R E A L

omaha ♡ wedding

WEDDING PLANNING TIMELINE + CHECKLIST

9 OR MORE MONTHS TO GO...

- ☐ Think about the style and type of wedding you want to have // formal or informal, big or small, indoor or outdoor, time of year, etc.
- ☐ Explore a budget and determine who will be paying for what early on.
- ☐ Interview and hire your wedding planner/coordinator, if desired. **ROW NOTES:** *hire your wedding planner early, as they will help and assist you with a lot of decisions*
- ☐ Reserve ceremony and reception venues.
- ☐ Book your photographer and videographer.
- ☐ Draft your preliminary guest list and organize addresses for invitees. **ROW NOTES:** *determining number of guests will help you choose the perfect venue and catering options*
- ☐ Announce your engagement to family and friends.
- ☐ Choose your wedding dress.
- ☐ Book your officiant.
- ☐ Reserve rehearsal dates and times with both your venue and officiant.
- ☐ Book your caterer.
- ☐ Book your ceremony musician/vocalist and reception band or DJ.
- ☐ Book your engagement photo session. **ROW NOTES:** *talk to your photographer about locations and what time of year you would like your images taken*
- ☐ Research stationery designers and set up consultations.
- ☐ Select your wedding party.

PLANNING NOTES:

6 OR MORE MONTHS TO GO...

- ☐ Finalize your wedding guest list.
- ☐ Choose bridesmaid's dresses and schedule fittings.
- ☐ Choose groom's attire and schedule fittings.
- ☐ Select and order groomsmen's attire and schedule fittings.
- ☐ Choose and reserve your rehearsal dinner time and location.
- ☐ Select your stationery designer, begin the design process and review/revise proofs.
- ☐ Research bridal hair and makeup vendors and schedule consultations + trials.

PLANNING NOTES:

4 - 6 MONTHS TO GO...

PLANNING NOTES:

- ☐ Order your wedding cake + sweets. **ROW NOTES:** *depending on your baker, this may need to be done sooner*
- ☐ Reserve accommodations for out-of-town guests.
- ☐ Place final stationery order from stationery designer // save-the-dates, invitations and thank-you notes
- ☐ Book your hair and makeup artist. **ROW NOTES:** *reserve your stylist as soon as possible to secure your vendor of choice*
- ☐ Reserve ceremony and reception rentals // tables, chairs, linens and/or tents.
- ☐ Reserve accommodations for after your wedding and book a room for your wedding night.
- ☐ Register for gifts. **ROW NOTES:** *read Real Omaha Wedding's guide to registering for your wedding gifts!*
- ☐ Start and maintain a healthy diet, exercise and beauty regimen. **ROW NOTES:** *get plenty of water, fruits and vegetables, vitamins and exercise for a healthy bridal glow!*
- ☐ Meet with your wedding vendors to plan and finalize the details of each event.
- ☐ Meet with your florist to finalize bouquets, boutonnières, and ceremony and reception table arrangements. Schedule delivery times for each venue.
- ☐ Choose and purchase wedding rings.
- ☐ Consult a travel agent and book your honeymoon.
- ☐ Choose wedding favors for guests.
- ☐ Choose bridesmaids' accessories // shoes, jewelry and clutch
- ☐ Discuss and plan bridal/wedding shower and bachelor + bachelorette parties.
- ☐ Provide an appropriate guest list for all pre-wedding events, including bridal/wedding shower, bachelor + bachelorette parties and rehearsal dinner.

2 - 4 MONTHS TO GO...

PLANNING NOTES:

- ☐ Send out save-the-dates // 12 weeks before your wedding
- ☐ Discuss and finalize menu details with your caterer.
- ☐ Discuss ceremony service with your officiant.
- ☐ Determine who will be speaking at each event and contact each person to request their participation.
- ☐ Select ceremony readings.
- ☐ Purchase wedding decor and accessories including, flower girl and ring barrier accessories, toasting goblets, guest book and other details.
- ☐ Mail out wedding invitations // 8 weeks before your wedding
- ☐ Send thank-you notes for gifts already received.

1 - 2 MONTHS TO GO...

- [ ] Write your wedding vows, if desired.
- [ ] Reserve any extra day-of beauty appointments for you and your bridesmaids.
- [ ] Print your menus, programs, and escort + calling cards.
- [ ] Choose your first dance song and select music for your wedding ceremony and reception.
- [ ] Meet your wedding coordinator, photographer and videographer to determine a wedding day schedule.
- [ ] Send your wedding day schedule to attendants and vendors.
- [ ] Organize RSVP guest list spreadsheet.
- [ ] Research and determine if your state requires blood tests and make necessary appointments.
- [ ] Obtain marriage license.
- [ ] Prepare documents to change your name, if desired.
- [ ] Send change-of-address information to post office.
- [ ] Pick up wedding rings.
- [ ] Schedule final hair trim.

PLANNING NOTES:

2 - 3 WEEKS TO GO...

- [ ] Contact guests who haven't responded by the requested deadline to obtain a final head-count.
- [ ] Finalize guest head-count and notify vendors.
- [ ] Create and finalize reception seating chart, if necessary. Give seating chart map to venue + catering staff and wedding planner.
- [ ] Have final dress fitting.
- [ ] Discuss ceremony service with your officiant.
- [ ] Make final announcements of arrangements and schedules to wedding party and family + friends
- [ ] Confirm guest accommodations.
- [ ] Write rehearsal dinner and wedding reception toasts.
- [ ] Create wedding day emergency kit. **ROW NOTES:** *include mini sewing kit, mirror, makeup, comb, hair spray, bobby pins, safety pins, mints, lotion, pain reliever, Tide pen, scissors, band-aids, tweezers and tissues!*

PLANNING NOTES:

1 WEEK TO GO...

- [ ] Pick up wedding dress or have it delivered.
- [ ] Assign specific responsibilities to your wedding party, if necessary.
- [ ] Write a special note to your fiancée to be delivered on your wedding day.
- [ ] Pack for honeymoon.
- [ ] Get spray tan // 2 days before your wedding

PLANNING NOTES:

1 DAY TO GO...

- [ ] Confirm transportation arrangements for ceremony and reception.
- [ ] Pack for wedding night.
- [ ] Gather and organize all wedding day items.
- [ ] Get manicure and pedicure.
- [ ] Have wedding rehearsal, rehearsal dinner and give gifts to wedding party.
- [ ] Prepare tip and payment envelopes for officiant, transportation and vendors. Designate envelope to best man for the wedding day.

PLANNING NOTES:

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