start reception & dinner		Venue (inside)	
5:15 pm	Grand entrance	Wedding party	Venue (inside)	
5:15- 5:30 pm	Welcome toasts	Bride Parents, Groom Parents	Venue (inside)	
5:30 pm	Dinner is served	Catering	Venue (inside)	
5:45-6:30 pm	Speeches	Alexis, John, Bride Mom, Groom Dad, Grandparent #1	Venue (inside)	Speeches will be intermingled with people eating
6:30-7 pm	Cake cutting, bouquet toss, garter toss		Venue (inside)	
7-7:10 pm	First dance	Tim, Lisa Band	Venue (inside)	Song #1 to be played by band
7:10-7:20 pm	Parent dances	Bride dad, Lisa Groom mom, Tim Band	Venue (inside)	Song #2 + 3 to be played by band
7:20 pm	Dance floor opens	Band	Venue (inside)	Set list for band
7:45 pm	Photographer & videographer leave			
11:30 pm	Tear down, have to be out		Venue (inside)	

# *MAKING A WEBSITE*

What should I include on my website?

- A few engagement photos
- Simple “day of” itinerary
- Registry

Where should I host my website?

There are plenty of hosting options for websites including more traditional website builders such as Wix, Squarespace, & Weebly. Wedding wire & the knot also allow you to create your website through their platform. Review different packages and website platforms before deciding on one.

Where should I design my website?

Most of the recommended website building platforms listed above will have premade wedding templates for you to choose from. Keep in mind your style and colour palette while designing it. Make it easy to read & navigate for guests.

BONUS:

## *HASHTAGS*

Hashtags are a super fun way to keep track of your guests photos on Instagram! Create a hashtag to keep everything in one place. You can think of one yourself or use a third-party service to create one for you.





## PART THREE: *THE DESIGN*

Now that you have a solid foundation & details thought of, we can move onto the fun part; the design! This may be a bit different depending on whether you're taking more of a DIY approach vs hiring a decorator. Help your wedding appear cohesive by taking advantage of colour knowledge. Try to choose one main colour and one accent colour. Or two complementary colours instead. After choosing those two colours, feel free to add lots of neutrals or metallic accents to make your palette robust.

In this section, we will break  
down ten different wedding  
themes:

Classic  
Romantic  
Bohemian  
Vintage  
Rustic  
Modern  
Luxurious  
Alternative  
Natural  
DIY

# CLASSIC

A classic wedding is typically more formal and traditional.

## Keywords

Traditional, elegant, timeless, airy

## Colour Palette

White, accents of blush pink or metallic.

## Wardrobe

The wardrobe for the classic is pretty traditional and simple. Brides usually wear

## Flowers

Whitewashed flowers or pink/red flowers.

## Cake

The cake is most likely a white-tiered cake with white flowers.

## Stationery

Simple and sweet. Possibly black & white cardstock with elegant calligraphy.

## Decor

Ballroom, tea light candles, champagne cocktail hour, single-flower arrangements





# ROMANTIC

Whimsical and soft, you want your wedding to feel like a fairytale come true. Complete with winding greenery and dangling lights to transport you to another world.

## Keywords

Delicate, airy, luxurious, feminine.

## Colour Palette

White, blush, deep burgundy, forest green, lavenders, barely-there colours, sand.

## Wardrobe

Flowy dresses made of light fabrics. Include lace detailing on the dress or maybe even some tassels.

## Flowers

The more flowers, the better. Also, try to include greenery within your flower arrangements.

## Cake

Tiered cake with elegantly placed flowers flowing alongside.

## Stationary

Press your invites closed with a personalized wax wedding seal.

## Decor

Vinyard or estate ballroom, soft lighting, candles, lots of hanging vines, flowers, and lights give a whimsical & romantic feel. Chandeliers and dangling string lights from the ceiling can also be used.





# BOHEMIAN

For my “free-spirited” souls. Boho weddings have a strong tie to nature and many natural elements are incorporated along with the use of deep, earthy colours. These types of weddings look best in late summer or early autumn to bring out the warm tones.

## Keywords

Tribal, hipster, nomadic.

## Colour Palette

Burgundy, burnt orange, forest green, ivory, lots of warm tones.

## Wardrobe

Mismatched bridesmaids dresses that show off everyone’s personal sense of style.

## Flowers

Wispy, wild arrangements; eucalyptus, pampas grass, fluffy cotton.

## Cake

Naked or semi-naked cake covered in fresh flowers.

## Stationery

Beige stationery with painted letters for a hand-crafted look.

## Decor

Outdoor botanical garden, desert plants, macrame, natural fibres, Persian rugs, cozy lounge area, tapestries, throws, vintage couches.





# VINTAGE

Looking to pop back in time for a day? Having a vintage-themed wedding can be an amazing design experience for those who enjoy thrifting or vintage shopping. There are so many eras to choose from and so much creativity on how to bring a modern twist on old traditions.

## Keywords

Antique, aged, nostalgic.

## Colour Palette

Golds, pinks, baby blues, beige.

## Wardrobe

Victorian-style lace dresses with long sleeves, flower crowns on bridesmaids, Juliet-style headpiece, weave a vintage hair comb through your updo.

## Flowers

Classic roses & peonies with cascading greenery. Use an heirloom brooch to finish off the bouquet.

## Cake

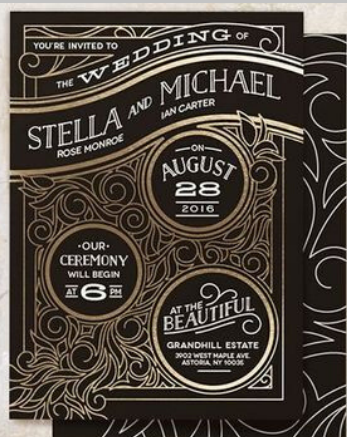
Simple white tiered cake with added ruffles, jewels, and flowers.

## Stationary

Perhaps having typewritten style (maybe even using an actual typewriter) for stationary. This blends perfectly with some vintage looking calligraphy for titles & names.

## Decor

Historic Courthouse, old furniture, layers of lace, lace table runner, vintage candle holders surrounded by hydrangeas & roses, a vintage suitcase filled with photos, weathered doors, worn-in seats, transportation in a vintage car or Vespa, dinner mostly lit by candlelight.





# RUSTIC

A rustic wedding is a little more relaxed and loose than traditional weddings. They borrow traditional ideas but approach them in a way that emphasizes natural elements in a laid-back way. It's similar to boho, but a little more minimal.

## Keywords

Local, wild, raw, minimal.

## Colour Palette

Burnt sienna, orange, wooden, linen, ivory, lavender, sage.

## Wardrobe

Try experimenting with boho wedding dresses that include lighter fabrics and lots of lace detailing.

## Flowers

Sprawling wildflowers that look they were picked fresh from the field. Opt for a non-traditional bridal bouquet made from completely lavender.

## Cake

Choose a semi-naked wedding cake (similar to a naked wedding cake, but only uses a little bit of buttercream to give it a rustic look) and place it on a log slab, make sure to include lots of flowers running down the sides.

## Stationary

Consider using brown recycled cardstock and simple calligraphy tied with twine and a dried flower.

## Decor

Renovated barn, natural textures like wood, stone, paper, elevated lanterns, rustic ceremony arch draped in linen, simple flower centrepieces, hessian table runners.





# MODERN

Simple & sleek. Urban-minded folk who have a taste for contemporary & current styles will swoon for this type of wedding.

## Keywords

Clean, contemporary, geometric.

## Colour Palette

Bold colours, streamlined or monochrome colour scheme, bold colours, black.

## Wardrobe

Take a break from the typical white gown or go for a “minimalist” style of dress, mismatched bridal party.

## Flowers

Consider using primarily greenery instead of florals.

## Cake

A simple cake with artistic modern designs, foodie ingredients & crazy flavours.

## Stationary

Modern monogram or logo can be used to personalize stationery, sans serif fonts.

## Decor

Structural backdrop, cream balloons, sleek seats, loft or museum as a venue, clean lines, ghost chairs, don't be afraid of negative space, create a custom dance floor.





# LUXURIOUS

Think red-carpet glam. This is your wedding day and you are living by the words “go big or go home”.

## Keywords

Dazzling, chic, captivating.

## Colour Palette

Metallics, gold, glitter, whites, splashes of colour.

## Wardrobe

Big and bold. You want everyone’s eyes on you. A victorian princess meets sparkles and crystals wedding dress.

## Flowers

Flowers on everything. Consider upgrading a flower wall to a full flower table or flower ceiling.

## Cake

Elegant tiered cake covered in jewel embellishments.

## Stationary

Jewelled stationery.

## Decor

Play with height, make your space feel grander by drawing the eye up towards the ceiling to show off hung lights or chandeliers. Elegantly draped linens, oversize floral aisle arrangements, exquisitely prepared food, live performance or firework show.





# ALTERNATIVE

Off-beat folks who make their own rules. Your style is unique and you don't want to put your wedding in a box. You're over the bright & floral wedding decor, so push the boundaries of what is possible.

## Keywords

Quirky, creative, unique.

## Colour Palette

Bright colours, blacks, a mixture of textures, anything goes.

## Wardrobe

It can be traditional or personalized. A floral wedding dress? A black wedding dress? Maybe a traditional gown with a beautifully unique headpiece.

## Flowers

Maybe you want flowers, maybe you don't. Try a bouquet of paper butterflies or lollipops, maybe even a bouquet of pinecones.

## Cake

Something unique, maybe a stack of pancakes with frosting in between each layer, maybe a black cake. Maybe it's not even a cake at all and you opt for cookies.

## Stationary

Instead of a paper wedding invitation, print all of your info onto a balloon and invite your guests to blow it up in order to view the invite.

## Decor

Renovated movie theatre, small concert venue, empty warehouse, hanging balloons, hanging origami, temporary tattoos for guests.





# NATURAL

For my sustainable, eco-friendly wedding planners who want to pull a strong focus on appreciating natural elements.

## Keywords

Ethereal, organic, elegant.

## Colour Palette

Woods, linens, deep greens, off-white.

## Wardrobe

The dress might have been purchased second-hand or made using natural fibres, most likely off-white colours.

## Flowers

Baby's breath, lots of greenery, consider using rooted plants that can be replanted.

## Cake

Opt for a vegan cake with local & seasonal ingredients.

## Stationary

Might be printed on recycled paper or simply just using e-vites instead! Use chalkboards for menus instead of printing out individual menus.

## Decor

Forest-based ceremony with wooden logs to sit on, courtyard, wooden family-style tables, farm-to-table "in-season" food, little potted succulents as centrepieces, organic embroidered linen napkins, use candles or solar lamps.





# DIY

Do-it-yourself weddings grew in popularity due to all of the lovely things you can find online these days. Perfect for those who have a knack for creating handmade goods.

## Keywords

Handmade, charming, personalized.

## Colour Palette

It can emulate any of the styles above. Rustic weddings typically share a similar palette.

## Wardrobe

If you've got some sewing skills, consider revamping a second-hand wedding dress.

## Flowers

Might arrange the flowers as DIY.

## Cake

Maybe you or your family will bake the cake for you!

## Stationary

Handwritten cards with a customized stamp that prints the couples monogram on each invite

## Decor

Backyard wedding, hand-sewn banner, rented tent, make-your-own food station, donut wall.





## PART FOUR: *HIRING*

Hiring is probably the most important part of your wedding day. Making sure your vendors really understand you and your vision is what will set your wedding apart.

We've gone over all of the vendors you'll need to book, but we wanted to touch on the importance of reading contracts & asking the right questions.

Now let's get to the questions...

# *GENERAL Q'S*

Questions you should be asking to every vendor:

- What is your cancellation policy?
- How much is the deposit? When is it due? Is it refundable?
- What forms of payment do you accept?
- What do the payment plans look like?
- Can I see the different packages you offer?
- Can I see a copy of your standard contract?
- Do you offer lower fees for off-season or weeknights?
- How far in advance can I reserve my date?
- What type of services do you offer?
- When is the final payment due?

WHY

## *THESE QUESTIONS*

Before you sign the dotted line, make sure to closely review every detail of what you're signing. This includes the date, location, event time, deposits & fees. Also, read through important clauses such as payment & cancellation policies. Lastly, try to ask the same set of questions to every vendor that you are interviewing to ensure you are weighing your options fairly. Make sure to either write the answers down or use voice memos to record it. Ex) If you are interviewing multiple venues, ask general questions and then the vendor-specific questions and record it on the voice memo app.



# VENUE Q'S

Questions you should be asking to every venue:

- What dates are available for the month I'm considering?
- What time is the venue available for the date I'm considering?
- Do you have liability insurance?
- How much time do you offer for rehearsals?
- What is the venue capacity?
- Is there an area where my wedding party can get ready?
- Do you have bartenders or should I hire my own?
- Can the venue provide alcohol? Is there a corkage fee for providing my own alcohol? Does your liquor license cover outside?
- How is alcohol priced?
- Can I use a DJ or live band in the venue? Are there any noise restrictions? Do you provide sound amplification?
- Do you have microphones for speeches?
- How long will my vendors have for setup & teardown?
- Is there parking available onsite? Is there overflow parking? Do you offer any shuttle services?
- Do you have in-house catering? What is the menu? Are they included in the rental fee?
- Can I bring my own cake from an outside bakery?
- Are there any decor limitations?
- Do you work with any vendors exclusively? What are your preferred vendors?
- Do you have a contingency plan for outdoor ceremonies?
- Who will be my main point of contact?

# *PLANNER Q'S*

Questions you should be asking every wedding planner:

- Do you do day-of coordination?
- What packages are best for me to consider?
- How many meetings will we have, and how will we be involved?
- What does the timeline look like?
- Do you handle professional services, contracts & payment processing?
- How many people on your staff will be on-site during the wedding?
- What are some ideas you have for pulling off our vision?
- How would you rate your problem-solving skills?
- Do you receive a commission from referred vendors?
- How many clients do you take on per year and per month?
- Have you ever worked with a couple who had a similar style to us?

# *FLORIST Q'S*

Questions you should be asking every florist:

- Are you able to do a venue walk-through before our wedding date?
- Will you be arranging our flowers or will it be someone else on your team?
- Do you require a minimum floral budget?
- How far in advance do you make the arrangements & how are they stored?
- Do you have a portfolio? How long have you been in business?
- Do you charge a delivery fee? How long do you need to set-up? Can you create a sample arrangement before I sign the contract? Is there a fee for this?
- How would you describe our style? What flowers should we use based on the date of our wedding?
- Can you provide additional decor elements? How do you price your floral arrangements?

# *PHOTOGRAPHER Q'S*

Questions you should be asking every wedding photographer:

- Will you be the one on-site shooting my wedding?
- Do you have an assistant or second photographer to accompany you?
- Do you often shoot weddings that are similar in size & style to ours?
- How would you describe your photography style?
- Can we order prints & albums directly from you?
- Will the images be accessible online? For how long?
- What if something happens to my photographer?
- What are your preventative measures to ensure you don't lose our photos? (Answers should be: using different memory cards throughout the day, making multiple backups immediately after getting home, hiring a second shooter)
- What happens if you lost all the photos from my wedding?
- Will you be posting about our wedding on social media?  
What does your package include?
- How long will it be until I receive my proofs?
- How do you like to schedule a wedding day?
- Will I receive raw or edited images? How many?
- Do you use artificial light during evenings or nights?
- Do you charge an overtime rate?
- Who owns the rights to these images?
- Do you carry backup equipment?

# *VIDEOGRAPHER Q'S*

Questions you should be asking every wedding videographer:

- Will you be the one on-site shooting my wedding?
- Do you have an assistant or second photographer to accompany you?
- How many weddings do you shoot per year?
- How would you describe your style?
- Will there be a second shooter at my wedding?
- What type of music do you use?
- How would you describe your videography style?
- What is the best package for us?
- Do I get to choose my own music?
- Do you include audio clips in the final product?
- Will you hook up to my DJ's soundboard?
- What happens if my DJ doesn't let you hook up to their soundboard?
- Do you offer re-edits if I don't like the final version?
- What type of lighting will you use during my reception?
- Will you coordinate with my photographer?
- Do you offer HD or 4K video?
- Do you provide any drone footage?
- How long will it be before I receive my final video?
- What if something happens to my videographer?
- What will you do if there is inclement weather during the wedding?

# *MAKEUP Q'S*

Questions you should be asking every wedding makeup artist:

- Can you travel for my wedding day?
- Can I book a makeup trial appointment?
- What products do you use? Do you have products for my specific skin type?
- What will you do to ensure my makeup looks great the whole day (crying, creasing, oily, etc)?
- Where did you learn how to apply makeup?
- What size of a bridal party can you accommodate?
- How long will the makeup for everyone take on my wedding day?
- Do you also do hair? Can you recommend a stylist?
- How long will you be staying on the day?

# *HAIR Q'S*

Questions you should be asking every hair stylist:

- Can you travel for my wedding day?
- Can I book a hair trial appointment?
- What products do you use? Do you have products for my specific hair type?
- What will you do to ensure my hair looks great the whole day (no flyaways, frizziness, flatness, etc)?
- Where did you learn how to apply makeup?
- How long will it take to complete my hair on my wedding day?
- Can you accommodate my bridal party as well? How long would it take for everyone?
- How long will you be staying on the day?
- Will you provide hair accessories?
- Do you also do makeup? Can you recommend a makeup artist?

# *DRESS SALON Q'S*

Questions you should be asking every dress salon:

- What do you think will look flattering on me?
- Does my specific wedding date present any limitations?
- How customizable is this dress?
- Do I have to wear undergarments with my gown?
- Will the dress be steamed at pickup?
- What is the best way to store my gown?
- Are fittings included in the price? Are there any trunk shows coming up?
- Do you offer alterations?
- Can I take photos of my dress in the store?
- What happens if I gain or lose weight after the final fitting?

# *TRANSPORTATION Q'S*

Questions you should be asking every vehicle you hire:

- What models of vehicles do you use? Colours, size, types?
- Do you charge by mileage or by the hour?
- Will we need to set our route ahead of time?
- How many people can I bring with me?
- What amenities do your vehicles have?
- What does your driver wear?
- Can we review a sample contract?
- Are you fully insured & licensed?

# *BAKERY Q'S*

Questions you should be asking every cake baker:

- What type of frosting do you use?
- Can you accommodate dietary restrictions?
- If I choose to add fresh flowers, will you work alongside my florist? Who will make my wedding cake?
- Do you provide cake stands & knives?
- What's the delivery process for the day of? What are the fees for delivery & cake set up?
- Do you specialize in a certain type of cake?
- Can I come in for a tasting?
- Can I design a custom cake or do I have to choose from set designs?
- Can I see a copy of your standard contract?
- Are there any additional fees I should be aware of?



# *CATERING Q'S*

Questions you should be asking every catering company:

- Which catering styles do you offer?
- Do you specialize in a certain cuisine?
- Will the food be prepared on-site or brought in pre-cooked?
- Are menus fixed or can we choose our own?
- Do you offer food for dietary restrictions?
- Have you worked at our venue before?
- Do you serve alcohol? Are you licensed to serve alcohol?  
Are you licensed with health permits & liability insurance?
- Can you supply flatware, glassware & dinnerware?
- Do you also provide vendor meals?
- How do you handle last-minute requests?
- How long will it take you for setup & teardown?
- What is your ratio of servers to guests?
- What are your water, electrical & equipment needs?
- Do you also provide wedding cakes? Do you charge a fee for hiring an outside baker?
- When do you do menu tastings? Is there a charge for this?

# *OFFICIANT Q'S*

Questions you should be asking to find the perfect officiant:

- Are you legally able to perform a marriage in British Columbia?
- How will you create our ceremony & how much input will we have?
- What is your favourite part of a wedding day?
- How many weddings do you officiate per year?
- Do you have a script or do you personalize each ceremony for every couple?
- How long is a typical ceremony?
- Do you do rehearsals?
- What do you wear?
- What time will you arrive?
- Will you fill out and file our marriage license?
- Do you require pre-marital counselling?
- Do you have a contingency plan?
- Is the officiant open to any personal ideas for the ceremony? Ex) Personalized vows, etc

# *DJ/BAND Q'S*

Questions you should be asking to all of those providing tunes  
on your special day:

- Can you describe your style?
- What sets you apart from the competition?
- How do you keep your music collection up to date?
- Do you take requests from guests?
- How much would you charge for overtime?
- Are you insured?
- Can you provide a wireless mic for the ceremony?
- Does any of your equipment require special electrical outlets that I need to inform my venue about?
- Have you worked at my venue before? If not, who will go to ensure all of your equipment works properly?
- Do you take breaks? How many & when?
- Do you plan to use lighting or any additional special effects?
- What does setup & teardown look like on the schedule?
- How do you motivate a shy crowd to dance?
- What's your backup plan for equipment malfunction, sick day, etc?



## PART FIVE: *REFINING THE DETAILS*

Some details that you may have totally forgot about or left to the very last minute. Don't worry, we've got you covered.

In this section, we will go over some finishing touches:

1. Obtaining a marriage license.
2. Finalizing Guest List & Seating Chart
3. Figuring out the Rehearsal Dinner

# *OBTAINING A MARRIAGE LICENSE IN B.C.*

BEFORE YOU BEGIN, MAKE SURE YOU:

- Are over the age of 16 (ages 16-19 will need parental consent).
- Secure your marriage license within three months prior to your wedding date.
- Have primary identification with you (birth certificate, IMM/immigration form, permanent resident card or citizenship card) of both yourself and your future spouse.
- Have \$100 for the fee (nonrefundable).

Now you're ready to go to a marriage license issuer to start your application. Find your closest marriage license issuer by going to:

<https://connect.health.gov.bc.ca/marriage-offices>

CONGRATULATIONS, YOU ARE ON YOUR WAY TO LEGALLY BEING MARRIED!

# *FINALIZING GUEST LIST*

We went over creating a rough guest list in Part One. If you feel confident about that guest list, go send out your invites! If you need a bit more advice,

HERE'S A GOOD OL' LIST OF PEOPLE YOU SHOULDN'T FEEL OBLIGATED TO INVITE:

- Your ex
- Your friends' kids
- Your boss
- Co-workers you're not friends with in real life
- The "new girlfriend/boyfriend"
- An old friend whose wedding you attended
- Someone who will add drama or start a fight

It's hard choosing a guest list because there's always going to be someone you can't invite. Just try to stick true to your values and if they inquire further, just give them a reason you can't invite them. We don't encourage lying, but mentioning how the budget is tight, or how you're just having an intimate ceremony, might be enough.

Now let's hope you've figured out all of the people you want to invite. Feel free to go over the list a few times, double-check your venues' max capacity, check-in with ma & pa, and obviously your future spouse.

# THE SEATING CHART

THERE ARE FOUR CATEGORIES TO THINK ABOUT WHEN DESIGNING YOUR SEATING CHART

1. Categories
2. Table-types
3. Creating a Physical or Digital Seating Chart
4. Alternatives

## QUESTIONS

### 1. Do I even need a seating chart

No, you don't! Although, if you have over 75 guests it's strongly recommended to create one as it will help guests relax and focus on celebrating with you. It also makes the reception a bit more organized (which helps especially if you're serving food buffet style).

### 2. Which side of the room does each partner's family sit on? What side does the bride sit on?

This totally depends on if you are having a religious or secular wedding. Different religions require different seating, so check in with your cultural traditions & religious practices before creating your seating map. If you are having a non-religious wedding, there are no rules regarding where everyone should be placed.

### 3. Should the bride & groom's parents sit together?

This depends on the relationship they have with each other. Would they be happier sitting with each other and mutually celebrating together? Or would they be happiest apart with their own family?

Is this a religious wedding?

If the answer is yes, there will be different guidelines for seating maps than if it is a secular wedding. Please refer to your priest, Pastor, officiant, or google for seating charts specific to your religion. (Every religion is different and I am not an expert on every religion) If the answer is no, read on! I will go over some helpful tips while deciding your layout.

## TIPS

- You will always want to make sure the people you have seated together will get along. This is more important than having specific groups all at the same table.
- Don't have a table full of couples and then one single person.
- Only create your seating chart after you've received all (or the majority) of your RSVP's.
- All of these tips & suggestions depend on the size of your wedding & the size of your venue. Plan accordingly. Try to always ensure that your guest knows at least one person at the table you're seating them at
- Consider guests who may have physical limitations. Whether that be needing a wheelchair accessible space or possibly being sat further away from the speakers & lights. However, it also might be a good idea to consider seating younger guests, who will be dancing all night, near the dance floor or music.



# *THE SEATING CHART*

## CATEGORIES

### *Bride & Groom*

Let's start with you two. You need to decide where you'll be the happiest spending your evening. Would it warm your heart to sit with just your spouse at a sweetheart table, surrounded by your wedding party, or maybe intermingled with your closest family members? Decide on this before moving any further, we can worry about logistics later.

### *Extended Family*

Grandparents, Aunts & Uncles & cousins of both sides can all be sat at the same tables.

### *Co-workers*

If you are inviting enough coworkers to make a table, sit them altogether. If not, try intermingling them with some of your friends.

### *Vendors Table*

Something that might have slipped your mind is creating a vendor's table. Folks like the DJ, photographer, videographer, MUA, and others will need a place to unload their gear and grab a bite. It's a long day for everyone.

### *Wedding Party*

Are the majority of people in your wedding party coupled with people who are not involved in your wedding party? If so, it might be the best idea to sit your wedding party with their loved ones so no one feels out of place. If your wedding party is smaller, maybe you can fit everyone together. If your bridesmaids & groomsmen's partners are friends, sit them with your other friends and have your wedding party sitting with you.

### *College Friends*

Try to keep your college friends sat together. This will be a good chance for everyone to catch up!

### *Kids Table*

If there are going to be a lot of kids at your wedding, consider creating a kids table that is somewhat close to the adult table.

### *Parents (from both sides)*

Traditionally, you would seat all of the parents together at one table. Although, if your parents are not on good terms, this doesn't have to be a rule. Consider seating moms at one table and dads at another.

### *Siblings (from both sides)*

If you have a large family, consider seating all of your siblings together at one table. This will give them the chance to get to know each other.

### *High School Friends*

If you have enough high school friends, try to get them at the same table or maybe intermingle them with your college friends.

### *Neighbours*

Try to sit them altogether or with someone they know.

# THE SEATING CHART

## TABLE-TYPES

### *Round & Oval*

Round tables are by far the most common table to find at a wedding reception. They are smooth and elegant as well as versatile. They come in a variety of sizes for you to play around with. They also conducive for conversation as everyone will be able to see each other.

### *Rectangle & Square*

Rectangle & Square tables can be a great option when you're trying to save space. Long banquet tables not only save space but also ooze elegance. Try not to push rectangle tables too close together or you may give flashbacks to the high school cafeteria. Try incorporating both rectangle & circle tables for some space-saving looks.

## CREATING A PHYSICAL OR ONLINE SEATING CHART

*Your venue & size of the guest list is what determines the layout of your reception. It's all about creating balance.*

- Get a floor plan of your venue. (Ask your venue for this info)
- Decide on the table types you're using.
- Learn more about table sizes & how many people you can fit in each table. Make sure to have enough space in between tables for guests to comfortably move around.
- Use an online seating chart tool to help create a digital map (WeddingWire, AllSeated, Wedding Mapper, Style Me Pretty, & Table Chart: The Seating Chart App all offer services to help design your chart!)
- If you prefer creating a physical chart, size down your venue and cut out the dimensions on a piece of bristol board or paper. Now you'll also want to size down the tables & chairs so everything's accurate. Then write out everyone's name on stick note strips and move them around to different tables until you have the perfect layout.

## ALTERNATIVES

If your guest list happens to be quite small, or you're just not a fan of deciding where your loved ones would feel the most comfortable sitting, consider taking a non-traditional approach.

# THE REHEARSAL

## WHO TO INVITE

- Wedding Party
- Wedding Party Spouse's
- Immediate family
- Wedding officiates
- Flower girl, ring bearer & their parents
- Family or friends that have travelled a long distance

## TIPS

- Decide who's hosting.
- Pick a unique location.
- Pick a theme.
- Decorate the space.
- Keep costs down by serving only appetizers & drinks.
- Traditionally, rehearsal dinners happen the night before the wedding (usually on a Friday), try to time in right by starting after most people get off work.
- The rehearsal usually lasts 30-45 minutes while the dinner should start immediately after (usually around 7 pm).
- Purchase wedding party gifts to give away at dinner.
- Keep it simple and close to your venue. Don't exhaust all of your guests before the big day.
- Give your guests an idea of what the menu will be so they can prepare.



*NOW GO GET MARRIED*



## PART SIX: *AFTER THE WEDDING*

You thought it was over.

In this section, we will be going over everything you have to do once the big day is over:

1. Complete your marriage license.
2. Send handwritten thank-you notes to all of the guests.
3. Takedown your wedding registry & website.
4. Preserve everything.
5. Legally change your name.
6. Review your vendors.



# *COMPLETE YOUR MARRIAGE LICENSE*

With all of the hustle & bustle, it may slip your mind that you still have some important documents to send out. To complete your marriage license paperwork, you need a signature of a registered religious representative or a non-religious marriage commissioner. After you have said your “I do’s”, you & your partner, along with two witnesses and your commissioner must sign the marriage license & registration. Within 48 hours your commissioner must submit your Registration of Marriage to the Vital Statistics Agency. After around 3 weeks, you will receive a marriage certificate in the mail and voila, you’re married!

## *THANK-YOU'S*

The task may seem daunting but it is absolutely necessary, especially if you received gifts from any guests. Your wedding day wouldn’t be the same without all of the people who showed up. When to send thank you notes? If you receive a pre-wedding gift it’s best to send the thank-you note no more than two weeks after arrival. If you receive gifts on your wedding day you should have the notes sent out no more than three months after the wedding day.

## *TAKE DOWN WEBSITE*

If you ended up hosting your website, make sure to cancel your hosting package or subscription to avoid getting charged annual fees.

# *PRESERVATION*

*While this is not necessary, it's often very sentimental to preserve some of the major parts of your wedding day.*

The most common being:

## *Wedding Gown:*

Your first step is to get your dress professionally cleaned. Ask your seamstress to recommend a cleaner as well as a skilled preservationist (they're usually the same person). Although you can wait up to six weeks after the wedding to get the dress preserved, it's best to get it professionally cleaned within a few days of the wedding. After preservation, experts say to keep it in a vacuum seal & stored in a place where it's protected from extreme temperatures, moisture & exposure to direct sunlight.

## *Bride's Bouquet:*

You can preserve your bouquet in two ways. First, you could dry & press your flowers where they could be stored in a frame. Secondly, you could choose to have it sealed in a dome or shadow box.

## *Wedding Cake:*

Chances are you've been told to save the top tier of your wedding cake. While the tradition roots itself in a superstitious history, it could be a fun way to relive some of your wedding memories a year later. Before freezing it, remove any flowers or decorations and chill it until the frosting is firm. Then cover it in several layers of plastic wrap (tinfoil may cause freezer burn) and place it in an airtight bag inside your freezer.



# *LEGALLY CHANGE YOUR NAME*

If you choose to change your last name, make sure you get all of that sorted out as soon as you can as it can be a tedious process. According to the government of British Columbia, “Section 3 of the Name Act allows you to assume your spouse’s surname after marriage without completing a legal change of name. In most cases, changing your name on bank accounts, social insurance number, driver's license, and other agencies is as simple as showing your current identification and your marriage certificate.”

Based on other past-brides experiences, it is not as easy as it makes it out to be.

- To start out, you’ll need a copy of your Marriage Certificate. If you plan on mailing in your applications, you’ll need to order multiple. Keep in mind that they take a few weeks to be delivered.
- After that, you’ll want to change the name on your MSP & driver’s license.
- Then you’ll move onto the SIN card. Following your SIN card, you can apply for a new passport, notify the CRA, and finally, switch all of your credit cards & payroll.
- Feel free to update your social media name whenever you want! There are no rules.

# *REVIEW YOUR VENDORS*

Giving your vendors reviews is apart of being a fabulous couple to work with. A review can make a tremendous difference in someone who is looking to book a wedding vendor. WeddingWire & The Knot are wedding planning services that give awards to vendors who are top-performers in their category, so give amazing vendors what they deserve. Nothing makes a wedding vendor more happy than receiving news that they helped you create your perfect wedding.



## *Tips:*

- The earlier you review, the better as all the details will be fresh in your mind. Although, a late review is better than no review.
- Treat leaving reviews the same as sending out thank you notes to your guests.
- Be honest but don't be unprofessional. If you were displeased with the service you received on your wedding day, try to sort it out with the vendor via email rather than publicly outing them.