

9 Month LDS Wedding Planning Checklist

So, you have nine months to accomplish all your LDS wedding planning! There is so much to do and it can be overwhelming, but WeddingLDS.com is here to help. Simply follow the three month checklist below and you'll stay on track for your LDS wedding day! Click on the links if you need more information about a particular wedding planning subject and you'll be taken directly to that page.

If you have less than nine months just start at the beginning of the list and catch up as quickly as you can!

Nine Months (or Earlier) before the Wedding

- Set your wedding date.
- Interview and hire a professional wedding consultant, if desired.
- Decide what kind of wedding you want to have (i.e. how formal or informal, number of guests, if children will be included, what time of day).
- [Determine your budget](#) and decide how expenses will be split between the families.
- Determine how you'll keep record of any payments made, or simply [download one here](#).
- Choose which [temple you'll be married in](#), and reserve the date and time.
- Speak with your bishop about receiving a temple recommend, if you do not currently have one, and consider receiving your endowment before the big day, if possible. Schedule your endowment with the temple and arrange to purchase the needed temple clothing.
- If you're not getting married in the temple, [select and reserve the ceremony site](#). Talk to your bishop about officiating at your civil ceremony.
- Select and [reserve the reception location](#). If your reception is at a home, arrange for any improvements needed.
- Work on the guest lists for both the temple ceremony and the reception. Make sure the bride, the groom, the bride's family, and the groom's family have input.
- Choose and order your [wedding gown and veil or headpiece](#). Ensure that it is temple ready or plan for the needed adjustments.
- Decide on a [color scheme](#).
- Select and [reserve a photographer](#).
- Schedule engagement photo session.
- [Order your passport](#) and visa, if needed, for your [honeymoon](#). (Yes, it can take this long to complete the process!)
- Order your birth certificate for your [marriage license](#) and any [name change requirements](#).
- Send an engagement notice to your local newspaper.
- Choose your [maid of honor, best man, bridesmaids and groomsmen](#).



- If you're being sealed in the temple, arrange for a host or hostess to be with those waiting outside the temple, including any children.
- Download the calendar to keep track of important events (i.e. showers, luncheons, wedding-related appointments, etc.)
- Register for institute temple preparation classes, if available. You can also ask your bishop if the ward will be holding temple preparation classes or marriage and family relations classes in the near future so you can attend.

Six to Nine Months before the Wedding

- Choose your attendants' attire. Don't forget shoes and accessories!
- Select and [book a caterer](#), if desired, or begin to [plan the menu for your reception](#).
- Audition, select and book the [DJ or musicians](#) for your reception.
- If you're having a civil ceremony, audition, select, and book the ceremony organist or musician(s).
- Choose and [reserve a florist](#).
- Select and book a videographer.
- Schedule fittings for yourself and attendants.
- Reserve the [wedding night bridal suite](#).
- Design a wedding website with basic information. You can always add more details later.
- Send out your save-the-date cards, if desired.

Four to Six Months before the Wedding

- Register for gifts.
- Start shopping for your spouse-to-be's wedding gift.
- Select and order your [wedding invitations, announcements, thank-you notes](#), etc.
- Reserve any rental items needed.
- Finalize your guest lists for the reception and the temple ceremony and hunt down full names and addresses.
- Address your invitations.
- Determine a date, time, and location for your [rehearsal dinner](#).
- Arrange accommodations for your out-of-town guests, if necessary.
- [Start planning your honeymoon](#). Arrange for time off work, if needed.
- [Purchase your shoes](#) and [accessories](#) and start breaking your shoes in.



Two to Four Months before the Wedding

- Choose a bakery and [order your wedding cake](#).
- Order any party favors desired.
- Decide on reception decorations and order or begin making them.
- [Arrange for transportation](#) on your wedding day.
- [Check on local laws](#) regarding blood tests or marriage license requirements.
- Shop for [wedding rings](#) and have them engraved, if desired.
- Consider having your teeth bleached or cleaned.
- Consider writing a will and/or a prenuptial agreement.
- Plan activities for your out-of-town guests for before and after the wedding.
- Buy gifts for your attendants.
- Have bridal portraits taken, if desired.
- Arrange for health, car, life and/or renters' insurance for after the wedding.
- Determine where you'll live after the wedding, including looking for an apartment, if necessary.
- Schedule an appointment with an OB/GYN and decide about birth control.

Six to Eight Weeks before the Wedding

- Mail your invitations.
- Keep a record of RSVPs and gifts received (you can download sheets here). Send thank you notes as gifts are received.
- Determine your [hairstyle](#) and [makeup](#).
- Schedule hair and makeup appointments for the day of the wedding, if desired. If doing your [hair and makeup yourself, practice!](#)
- Purchase wedding day accessories (i.e., [guest book](#), [cake knife set](#), etc.)
- Coordinate with the [mother of the bride](#) and the [mother of the groom](#) regarding their dresses.
- Check on [name change requirements](#) for your driver's license, social security card, insurance policies, bank accounts, etc.
- Select and reserve tuxedos or other attire for the [groom](#), [groomsmen](#), and [father of the bride](#) and [father of the groom](#).
- [Finalize your menu](#) for the reception.
- Find “something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue, and a penny for your shoe.”
- Ask someone to serve as the [guest book attendant](#) and determine where and when to have guests sign in, and where to place any gifts received the day of the wedding.



Two to Six Weeks before the Wedding

- Obtain the [marriage license](#).
- Arrange for the final fitting for your wedding gown and bridesmaids' dresses.
- Finalize the wedding flowers with your florist.
- Finalize rehearsal dinner plans.
- Create a detailed timeline for your wedding party and any professionals you've hired.
- Confirm reservations and details with your photographer, caterer, DJ, videographer, baker and any other professionals you've hired, including any [special photos](#) wanted, specific [music during a first dance](#), etc.
- [Start packing](#) for the honeymoon.
- Determine when and where to hold a receiving line, if desired.
- Contact guests who haven't RSVP'd.
- Plan reception room layout and seating, if applicable.
- Contact your local newspaper and find out their requirements for wedding announcements.

The Last Week

- Pick up all wedding attire. Have your wedding party try everything on to make sure it fits.
- Finalize your guest count and confirm with your caterer.
- Familiarize yourself with your guest list.
- Arrange for “getaway” transportation.
- Confirm honeymoon reservations and accommodations. Pick up tickets and travelers checks, if applicable.
- Finish packing for your honeymoon.
- Notify the post office to hold your mail while you are out of town, or change your mailing address. This can be done online at www.usps.com.
- Make sure all bills are paid through a week after your return from your honeymoon so you don't have to worry about them.
- Have the groom get a haircut.
- Get a manicure and pedicure.
- Arrange for someone to return rental items after the wedding.
- Provide each member of the wedding party with a detailed timeline for the wedding day.



The Wedding Day

- Start getting ready early and give yourself plenty of time so you're not rushed.
- Don't forget to eat a light, healthy breakfast.
- Make sure you have your marriage license.
- If you're being married in the temple and exchanging rings in the temple after the ceremony, give the rings to someone who will be there. If you're holding a ring ceremony in conjunction with the reception, entrust the rings to your maid of honor and/or best man.
- Take an [emergency fix-it](#) kit including safety pins, needle and thread, ibuprofen or other painkiller, bobby pins, breath mints, extra nylons, makeup, etc.
- Follow the detailed timeline you created earlier!

Relax and enjoy your big day!

