



M **7 Things TO DO**
before planning your
I DOs

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1. Enjoy your Engagement

Congratulations, you're engaged. Enjoy it! So many couples jump right into wedding planning after getting engaged. Don't make this mistake. Your engagement is a big deal. Bask in this moment. Kiss each other a million times. Take tons of photos posing with your ring. Also, document all the details of your proposal, to enjoy for years to come.

2. Share the Good News

It's time to spread the word. Be sure to personally tell those closest to you, before you post on social media or send an announcement to the paper.

3. Set the Date

The question everyone will be asking (including the wedding vendors.) While it doesn't have to be set in stone just yet. Choose some perspective dates of when you'd like to tie the knot.

4. Define your Style

Once you've settled on some dates, you should decide on your wedding style. Will your cultures and, or religion, play a major role? Will the affair be more formal or casual? How many guests will you invite? These are all things to consider at this stage.

5. Set your Budget

Before you spend a dime, set your wedding budget! Start by finding a sample budget breakdown online (wedding costs vary widely from state to state.) Then, review your finances. Also, be sure to find out if your parents would like to contribute, or gift a particular item. Once you have all of the numbers in front of you, you can create a savings plan (if necessary).

6. Choose your Wedding Party

A decision not to be taken lightly. Each member of your wedding party has a special role to play in your big day. So, choose those who not only want the best for you, but are able to commit to their duties as well.

7. Find your Planning Community

We highly suggest hiring a professional wedding planner. If not, at least a coordinator to manage your wedding day. In addition to the professionals, join an online wedding community. *Zola*, is one of our favorites. There's plenty of information, and so many resources out there to help you plan the perfect wedding.

Planning a wedding can be very stressful. Most likely, you will hit some snags along the way. It's completely normal to bump heads with your partner. As long, as you are both very transparent about your desires, and, focus on what you're building TOGETHER, you will figure it out.

*Xoxo,
Mimi Nikohl*