

Things to consider first!

THERE'S A LOT TO PLAN - START HERE

WHY THESE?

Your budget, priorities, and date are going to have the biggest impact on your wedding decisions, so it's best to give those your undivided attention before you begin any major planning.

Having an engagement party is not a necessity, but has some major benefits.

Design is how you make your wedding yours.

1. BUDGET

Ah, money. You gotta have it to have a wedding. Now, how much you want to spend is up to you. My best tips:

- DO NOT go into debt. It's best for your stress level and your future relationship. Trust me.
- Don't spend all your time shopping for a "deal." Pay what you think something is worth - no more no less.

2. PRIORITIES

Each person should get their #1 priority. Your wedding should be a celebration of 2 people, not 1 person as reigning dictator.

After you each note your #1, go down the list of vendors and decide the order of importance of each vendor. Stuck? Now is a great time to learn the art of communication, persuasion, and compromise.

3. DATE

The date you choose sets the following, so choose wisely (hopefully you did #1 and #2 beforehand):

- How much time you have to plan your wedding
- How much money you spend (certain days are cheaper than others, etc)
- Which vendors you can book (some vendors are booked way in advance)

4. PARTY

I highly recommend having an engagement party. Why? Because you've a long journey ahead of you and hanging with your best buds should help get things off to a joyous start.

I propose an intimate gathering of your closest peeps. This is also an opportune time to get in some good design brainstorming with those who know you best.

5. DESIGN

Design is what makes your wedding uniquely you. Before you jump down the rabbit hole of Pinterest wedding inspiration, sit down with your soon-to-be-spouse (and those closest to you, if you took my advise with #4) and come up with a list of adjectives that describe your relationship, style, and how you want your guests to feel. After you have a good list, have fun!

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INSTRUCTIONS

Use these spaces to fill in decisions and any details you'd like to include!

1. BUDGET

2. PRIORITIES

3. DATE

4. PARTY

5. DESIGN