
Wedding Day Timeline

Purpose: Determine the an initial basic schedule and a full master schedule for figuring out timing and logistics on the wedding day. The finalized master schedule should be distributed to your vendors and helpers so that everyone is on the same page and can see how their part fits into the overall wedding day timeline.

Directions:

1. Use the **Big Picture Wedding Day Timeline** to paint the broad strokes of the schedule. It's helpful to get this rough schedule done early in the wedding planning process so you can plan generally when things need to happen. It's also helpful for planning how much coverage time you'll need with your photographer, videographer, and other vendors.
2. Use the **Detailed Wedding Day Timeline** to lock in all the little details that make up a wedding day. This timeline is broken down by sections of the day, not necessarily in chronological order. Use this document as a starting point to create your own custom timeline as needed.
3. Fill in the estimate times on the schedule. If you aren't sure how long something will take, ask the proper vendor/person responsible for it.
4. Use a pencil because you'll probably make multiple sets of changes over time.

Big Picture Wedding Day Timeline

TIME **EVENT (6-17 hours total)**

Preparations

_____ Girls Preps: Hair & Makeup (1-4 hours)
 _____ Bride in Dress (10-30 min)
 _____ Guys Preps (15-30 min)
 _____ First Look/Pre-Ceremony Photos (15-90 min)
 _____ Travel to Ceremony (5-30 min)

Ceremony

_____ Guests Arrive (30 min before ceremony)
 _____ Ceremony Start (20-60 min)
 _____ Post-Ceremony Photos (30-90 min)
 _____ Cocktail Hour (30-90 min)
 _____ Travel to Reception (5-30 min)

Reception

_____ Grand Entrance (10 min)
 _____ Dinner (45-90 min)
 _____ Sunset Photo Session (15 min)
 _____ Reception Events (1-3 hours)
 _____ Grand Exit (15 min)

What time does the sun
set on my wedding day?

*Google search
"sunset 8/24/2013"
and insert your wedding date*

Detailed Wedding Day Timeline

TIME	EVENT
Preparations	
_____	Bride arrives
_____	Bridesmaids arrive
_____	Parents arrive
_____	Makeup artists arrive
_____	Hairstylists arrive
_____	Hair & makeup start
_____	Coordinator arrives
_____	Gather wedding details ready for photo/video
_____	Flowers arrive
_____	Photographer arrive
_____	Videographer arrive
_____	Flat lay/details shots
_____	Girls lunch/snacks
_____	Bride & bridesmaid robe photos
_____	Bride in dress
_____	Dress reveal to bridesmaids
_____	Girls photos
_____	Travel to photo/ceremony location

- _____ Groom arrives
- _____ Groomsmen arrive
- _____ Parents arrive
- _____ Guys lunch/snacks
- _____ Photographer arrive
- _____ Videographer arrive
- _____ Boutonnieres arrive
- _____ Guys dressed and ready
- _____ Guys photos
- _____ Travel to photo/ceremony location

- _____ First look with dad
- _____ First look with groom
- _____ First look with _____
- _____ Pre-ceremony photos (family, bridal party, couple)
- _____ Travel to ceremony

- Ceremony**
- _____ Ceremony decoration begins
- _____ Ceremony decoration complete
- _____ DJ arrives/set-up
- _____ Musicians arrive
- _____ Officiant arrives

- _____ Bride hidden away at ceremony site
- _____ Ushers ready
- _____ Guestbook attendant ready
- _____ Guests arrive
- _____ Prelude music begins
- _____ Bridal party and family line up
- _____ Processional/ceremony begins
- _____ Ceremony ends
- _____ Sign marriage license
- _____ Post-ceremony photos (family, bridal party, couple)
- _____ Travel to reception

Reception

- _____ Reception decoration begins
- _____ Reception decoration complete
- _____ Caterer arrives
- _____ Cake delivery
- _____ Set up cake table with plate, knife, forks, napkins
- _____ DJ arrives/set-up
- _____ Musicians arrive

- _____ Guestbook attendant ready
- _____ Cocktail hour
- _____ Bride dress bustle

- _____ Guests seated
- _____ Bridal party line up
- _____ Grand entrance
- _____ Welcome & prayer
- _____ Dinner (bridal party & photo/video team eat first)
- _____ Sunset photo session
- _____ Cork the bottles, prep the toasting glasses
- _____ Toasts
- _____ Cake cutting
- _____ Mother son dance
- _____ Father daughter dance
- _____ First dance
- _____ Open dance floor
- _____ Load gifts into car
- _____ Money dance
- _____ Anniversary dance
- _____ Other dance: _____
- _____ Bouquet toss
- _____ Garter toss
- _____ Prep/load get-away car
- _____ Open dance floor
- _____ Grand exit
- _____ Photographer depart
- _____ Videographer depart

-
- _____ Coordinator depart
 - _____ Music stops and reception ends
 - _____ DJ depart
 - _____ Clean up begins
 - _____ Clean up ends/leave venue

Other Events to add:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____