



Wedding timeline

MOUNTAINSIDE GUIDE WEDDING PLANNING SERIES

Welcome

I am so excited to welcome you to the Mountain-side Guide Wedding Planning series! While I typically cater my guides to mountain brides, this series features foundational information to help any bride plan a beautiful and stress-free wedding.

In this guide you'll find a comprehensive wedding planning timeline and checklist with inspiring pictures by Colorado wedding photographer Laura Murray.

Once you've read over this guide, please let me know if you have any questions about wedding planning, timelines or checklists. I am happy to help you every step of the way.

Bisous from the Mountains!

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Using this Guide

Step 1: Read through the timeline and cross out anything that doesn't apply to you. (A big fat sharpie works well.)

Step 2: Have special requirements or want more freedom to customize? Check out our comprehensive, customizable timeline and checklist on GoogleDrive.

<http://9nl.be/google-timeline>



12-10
Months





12-10 MONTHS

- Spend the weekend alone together, enjoying each other's company and this new phase of your life.
- Announce your engagement.
- Discuss as a couple the style, level of formality and general size of your wedding.
- Work out your budget, including who is paying for what and how much you'll have.
- Choose several possible dates for your wedding. Research prices and options for your top picks.
- Research conflicts with date selection, including major holidays, weather issues, events, and airline blackout dates.
- Figure out your guest list. Start with your personal list. Then ask your partner to create one. Finally, ask your families to create theirs. Prioritize from there.

12-10 Months

Continued

- Let family and friends know your wedding date.
 - Start looking at Pinterest, wedding blogs and magazines for inspiration for your wedding.
 - Figure out a system for organizing your wedding planning research and inspiration.
 - Request brochures for your destination wedding.
 - Determine your wedding party.
 - Research and book your ceremony location.
 - Book your officiant.
 - Research and book your venue location.
 - Research any ceremony site rules, regulations and restrictions.
 - Start looking for your dress.
 - Research and hire your wedding planner.
 - Announce your engagement in the local newspapers.
 - Organize names of vendors and their contact information in a master contact list.
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9-8 Months



9-8 MONTHS

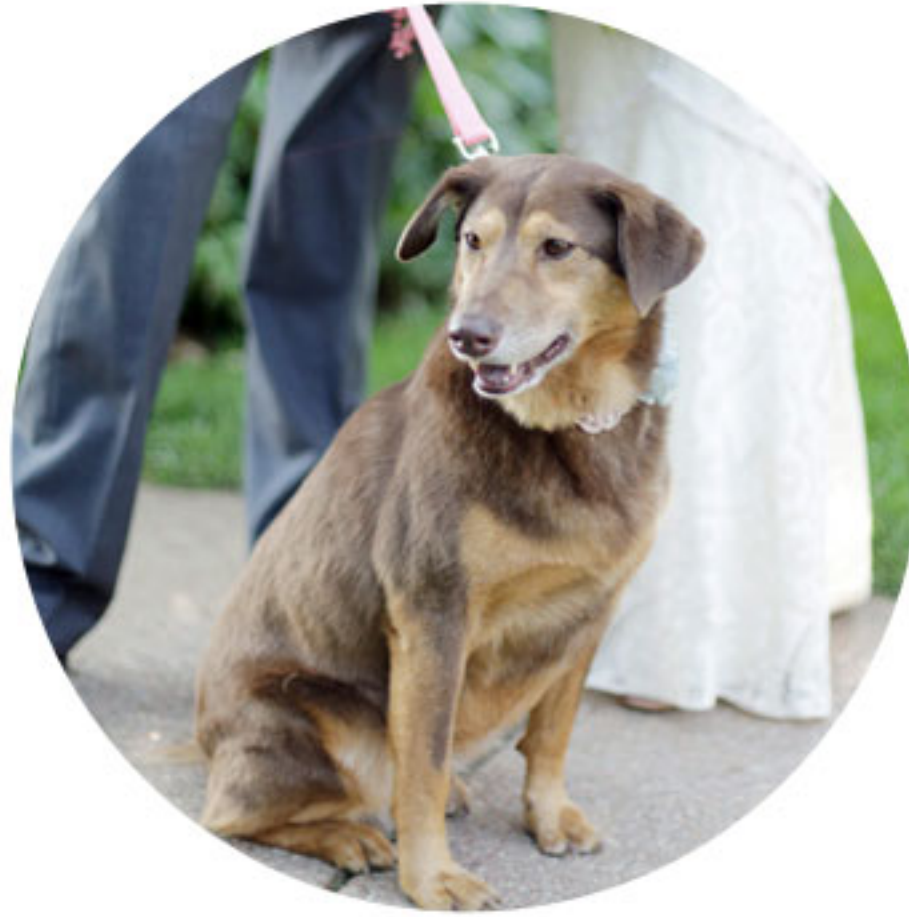
- Start looking at invitation designs.
 - Register for gifts.
 - Research and book your caterer.
 - Research and book your photographer.
 - Research and book your videographer.
 - Research and book your reception entertainment, DJ or band.
 - Purchase your dress.
 - Research local marriage requirements.
 - Start writing your ceremony and vows.
 - Meet with the caterer to discuss menu options.
 - Plan bar requirements and set up.
 - Create a wedding website.
 - Make, design or shop for your invitations and Save the Date cards.
 - Choose and reserve room blocks for guests.
 - Compile an address list for guests.
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6-3
Months



6 Months



- Start researching and book your honeymoon.
 - Apply for your passports and any travel visas you'll need.
 - Hire your calligrapher.
 - Choose your bridesmaids attire.
 - Meet with your officiant to talk about the ceremony.
 - Send out Save the Date Cards.
 - Research and book your florist and schedule your first consultation.
 - Research and book your limo, classic car company or other transportation.
 - Create your basic rental needs and wish list.
 - Visit with rental company to look at supplies.
 - Choose your china, linens, chairs, etc.
 - Start figuring out your day-of timeline.
 - Request name-change information.
 - Start planning wedding weekend activities.
 - Begin pre-wedding fitness and beauty routines.
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5-4 MONTHS

- Book rehearsal and rehearsal dinner venue.
- Review invitation samples from stationer.
- Select and place your order your wedding cake.
- Send your wish guest list to whomever is hosting your shower.
- Start dress fittings.
- Start hair and makeup trials.
- Start compiling your song wish list and your do-not-play list.
- Plan your welcome bags for out of town guests.
- Research and book your ceremony music

3 MONTHS

- Finalize your menu and flowers.
- Order your favors and goodies for welcome bags.
- Contact anyone who may make a speech to give them plenty of time to prepare.
- Finalize your readings, vows, and ceremony elements.
- Purchase your under garments and go to your second dress fitting.

3 months cont.

- Print menu cards, ceremony programs, place cards, and any other reception paper products (note: escort cards will be written once the head count is finalized).
 - Order wedding rings.
 - Have wedding rings engraved.
 - Finalize event schedule and send to vendors.
 - Address and assemble your invitations.
 - Help parents choose their wedding day attire.
 - Submit your song wish list and do-not-play list to your band or DJ.
 - Arrange for childcare for guests' children.
 - Finalize plans for the rehearsal dinner.
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*2-1
Months*



2 Months



- Meet with photographer and work out shots and locations.
 - Review playlist with band or DJ.
 - Send invitations. Make sure your RSVP cutoff date is 3 weeks before the wedding.
 - Check in with vendors and make sure you're all on the same page in terms of schedule, locations and deliverables.
 - Check in about scheduling a bachelorette party if your friends haven't indicated that one is in the works yet.
 - Secure your marriage license for the state you'll be married in.
 - Do your engagement shoot to get to know your photographer.
 - Get gifts for bridal party, parents, and spouse.
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1 Month

- Enter RSVPs into a guest database. Include their address and a field to record gifts.
- Follow up by phone or email with those who haven't yet RSVP-ed.
- Get your marriage license.
- Get your final fitting.
- Contact your caterer and bartender with a preliminary head count.
- Send out as many final payments as you can.
- Confirm appointments for hair and makeup.
- Assign guest seating.
- Get your hair colored. (2 weeks before.)
- Meet with the officiant about the final ceremony elements, including going over rules and regulations for the venue.





1 month cont.

- Arrange transportation for wedding party guests. (Remember they'll need ride to and from the wedding.)
 - Write thank you notes for shower gifts.
 - Write or print out escort cards.
 - Purchase unity candle, sand ceremony elements, or any other ceremony items you need.
 - Purchase your guest book.
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*Wedding
week*





1 WEEK

- Reconfirm date, arrival times, and location with vendors.
- Arrange for small wedding day tasks: You'll need someone to help bustle the dress, someone to carry your things, someone to be in charge of gifts, Someone to handout tips, and someone to be point person for your planner and vendors).
- Send final timeline to bridal party. Include everyone's contact information, along with your planner's contact info or any vendors to call if there is a problem.
- Pick up your dress.
- Pick up groom's tux.
- Give your photographer a list of must-capture moments and VIP guests you'd like pictures of, such as your grandmother, great aunt Tilly, etc).
- Set aside checks and final payments and tips for vendors in envelopes. Assign someone to hand them out at the end of the evening.
- Contact caterer with your final head count.

1 week cont.

- Confirm your rehearsal dinner plans.
 - Get a facial and take care of waxing (legs, brows & bikini).
 - Break in your shoes. Make sure you can walk, sit for hours and dance in them.
 - Assemble welcome baskets.
 - Pack for your honeymoon.
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Day Before



- Get a manicure & pedicure.
 - Set up site as needed.
 - Make sure everything you need for the wedding is packed.
 - Lay out your wedding dress, undergarments and accessories.
 - Confirm times for attendants to show up and where they need to be and go.
 - Assemble your emergency bag.
 - Gas up cars.
 - Contact planner and firm up last-minute details.
 - Attend rehearsal and dinner.
 - Get a good night's sleep.
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Wedding Day

- Do any last minute decorating of site (this should be minimal).
- Set out favors.
- Set out placecards.
- Set out guest book and pens.
- Attend your bridal brunch.
- Have hair and makeup done.
- Make sure someone has the wedding rings.
- Make sure someone has your car keys.
- Make sure someone has arranged to have your suitcases go to your hotel room.

Happy Marriage !



CREDITS

PHOTOGRAPHY: Laura Murray

DESIGN: PostFilm Design

