

# THE BRIDE'S 6-MONTH CHECKLIST

## "Plan Ahead"

### 6 MONTHS OR MORE PRIOR

- Buy your wedding planner or a good organizer.
- Discuss the style of the wedding and the budget with your fiancée and ALL parents.
- Interview wedding consultants, advisors and coordinators.
- Speak with your clergy - speak with other family members' clergy - ask questions.
- Begin looking for locations - ceremony - rehearsal dinner - reception - other planned events. Remember, you can make any location a party location with tents and rentals from United Rent-all.
- Begin interviewing Caterers, Bakers, Photographers, Videographers, Florists, Musicians.
- By the end of the Month select three of your key players: advisor/consultant - caterer - photographer.
- By the end of the Month select the site for the ceremony.
- By the end of the Month select the site for the reception and rehearsal dinner.
- By the end of the Month select the remaining key players: Baker, Florist, Musicians, Videographer.
- By the end of the Month decide on a menu.
- By the end of the Month schedule engagement photo session.
- By the end of the Month select and order attendants' apparel.

### 3 TO 6 MONTHS PRIOR

- Begin review of details with all of your wedding professionals - don't be put off!
- Finalize honeymoon plans with fiancée and book with travel agent.
- By the end of Month 6 shop for and order invitations and announcements.
- Finalize music selection for wedding and reception.
- By the end of Month 5 book calligrapher.
- By the end of Month 5 shop and order the men's formal wear.
- Book wedding transportation - limousines, horse drawn carriages, hot air balloons, boat, etc.
- By the end of Month 4 have the rehearsal dinner plans in place (make sure you coordinate this with your fiancée).

## **2 TO 3 MONTHS PRIOR**

- Order the wedding rings!!
- Finish the guest list.
- Shop 'til you drop
- Lingerie
- Honeymoon Clothes
- Attendants' gifts
- Your gift for your fiancé
- Pre- & post-wedding party clothes you might need
- Finalize catering, bakery, and floral arrangements. (be a little flexible)
- Reserve a block of rooms for your out of town guests. (Good work for you fiancé.)
- Finalize arrangements for any rental items you may need.
- Tents and/or Canopies
- Dance Floor, Stage, and Aisle Runner
- Decorative Archways and Candelabras
- Silver Serving Pieces
- Tables, Linens, and Chairs - make sure you have enough!
- Special lighting (call for pricing and availability)
- Make appointment with your hairdresser. (trial run-through for the next month - also good for the bridal portrait)
- Make the final appointment with your hairdresser.
- Make appointment for your nails.
- Make appointment with a makeup artist for the day of your bridal portrait.

## **3 TO 8 WEEKS PRIOR**

- Mail your wedding invitations and send either your per-planned special itinerary for early arriving out-of-town guests or an activity sheet from area chambers.
- Final fittings (For you and your attendants).
- Plan the bridesmaids' party and confirm location and instructions.
- By week 6 have the bridal portrait taken.
- Send local paper and area wedding publications your announcement & photograph.

- Notes! Notes! Notes! Write Thank You Notes as you receive bridal and wedding gifts.
- Reconfirm rehearsal events and rehearsal dinner reservations.
- For you own piece of mind personally touch base with every key professional you and/or your coordinator have working on all the upcoming events.
- By week 4 pick up Wedding Rings.
- Get marriage license with fiancée.
- Reconfirm honeymoon reservations and (if leaving the country go to bank and exchange at least \$100 into foreign currency).
- Submit request lists to your musicians, photographer, and videographer.
- Formally invite wedding party and guests to the rehearsal dinner.
- Confirm all transportation for ALL events.
- Address announcements to mail on your wedding day.
- Prepare all the necessary forms for name and address changes on social security card, credit cards, bank accounts, post office, driver's license, et al.
- Arrange to move belongings to new home.

## **1 WEEK PRIOR**

- On the very first day of the very last week begin packing for your honeymoon.
- Check final details with all your wedding professionals - early in the week
- Give (or attend) the Bridesmaids' party
- Give final guest count to the caterer
- Create a wedding day schedule with your finance
- Reminder Day (3 Days Prior)
- Remind wedding party men to pick up tuxedos
- Remind attendants of rehearsal dinner agenda
- Remind finance to double check rehearsal dinner plans
- Finish packing for your honeymoon
- Rehearsal Dinner (give wedding day schedule to all
- Schedule the day prior to the wedding as a free day - and a day to visit with a few close friends