



A R K A N S A S
BRIDE

Wedding Planning Checklist 6 Months or Less

IMMEDIATELY AFTER GETTING ENGAGED

- Announce your engagement on social media.
- Have the money talk with your fiancé, your parents and the groom's parents to determine who plans to contribute to the budget.
- Get inspired. Start collecting bridal magazines, pinning on Pinterest and perusing ArkansasBride.com.
- Create a wedding binder or buy a wedding organizer.
- Print off these helpful tools:
 - Wedding Planning Checklist*
 - Wedding Budget Spreadsheet*
 - Gown Buying Guide*
 - Wedding Day Timeline & Checklist*
 - Bridal Registry Checklist*
- Insure your engagement ring.
- Set a date!
- Build a wedding website.
- Wedding cakes
- Florist
- Videographer
- Ceremony musicians.
- Begin a fitness regimen.
- Schedule regular beauty treatments: facials, massages, Botox, etc.
- Research hotels for out-of-town guests, and reserve a block of rooms for guests
- Research honeymoon destinations.

6 MONTHS—BETTER GET GOING!

- Finalize your budget.
- Draft a guest list. *You can't book a venue if you don't have an estimate in mind.*
- Choose your wedding party.
- Order your bridesmaids and groomsmen attire ASAP.
- Determine your wedding style: choose your colors and/or theme.
- Book your wedding venue.
- Order your wedding dress.
- Hire these key professionals ASAP:
 - Photographer
 - Schedule engagement photos right away.*
 - Wedding planner or event designer
 - Caterer
 - Officiant

4-5 MONTHS

- Register for wedding gifts.
- Reserve the band or DJ.
- Order your wedding invitations.
- Book honeymoon plans.
- Make sure plans for the rehearsal dinner are underway.
- Draft a rehearsal dinner guest list.
- Shop for wedding bands.
- Send save-the-dates.
- Shop for wedding party thank you gifts.
- Pick out wedding shoes, veil, headpiece, garter and any other accessories.
- Research transportation for the wedding day.

3 MONTHS

- Order custom thank you notes. These will come in handy after your upcoming bridal showers.
- Book bridal beauty treatments.
- Finalize menu with caterer.
- Order beer, wine and/or liquor now to ensure you get the best price. *Discuss your needs with a liquor store manager for bulk discounts and deals on certain brands.*
- Buy wedding favors.

AR KANSAS BRIDE *Wedding Planning Checklist, 6 Months or Less*

- Add items to your registry, if incomplete.
- Begin gown fittings and alterations.
Take your shoes and accessories with you.
- Book transportation services.

- Confirm rehearsal and rehearsal dinner plans.
- Do you have the marriage license yet?
- Finalize ceremony readings and vows with officiant.
- Write and mail any bridal shower thank you notes left to send.

2 MONTHS

- Mail the wedding invitations.
- Check in with all wedding vendors to confirm dates, plans and ask questions.
- Create a photo checklist or review the list provided by your photographer. *Discuss your wishes with the photographer.*
- Take your bridal portraits.
- Do a hair and makeup run-throughs.
- Order programs, menus, place cards, table numbers, etc.
- Marriage license can now be obtained. *Remember, it's only valid for 60 days.*
- Be sure your wedding website is up-to-date.
- Continue gown fittings. *Bring your shoes and accessories.*
- Buy your outfit for the rehearsal dinner.

WEEK OF

- Email a rehearsal schedule to those obligated to attend.
- Email a wedding day timeline to the wedding party, house party and close family.
- Be sure your wedding website is updated.
- Begin to relax.
- Host a bridesmaids luncheon (the weekend before or a few days before the wedding) to thank your bridal party; present thank you gifts at this time.
- Designate a point person for the wedding day to answer vendor and guest questions, troubleshoot issues that may arise and pay the necessary gratuities. *Be sure to tell your vendors, family, wedding party and out-of-town guests who this point person is.*

1 MONTH

- Enjoy any bridal showers and bachelorette party.
- Have a final meeting or phone call with photographer to run down photo list.
- Now's a good time to check in with your wedding planner and/or day-of coordinator.
- Schedule a final walk-through at your venue(s).
- Print programs, menus, place cards, table numbers, etc.
- Get your marriage license, if you haven't already.

DAY OF

- Download our *Wedding Day Timeline & Checklist* for a complete guide to your big day!

2 WEEKS LATER

- Preserve your wedding gown.
- Return duplicate or unwanted wedding gifts.
- Send thank you notes.
- Make sure all vendor balances are paid in full and all gratuities have been shared.

2 WEEKS OUT

- Call and confirm any unconfirmed guests (optional).
- Give final headcount to the caterer, and to any bar service providers.
- Provide final headcount to reception venue.