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Groom's Calendar

Yes, the Groom has responsibilities, too - a yearlong checklist.

12 Months Before

- Pick out bride's engagement ring (if not yet selected).
- If you'll share wedding expenses, discuss them with fiancée and all parents.
- Select attendants and ushers (you should have at least one usher per 50 guests).
- Decide on ceremony and reception sites with fiancée.

9 Months Before

- Arrange a visit clergy member or justice of the peace to discuss ceremony.
- Visit gift registry with fiancée.
- Start making out your guest list.
- Discuss honeymoon plans with fiancée; consult travel agent for ideas.

6 Months Before

- Arrange to pay for bride's bouquet; order boutonnieres and corsages for attendants, mothers and aunts.
- Complete honeymoon plans; purchase plane tickets.
- If travelling abroad, update passports, arrange for visas and check inoculations.
- Arrange transportation (limousines) to ceremony and reception for wedding party.
- Plan rehearsal dinner with parents.

3 Months Before

- Complete guest list; give to fiancée.
- Consult fiancée about, and order, wedding attire for yourself, attendants and ushers.
- Order wedding rings.
- Consult fiancée about, and reserve, a block of hotel rooms for out-of-town guests.

6-8 Weeks Before

- Buy bride's wedding gift.
- Choose gifts for your attendants and ushers.
- Get legal and religious papers in order.
- Pick up wedding rings; check engraving.
- Help fiancée with thank-you notes for gifts.
- Shop for honeymoon clothes.

2-3 Weeks Before

- Get marriage license with fiancée.
- If applicable, arrange for transportation from reception to airport.
- Attend bachelor party.
- Double-check honeymoon reservations.
- Check rehearsal dinner site reservations.

1 Week Before

- Explain any special seating arrangements for family members, etc, to ushers.
- Place officiant's fee in a sealed envelope and give it to the best man to deliver after the ceremony.
- Purchase traveler's checks; inquire about ATMs near your honeymoon site.
- Get going-away clothes ready.
- Pack for the honeymoon.
- Wrap bride's, attendants' and ushers' gifts to give at rehearsal dinner.
- Keep up with gift acknowledgments.
- Arrange for wedding party attire to be returned (if rented) the day after your wedding.