

A Detailed Wedding Planning Checklist You'll Actually Use & Check-off!

Wedding Spaces to Reserve

- Ceremony location
- Reception Venue
- Rehearsal Dinner Restaurant
- Bridal Shower location
- Hotel on your wedding night
- Honeymoon resort, hotel, or other

First Step "Wedding To do's"

- Establish a realistic budget and find out who is able to contribute, and how much money
- Begin preparing your guest list with family
- Choose your wedding party
- Decide on a creative way to ask your wedding party
- Register for gifts and put on your wedding website or invitations
- Make a wedding website – fill in as you decide on locations, times, etc.
- Determine who will plan your bridal shower
- Determine who will plan bachelorette/ bachelor parties

Professional Wedding Vendors to Consider Hiring

- Wedding planner
- Day of Coordinator
- Photographer(s)
- Videographer
- Caterer
- Tent rental
- DJ
- Band
- Cake Baker or Dessert Vendor
- Entertainers (Mariachi, quartet, caricature artist, magician, singer, other)
- Officiant

- Choreographer / Dance lessons
- Rental co. for tables, chairs, linens
- Luxury restroom trailer rental
- Dance Floor rental
- Electricity or generator rentals
- Dumpster rental
- Staffing – servers, clean up, etc.
- Valet services or van transportation for guests
- Sound system, Bluetooth speakers, microphone rentals
- Photo Booth
- Limousine, party bus or classic car

Don't forget these things the morning of your wedding!

- "The obvious" attire and accessories, etc.
- The marriage license
- Wedding rings – give to best man
- Your ID's or licenses to consume alcoholic beverages
- Cell #'s for all vendors – give to someone
- Cell #'s for wedding party – give to someone
- Tips for your vendors
- Your seating chart, floor plan or escort cards
- Gifts for wedding party or parents
- A gift for each other
- Your written vows
- Snacks & water
- Emergency kit
- Rain gear – umbrella, coat, rainboots
- Sewing kit and safety pins
- Overnight bag
- A jacket
- Your laptop, if you're showing a slideshow – give someone the password

Ideas to include family or friends in your Wedding celebration:

- Honor them with a memory table with photos or memorabilia
- Ask them to help decorate
- Prepare a Missing man table / fallen comrade table
- Ushers
- Ring bearer or flower girl
- Ask them to be your officiant
- Guest book attendant
- A reader during the ceremony
- Participate in the sand ceremony, rosary, etc.
- Give the blessing before dinner
- Ask them to give a toast
- You give a toast and mention them
- Give them a gift
- Give them a gift for winning the “Anniversary Dance”
- Ask them to Make a traditional dish or even the wedding cake
- Ask them to perform something
- Ask them to a special dance with you – father daughter, mother son, mother daughter, other
- Ask them to bake the traditional wedding cookies for the tables or make mints
- Ask them to design something for the wedding day
- Ask them to help create the music playlist for the dance party

Bridal Party

- Bridesmaid dresses
- Maid of Honor dress
- Parent’s outfits
- Hotel / Lodging
- Accessories
- Gift
- Groomsmen attire
- Flower girl attire
- Ring bearer attire
- _____

Bride Attire

- Wedding dress
- Undergarments
- Shapewear
- Seamstress
- Veil
- Garter
- Something olde, something new, something borrowed, something blue,
- Shoes
- Accessories
- Clutch bag
- Jewelry & accessories
- Getting Ready Robe & Attire
- Flip flops for dancing
- Rehearsal and Rehearsal Dinner outfit

Groom Attire

- Tuxedo or Suit
- Shirt
- Pocket square
- Shoes
- Socks
- Cufflinks
- Watch
- Belt
- Suspenders

Wedding Menu: Food, Beverages, and Liquor

- Rehearsal dinner
- Cocktail hour appetizers
- Non-alcoholic beverages
- Signature Cocktails
- Liquor (cash or open bar)
- Wedding Cake
- Dessert Bar
- Snacks while getting ready
- Dinner (each course)
- Tableware rentals
- Glassware rentals

Wedding Flowers

- Bride bouquet
- Bridesmaid's bouquets
- Toss bouquet
- Groom boutonniere
- Groomsmen boutonniere
- Parent/grandparents boutonniere or corsages
- Centerpieces
- Ceremony signage or backdrop
- Head table garland
- Head Table Backdrop
- Photo booth backdrop
- Other areas _____

Bridal Beauty for your Wedding Day

- Schedule a hair & makeup trial long before your wedding day to test out your look
- Hire and reserve a Hair stylist / salon for wedding party early on your wedding day
- Hire and reserve a Makeup artist
- Hire and reserve Nail tech – mani & pedi
- Hair accessory/veil
- Hire and reserve a Lash extension specialist
- Reserve a Waxing appointment
- Reserve Tanning appointments or spray tan
- Teeth whitening
- Day of: Mirror, hairstyling products, deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste, floss, mouthwash, drinking straws, makeup, lipstick and gloss
- Begin a weight loss program if desiring to lose some weight

Honeymoon

- Renew or get a passport
- Driver's license
- Get required shots (if trip is out of the country)
- Reservations for accommodations
- Reservations for excursions or tours
- Flights
- Transportation
- Money exchange
- Paper & electronic copies of important papers & phone numbers
- Converter or adapter (if trip is out of the country)
- Pack

Wedding Decorations & Tableware

- Ceremony aisle
- Ceremony altar
- Chair décor – sash, flowers, chair covers
- Sign in table / Guestbook
- Signage – (Welcome sign, unplugged ceremony, seating chart, other)
- Linens (base and overlay, runner)
- Cloth napkins
- China, glassware, silverware (for appetizers, salad, dinner, cake or dessert)
- Charger plates
- Centerpieces – flowers, candles, bling, etc.
- Guest favors
- Head table décor
- Head table backdrop
- Ceiling decor
- Lighting
- Wall monogram
- Guest book table
- Gift table (card box, escort cards)

Stationary

- Save the dates
- Bridal Shower invites
- Bachelorette/Bachelor party invitations
- Wedding invitations
- Menu cards
- Escort cards
- Seating chart
- Thank you cards
- Ceremony signs
- Chair décor
- Parking signs

Additional items on the check list

- _____

DJ “must do’s”

- Give DJ a genre to play while guests are being seated for the ceremony
- Choose specific ceremony entrance, ceremonial and exit songs
- Give DJ a genre for cocktail hour and dinner, or some specific favorite songs
- Grand entrance song(s) for wedding party and the two of you, and exact way you want everyone to be introduced
- Song for a slideshow
- Song for cake cutting
- Formal dance songs – first dance, father daughter, mother son, other?
- Anniversary dance song(s)
- Money dance song(s)
- Bouquet and garter songs
- Playlist or genre of music for the dance party (do not play, must play)
- Last song of the night

Photography “must do’s”

- Schedule your engagement photo session
- Give them a Pinterest board with the “style” of photos you like
- Give them any “must have” poses on text or email
- Choose pre-ceremony shots you desire for you both alone, and with wedding party or family members
- Choose any “must have” shots
- Prepare and give them your immediate family formal photo list
- Give them any special requests for detail shots
- Order prints, a book, or canvas



How to Customize Your Wedding Day!

Visualize yourselves on the day after your Wedding, and the feelings you want to experience! Picture the entire event flow of your day in your mind and how you can make it magical: your experience, the guest experience, the entertainment, elements of surprise, the type of food you want to enjoy, the music you want to hear, how to make it meaningful, fun and full of laughter and joy, who to honor and include where, the photos you really want to capture, if you want video, the party and dancing, and overall how to create memories of a lifetime, then plan a moment alone together inside of your day “even if for a few minutes.”

Share and tell your love story throughout the celebration or else it’s not going to be unique to you!

- The Ceremony** – plan the look and feel, the ambiance and mood, who is involved, who is marrying you, who will walk with who and from where, where will they stand, the music you want, the traditions you want, the vibe you want
- Cocktail hour / The Bar** – plan the look and feel, the ambiance and mood, entertainment, food, drinks (cash or open bar), non-alcoholic beverages, the music you want, the vibe you want, have a seating chart prepared or escort cards
- Plan your photography time** – your alone shots, wedding party, and then immediate family formal shots. Ask your photographer for a realistic time allotment for all of this. Plan these shots out so you don’t run out of time or burn out on photos because you didn’t plan in advance. Don’t overdo the # of family formals, as shots of the two of you are what you’ll end up enlarging and framing the most.
- Your grand entrance** – the song, the vibe, the introductions, and wow factors
- The Dinner Reception** – plan the look and feel, the ambiance and mood, the lighting, design the floor plan and who will sit where, the music or entertainment you want, a slideshow, the overall vibe you want
- Formalities** – toasts, cake cutting, first dance, father daughter dance, mother son dance, dance with your children, dance with grandparents, other?
- Cultural or Family Traditions** – La Marcha, the money dance, the anniversary dance, other
- The Dancing and Party Time!**
- Bouquet & Garter**
- Last song of the night**
- Sparkler send off**

If you want a unique and one-of-a-kind celebration, what elements of surprise and unique wow factors or guest experiences can you incorporate?

Need help? Contact our pros at www.TheBellaSera.com. We’ve been passionately helping couples create the one-of-a-kind wedding celebrations they really want for over 20 years. (720)937-6337

All-inclusive Wedding Venue – Near Denver, CO