12-Month Wedding Checklist UK

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Do these first

- [ ] Visit venues
- [ ] Book your venue
  - [ ] Make a shortlist
  - [ ] Visit your favourites
  - [ ] Read and sign the contract
  - [ ] Pay the deposit
- [ ] Book your photographer
  - [ ] Make a shortlist of three
  - [ ] Meet or call them
  - [ ] Read and sign the contract
  - [ ] Pay the deposit
- [ ] Talk through your budget and who is contributing
- [ ] Write a first guest list, for the day and the evening
- [ ] Decide on a civil or religious ceremony

12 to 9 months before

- [ ] Book the registrar or celebrant
- [ ] Speak to your church or place of worship
- [ ] Agree your wedding breakfast and catering
  - [ ] Ask what the venue includes
  - [ ] Get quotes for your numbers
  - [ ] Read and sign the contract
  - [ ] Pay the deposit
- [ ] Book your band or DJ
  - [ ] Make a shortlist
  - [ ] Listen to them play
  - [ ] Read and sign the contract
  - [ ] Pay the deposit
- [ ] Ask your wedding party
- [ ] Start looking at wedding dresses
- [ ] Book your videographer
- [ ] Find places to stay for guests

9 to 6 months before

- [ ] Choose and order your wedding dress
  - [ ] Try on a few styles
  - [ ] Place the order
  - [ ] Book your fittings

- [ ] Book your florist
  - [ ] Make a shortlist
  - [ ] Share a few photos you like
  - [ ] Read and sign the contract
  - [ ] Pay the deposit
- [ ] Send your save-the-dates
- [ ] Set up a wedding website or details page
- [ ] Decide on a gift list
- [ ] Choose what your wedding party will wear
- [ ] Book hair and make-up
  - [ ] Make a shortlist
  - [ ] Count who needs hair or make-up
  - [ ] Book and pay the deposit
- [ ] Plan and book your honeymoon
  - [ ] Choose where
  - [ ] Book travel and somewhere to stay
  - [ ] Check passports and visas

6 to 3 months before

- [ ] Choose suits or morning dress
- [ ] Order your wedding cake
- [ ] Book wedding cars or other transport
- [ ] Choose your wedding rings
  - [ ] Get your ring sizes
  - [ ] Choose and order
  - [ ] Engraving, if you want it
- [ ] Plan your ceremony
  - [ ] Choose any readings
  - [ ] Choose the music
  - [ ] Agree the order with your registrar or celebrant
- [ ] Plan your drinks reception
- [ ] Order your invitations and stationery
  - [ ] Choose a design
  - [ ] Check names, wording and dates
  - [ ] Order a proof, then print
- [ ] Talk about your hen and stag dos
- [ ] Plan your evening reception
- [ ] Do a menu tasting

- [ ] Give notice of marriage at the register office
  Book the appointment early: register offices can be booked up for weeks. You each sign a statement at the register office for the district where you live, after living there for 7 days. It must be at least 29 days before the wedding, and the wedding must be within 12 months of notice. Anglican weddings can differ: check with your church.
  - [ ] Book your appointments at the register office
  - [ ] Gather your passports, proof of address and any decree
  - [ ] Go to your appointments

3 months to 1 month before

- [ ] Order your veil and accessories
- [ ] First dress fitting
- [ ] Ask who will give speeches
- [ ] Arrange for your banns to be read
  For a Church of England or Church in Wales wedding. Banns are read on three Sundays in the three months before. Your vicar will tell you the dates, and whether you also need to give notice at the register office.
- [ ] Send your invitations
  - [ ] Collect everyone's address
  - [ ] Buy stamps
  - [ ] Post them
- [ ] Do a hair and make-up trial
- [ ] Make or update your wills
- [ ] Send your evening invitations
- [ ] Draft the order of the day
- [ ] Write your speeches and vows
- [ ] Send your photographer a family photo list
- [ ] Hen and stag dos

The last month

- [ ] Add your rings to your home insurance
- [ ] RSVP deadline
- [ ] Collect dietary needs and food choices
- [ ] Share the order of the day with your suppliers and wedding party
- [ ] Pack the emergency kit
- [ ] Final dress fitting
- [ ] Give your venue and caterer the final numbers

- [ ] Make your table plan
  - [ ] Get the table layout from your venue
  - [ ] Place everyone
  - [ ] Print it for the day
- [ ] Confirm each supplier's arrival time
- [ ] Pay final balances
- [ ] Send the final order of the day to your suppliers

The week of the wedding

- [ ] Put any tips in labelled envelopes
- [ ] Pack for your honeymoon
- [ ] Check the things nobody can replace
- [ ] Run through the ceremony
- [ ] Give gifts to your wedding party and parents

On the day

- [ ] Sign the marriage register
  With your witnesses, after the ceremony.

After the wedding

- [ ] Return hired outfits and anything borrowed
- [ ] Have your outfits cleaned and flowers preserved, if you like
- [ ] Order copies of your marriage certificate
- [ ] Start your thank-you cards
- [ ] Leave reviews for your suppliers
- [ ] Change your name, if you are taking a new one
- [ ] Back up and share your photographs
- [ ] Look at the Marriage Allowance
- [ ] Update your pensions, insurance and bank details
- [ ] Finish your thank-you cards
- [ ] Plan something for your first anniversary