

# WEDDING TIMELINE

- 6 Months or More Ahead**
- Submit engagement announcement on NDPrairieBride.com
  - Take engagement photos
  - Think about the style of wedding you want—formal or informal, big or small—and the season it will take place
  - Set budget
  - Hire wedding coordinator, if desired
  - Compile guest list, and organize addresses
  - Finalize wedding date and time
  - Choose color, theme, and size of wedding
  - Reserve ceremony and reception sites
  - Choose attendants
  - Order dress and accessories, including veil and shoes
  - Book officiant
  - Book caterer
  - Book florist
  - Book music for ceremony and reception
  - Book photographer and videographer
  - Meet with clergy or officiant for pre-marital counseling requirements and begin classes
  - Arrange the transportation for the wedding day
  - Discuss honeymoon, apply for passport if needed
  - Send save-the-dates, if using

- 4 to 6 Months Ahead**
- Reserve rental equipment, such as tables, chairs and tents
  - Order stationery, including invitations, and thank you notes
  - Register for gifts
  - Purchase wedding rings and arrange engraving, if needed
  - Purchase or reserve groom's attire
  - Choose attendants' attire
  - Help mothers choose their dresses.
  - Book hair, nail and makeup appointments
  - Order wedding cake
  - Choose favors
  - Book a room for wedding night
  - Reserve accommodations for out-of-town guests
  - Sign up for dance lessons

- 2 to 4 Months Ahead**
- Select songs for ceremony, dinner and dances
  - Finalize details with florist, DJ, photographer, caterer
  - Finalize menu with caterer
  - Discuss service with officiant
  - Choose readings for ceremony
  - Try out makeup and hairstyle
  - Schedule a session with your videographer to film video for the rehearsal dinner/reception
  - Mail invitations

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## NOTES

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### 1 to 2 Months Ahead

- Buy guest book, unity candle, toasting glasses, cake knife and server, flower girl/ring bearer accessories
- Confirm ceremony details
- Prepare printed program for ceremony
- Schedule rehearsal time and rehearsal dinner
- Invite wedding party and guests to rehearsal dinner
- Complete documents for legal name change, change of address
- Obtain marriage license, and request certified copies
- Pick up rings and check engraving
- Confirm details with the florist, caterer, entertainers, and officiant
- Buy gifts for attendants, flower girl, ring bearer, fiancée, parents

### 2 Weeks Ahead

- Have final dress fitting with shoes, accessories, and lingerie
- Have fittings for tuxedos and attendants' dresses
- Submit list of must-take shots to photographer and videographer
- Follow up on missing RSVPs
- Arrange seating chart and place cards
- Create wedding day schedule; share with wedding party and vendors
- Notify caterer of final guest count
- Find out where your guests will be staying, if you plan to deliver welcome bags to their rooms

### 1 Week Ahead

- Pick up dress
- Pick up the rings
- Write rehearsal dinner and wedding toasts
- Finalize seating plan
- Get manicure and pedicure
- Pack for honeymoon
- Write thank you notes as you receive gifts
- Verify transportation to and from ceremony

### Day Before

- Deliver out-of-town guest gift baskets to hotel
- Attend ceremony rehearsal
- Hold rehearsal dinner and give gifts to wedding party
- Prepare tip envelopes and arrange for someone to distribute them

### Wedding Day

- Eat breakfast
- Get hair and makeup done
- Get dressed
- Relax and enjoy the day
- Give your vows to your Maid of Honor
- Exchange a note/gift with your groom

## NOTES

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