

CHECKLIST

REMEMBER, THIS IS A GUIDE ONLY. YOU MAY NOT WANT TO DO HALF OF THESE THINGS, AND THAT'S COMPLETELY FINE. IN FACT, YOU MAY DECIDE TO ELOPE ON A WHIM AND AVOID THIS ALL TOGETHER (YOU LEGENDS)!

SOON AFTER GETTING ENGAGED

- DECIDE WHAT KIND OF WEDDING YOU ARE HAVING (I.E. ELOPEMENT, DESTINATION WEDDING, CHURCH WEDDING ETC.)
- SET A DATE (SEND OUT A SAVE THE DATE AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE IF YOU ARE HAVING A DESTINATION WEDDING.)
- SET A BUDGET (MAKE SURE TO ADD AT LEAST 20 PERCENT CONTINGENCY.)
- HIRE A WEDDING PLANNER (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED IF NEITHER YOU OR YOUR PARTNER ARE OVERLY ORGANISED AND/OR DON'T WANT TO SPEND A LOT OF TIME ORGANISING)
- DECIDE ON A VENUE (GOOD LUCK!)
- HIRE A PHOTOGRAPHER (MAKE SURE TO CHECK OUT THEIR WEBSITE, AND INSTAGRAM. IF YOU CAN, MEET THEM IN PERSON ALSO. YOUR PHOTOGRAPHER HAS TO BE SOMEONE YOU TRUST AND WHOSE STYLE YOU LOVE. IT HELPS TO GO WITH SOMEONE YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE WITH TOO.)
- HIRE A CELEBRANT (AGAIN, MAKE SURE YOU GEL WITH THEM. IT WILL MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE. THEY WILL BE THERE FOR THE MOST MEANINGFUL PART OF THE DAY. CHOOSE SOMEONE WHO WILL WRITE A CEREMONY THAT IS PERSONAL AND 'YOU'.)
- HIRE A VIDEOGRAPHER. (OPTIONAL, HOWEVER MOST PEOPLE REGRET IF THEY DON'T HAVE ONE OR END UP WITH A POOR QUALITY ONE. IF THERE IS A PARTICULAR STYLE OF VIDEO YOU ARE AFTER, LET YOUR VIDEOGRAPHER KNOW AND CHAT ABOUT IT BEFORE THE EVENT.)
- CHOOSE A FLORIST, MAKEUP ARTIST, HAIR STYLIST, CATERERS, DJ OR BAND, FASHION STYLIST (DEFINITELY THE ANTI-BRIDE) WEDDING STYLIST ETC. (YOU HAVE A LITTLE BIT OF TIME, BUT IF YOU ARE SET ON SOMEONE IN PARTICULAR IT'S BEST TO GET IN EARLY.) YOU MAY NOT WANT TO HIRE ANY OF THESE VENDORS, AND HAVE FRIENDS HELP YOU ON THE DAY - AND THAT'S COMPLETELY FINE.

- BOOK FLIGHTS AND ACCOMMODATION (IF ELOPING OR DOING A DESTINATION WEDDING)

6 – 7 MONTHS OUT FROM YOUR WEDDING

- DECIDE ROUGHLY ON WHAT STYLE OF WEDDING YOU ARE HAVING. (DON'T GET TOO WORRIED ABOUT FITTING INTO A BOX, IT'S MORE ABOUT TRYING TO DECIDE WHETHER IT'S CASUAL, FORMAL ETC.)
- START LOOKING AT WEDDING OUTFITS – AND IDEALLY PURCHASE YOUR OUTFIT. (IF YOU EITHER WANT TO BUY SOMETHING MADE TO ORDER, OR DO THIS IS A LITTLE SOONER IF YOU WANT TO GET SOMETHING CUSTOM MADE. BE OPEN MINDED AND TRY ON AS MANY SILHOUETTES AND STYLES AS YOU CAN OVER THE COURSE OF A FEW WEEKS. FORGET TRENDS AND FIND SOMETHING THAT IS 'YOU'. THERE IS A GOOD CHANCE THAT YOU END UP FALLING IN LOVE WITH SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT TO WHAT YOU EXPECTED.)
- BUY RINGS, IF YOU ARE HAVING WEDDING RINGS.
- TRY TO FIGURE OUT THE GUEST LIST AND MAKE SURE TO COLLECT ALL THE ADDRESSES ON A SPREADSHEET (AGAIN, GOOD LUCK WITH THIS ONE!!)
- MAKE YOUR INVITATIONS AND THANK YOU CARDS (AS WELL AS SAVE THE DATES OR DECIDE WHERE YOU WILL GET YOUR INVITATIONS FROM.)

4 MONTHS OUT FROM YOUR WEDDING

- BUY SHOES AND ACCESSORIES FOR YOUR WEDDING OUTFIT/S. (INCLUDING A VEIL IF NEEDED.)
- SEND OUT SAVE THE DATES (OPTIONAL)
- CHECK THAT YOUR PASSPORTS ARE VALID (ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT FOR DESTINATION WEDDINGS AND IF YOU'RE HAVING YOUR HONEYMOON STRAIGHT AFTER THE WEDDING.)
- GET ONTO YOUR WEDDING PAPER WORK (YOUR CELEBRANT WILL HELP YOU WITH TIMELINES FOR THIS.)

6 WEEKS OUT FROM YOUR WEDDING

- SEND OUT INVITATIONS
- WRITE YOUR PERSONAL VOWS, IF YOU HAVE DECIDED TO DO THEM (I PERSONALLY LEFT THESE UNTIL THE NIGHT BEFORE, BUT DO AS I SAY NOT AS I DO.)
- BOOK IN FOR ALTERATIONS IF NEED BE (MAKE SURE TO HAVE YOUR SHOES WITH YOU.)
- HAVE A HAIR AND MAKEUP TRIAL.
- TRY THE FOOD AT YOUR VENUE AND TRY TO DECIDE ON YOUR MENU. (PRINT MENUS IF NEEDED.)
- BOOK IN FACIALS, HAIR APPOINTMENTS ETC, IF YOU HAVE NOT DONE SO ALREADY.
- BUY A HANDHELD CLOTHING STEAMER (TRUST ME.)

4 WEEKS OUT FROM YOUR WEDDING

- CHASE UP ANY GUESTS WHO HAVE NOT RSVP'D.
- PUT TOGETHER AN EMERGENCY KIT TO HAVE AT YOUR WEDDING (INCLUDE SAFETY PINS, BABY OR FACE WIPES, BREATH MINTS, TISSUES, NIPPLE COVERS, A HAIR DRYER, NAIL FILE, PARACETAMOL, DEODORANT, A MIRROR, NEEDLE AND THREAD ETC.)

2 WEEKS OUT FROM YOUR WEDDING

- PAY INVOICES AND CONFIRM FINAL DETAILS WITH YOUR VENDORS.

- HAVE A DRESS REHEARSAL AT HOME AND MAKE SURE YOU HAVE EVERYTHING! (MAKE SURE TO WEAR IN YOUR SHOES AT HOME FOR A FEW DAYS TOO!)
- WRITE A LIST OF EVERYTHING YOU NEED AND PACK FOR YOUR ELOPEMENT, DESTINATION WEDDING OR HONEYMOON. (PUT EVERYTHING YOU ARE WEARING FOR YOUR OUTFIT DIRECTLY INTO YOUR SUITCASE. DON'T FORGET TO PACK AN INVITATION TO USE IN YOUR FLAT LAY DETAIL SHOTS.)

THE WEEK OF YOUR WEDDING

- GET YOUR NAILS DONE (GO FOR GELS IF YOU CAN – THEY DON'T BUDGE.)
- GET A MASSAGE (DAMN I WISH I DID THIS!)
- BREATHE

THE NIGHT BEFORE YOUR WEDDING

- WASH AND BLOW-DRY YOUR HAIR (DON'T ADD ANY PRODUCTS)
- EXFOLIATE YOUR FACE

THE DAY OF YOUR WEDDING

- HAIR AND MAKEUP
- DON'T SWEAT THE SMALL STUFF
- BREATHE
- GET MARRIED AND ENJOY EVERY MOMENT!