

There's a lot to do to plan your Wedding Day! Based on The Bridal Lounge of York's expertise in bridal matters, we have put together a general guide to help you plan your big day and make the whole process as enjoyable and stress-free as possible:

From 12 months - 24 months before

- Decide on the date and place of your wedding. If you're getting married in church make an appointment with the Minister. If you are having a civil ceremony visit your local registrar.
- Book your reception or arrange the catering. You may need to see many venues before you find the right one for you
- Book your photographer
- Draw up a guest list to get an idea of numbers and set a budget for the wedding.
- Choose the bridesmaids, best man, ushers and witnesses.
- Start searching for your wedding dress and outfits for the attendants
- Decide on an overall colour scheme for your wedding
- Book your honeymoon
- Order your wedding cake
- Arrange your transportation
- More people are opting for wedding insurance these day, so it might be worth checking whether it's right for you

From 6-9 months before

- Choose your invitations and stationery
- Make an appointment with your florist
- Buy the wedding rings
- Book any entertainment including musicians or DJ
- Book the balloons and decorations
- Purchase your wedding dress

From 3 months before

- Compile your wedding present list
- Send out your invitations, including a map and details of local accommodation for those travelling some distance
- Set a time and date for a rehearsal and, choose music and hymns and book the organist
- Check accessories for the big day - sort out shoes, jewellery and head dress.
- Book your seamstress for your wedding dress. If you require any alterations to your bridal gown. If you haven't already, buy your wedding shoes and take them along to your first fitting for alterations.

From 8 weeks before

- If you're going abroad for your honeymoon apply for your name change on your passport
- Start preparing speeches

From 4 weeks before

- Have final dress fittings and a trial run with hair and make-up
- Hold stag/hen night (not the night before!)

From 3 weeks before

- Agree the final seating plan
- Collect wedding rings

From 2 weeks before

- Confirm final arrangements with your suppliers, eg. entertainers, photographer, florist, balloonist, transport.
- Provide a list of music you would like played on the day, eg for the first dance

One week before

- Have a facial and any other beauty treatment
- Confirm guest numbers with caterer or venue

One day before

- Have a manicure
- Lay out wedding dress and all accessories

The big day

- Allow at least two hours for dressing
- Relax and enjoy your day!