

# countdown to the wedding day

	AS SOON AS YOU'RE ENGAGED	AS SOON AS YOU'VE SET THE DATE	3 TO 6 MONTHS BEFORE THE WEDDING
GENERAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Announce engagement.</li> <li>Decide on the degree of formality of wedding.</li> <li>Decide on the budget for your wedding.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Book church, celebrant or registry office.</li> <li>Decide on wedding theme.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decide on ceremony – wording, hymns etc.</li> <li>Plan bad weather arrangements if ceremony or reception is outside.</li> </ul>
RINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Buy engagement ring and decide on wedding rings.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Order wedding rings if haven't already.</li> </ul>
FASHION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Start looking for bridal party outfits and accessories in line with formality and theme chosen.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Start thinking in detail about outfits – whether to buy, make or hire.</li> <li>Look at and try different styles.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decide on outfits and accessories and order (whether buying, hiring or having them made).</li> </ul>
RECEPTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look for a suitable venue.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Book venue and also caterer and hire company if necessary.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss and finalise all details with venue and/or caterer.</li> </ul>
INVITATIONS & BOMBONIERE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Give overseas guests advance notice.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draw up guest list.</li> <li>Look at your wedding stationery options.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Order stationery – invitations, order of service, place cards, thankyou cards, bomboniere and any other items.</li> </ul>
TRANSPORT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider the type of transport you would like.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Go to see vehicles.</li> <li>Make your booking.</li> </ul>	
FLOWERS		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate wedding flower specialists.</li> <li>Discuss your floral requirements.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decide on your floral designer.</li> </ul>
MUSIC, ENTERTAINMENT & M.C.'S		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decide what type of music and other entertainment you would like.</li> <li>Choose a Master of Ceremonies.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Book entertainment for reception.</li> <li>Make appointment to see organist and decide on church music.</li> <li>Book singers and musicians for church.</li> </ul>
PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visit photography and video studios.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Book photographer and video producer.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss requirements with studios in detail.</li> </ul>
CAKES & CHOCOLATES		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Think about type of cake (flavour, shape, size) and discuss with cake designers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Order cake.</li> </ul>
BEAUTY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Start health and beauty programme (skin, hair, body shape and fitness).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make appointments with beautician, hairdresser and fitness trainer or gymnasium.</li> <li>Look for make-up artist.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Select make-up artist.</li> <li>Make any radical changes to hair now so you can rectify if necessary.</li> </ul>
GIFTS		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Start compiling gift list.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalise gift list.</li> </ul>
HONEYMOON	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Think about where you'd like to go and for how long.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visit travel agent to discuss details.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Book honeymoon holiday.</li> <li>Book bridal suite for wedding night.</li> </ul>

2 MONTHS BEFORE THE WEDDING	4-6 WEEKS BEFORE THE WEDDING	2-3 WEEKS BEFORE THE WEDDING	1 WEEK BEFORE THE WEDDING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalise ceremony words and hymns.</li> <li>Select speech makers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organise insurance to cover wedding gifts if applicable.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Check celebrant has all necessary papers.</li> <li>Check that all the speeches are being prepared.</li> <li>Confirm duties of attendants.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Full rehearsal of ceremony with all main participants.</li> <li>Write out a timetable for the wedding day and distribute.</li> <li>Finish work</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pick up wedding rings.</li> <li>Engrave rings.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have engagement ring cleaned by jeweller.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clean engagement ring at home.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Buy shoes, underwear, going-away outfit (if you wish) and honeymoon wardrobe!</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final fittings for all bridal party.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pick up bride's and bridesmaids' dresses and store them properly.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Try complete outfits on.</li> <li>Arrange pick up or delivery of hire wear.</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirm final numbers.</li> <li>Finalise seating plan.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirm all details.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalise guest list.</li> <li>Send invitations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Record all R.S.V.P.'s.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write all names on placecards.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Placecards ready for distribution according to seating plan.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organise guest transport if necessary.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirm all transport details.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reconfirm timing.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Order flowers.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirm order.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirm delivery arrangements.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decide on music and songs, particularly the first dance.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirm bookings.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirm all details.</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirm bookings.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirm details.</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirm requirements.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirm delivery arrangements.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue beauty and fitness plan.</li> <li>Start work on your tan if desired</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trial make-up</li> <li>Experiment with hairstyle.</li> <li>Stick with your beauty plan!</li> <li>Have a facial.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trial hairstyle with head-wear.</li> <li>Make-up re-trial if needed.</li> <li>Men's haircuts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirm arrangements for hair and make-up.</li> <li>Get plenty of sleep.</li> <li>Manicure the day before.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inform guests of gift list.</li> <li>Keep master list up to date.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Buy presents for attendants, parents and each other if planned.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write thankyou notes as you receive gifts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Give presents to attendants, parents and each other if you wish.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalise details with travel agent – passport, insurance, visas, injections etc.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Order foreign currency and travellers cheques.</li> <li>Collect tickets.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pack for honeymoon.</li> <li>Pack for wedding night.</li> <li>Confirm bridal suite.</li> </ul>