
12
MONTH
WEDDING
COUNTDOWN
Checklist
Wedding Checklist
Venue
Catering
Photography
Flowers
Dress
Entertainment
Guest List
Stationery
Final Details

12 Month Wedding Countdown Checklist

Your wedding countdown starts here!

The next 12 months are about turning your ideas into a realistic plan, making important decisions and booking the services that matter most.

This checklist covers the main tasks to consider during the early stages of wedding planning. You do not need to complete everything at once.

Work through each section at your own pace, ticking off tasks as they are finished.

If you have less than 12 months until your wedding, begin with the most time-sensitive arrangements, particularly your venue, ceremony requirements and key suppliers.

12 Months Before Your Wedding

Wedding Date: _____

Today's Date: _____

Estimated Wedding Budget: £_____

Estimated Number of Guests: _____

Your Wedding Vision

- ○ Discuss the type of wedding you both want.
- ○ Decide whether you prefer a large celebration or a smaller gathering.
- ○ Choose your three most important wedding priorities.
- ○ Discuss possible wedding dates and seasons.
- ○ Consider your preferred ceremony and reception locations.
- ○ Decide whether you want a traditional, modern, informal or themed wedding.
- ○ Create a simple wedding inspiration folder.

Budget and Guest Planning

- ○ Agree on the maximum amount you can comfortably spend.
- ○ Identify any confirmed financial contributions from family members.
- ○ Set aside an affordable contingency fund for unexpected expenses.
- ○ Prepare an initial wedding budget.
- ○ Create a preliminary guest list.
- ○ Estimate the cost per guest for catering and other arrangements.
- ○ Check whether your preferred venues can accommodate your guest numbers.

Venue and Ceremony Arrangements

- ○ Research suitable wedding ceremony locations.
- ○ Shortlist potential reception venues.
- ○ Arrange venue visits or consultations.
- ○ Request written quotations showing included services and additional charges.
- ○ Compare venue packages against your budget.
- ○ Check availability for your preferred wedding dates.
- ○ Confirm the ceremony booking process and applicable legal requirements.
- ○ Review venue contracts and cancellation conditions before paying deposits.
- ○ Book your chosen venue once you are satisfied with the arrangements.

Important Suppliers

- ○ Research wedding photographers.
- ○ Research videographers if required.
- ○ Consider catering arrangements if these are not included with your venue.
- ○ Research wedding planners or coordinators if needed.
- ○ Check availability for any suppliers you consider essential.
- ○ Request written quotations from shortlisted suppliers.
- ○ Record supplier payment deadlines and deposit amounts.

Your First Planning Priorities

Choose three important tasks to complete next.

Priority 1
Priority 2
Priority 3
Copy my priorities

Notes and Important Decisions

Preferred Wedding Date: _____

Preferred Venue: _____

Venue Contact Details: _____

Estimated Venue Cost: £_____

Deposits Due: _____

Important Booking Deadlines: _____

Other Notes:

Before Moving to the Next Checklist

By the end of this stage, aim to have a clear idea of your wedding budget, approximate guest numbers, preferred date and venue arrangements.

It is perfectly normal for some decisions to remain unfinished.

What matters is knowing which arrangements need attention and which can wait.

Next: The 9–6 Months Before Your Wedding Checklist, where you will focus on securing suppliers, organising wedding outfits and bringing the main parts of your celebration together.