

# Notre Dame Wedding Checklist



## *To Begin Planning Your Notre Dame Wedding*

Visit: [NotreDameWeddings.com](http://NotreDameWeddings.com) // Email: [wedding@nd.edu](mailto:wedding@nd.edu) // Call: 574.631.2220

## *When You Get Engaged*

- Call the Basilica on Wedding Day (1st Monday in March)
- Visit: [NotreDameWeddings.com](http://NotreDameWeddings.com) to choose a reception site

## *10-12 Months Before the Wedding*

- Announce your engagement
- Arrange for both families to meet
- Have an engagement party (optional)
- Set the wedding style and size of the wedding
- Set your wedding budget/decide who will be paying for different parts of the wedding
- Start creating your guest list
- Choose your wedding party
- Meet with Your Notre Dame Wedding event planner
- Meet with and audition DJs or bands
- Meet with photographers/videographers
- Start investigating family wedding customs and traditions
- Order save the date cards
- Book an engagement photo session

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## *7-9 Months Before the Wedding*

- Bride: shop for and order your wedding dress
- Bride: shop for and order/purchase veil, jewelry and shoes
- Bride: shop for and order bridesmaids dresses
- Meet with Your Notre Dame Wedding event planner to discuss menu and details of reception
- Book DJ or band (be sure to sign a contract)
- Book photographer (be sure to sign a contract)
- Book videographer (if you're having one)
- Start planning your honeymoon
- Finalize the guest list
- Meet with Your Notre Dame Wedding event planner to go over wedding cake ideas and sample ND's Own wedding cakes
- Start looking at wedding invitations
- Start thinking about the actual wording of the wedding invitations
- Start planning the rehearsal dinner
- Make a list of songs for the DJ/Band—and list of songs not to play

## *4-6 Months Before the Wedding*

- Set up tasting with Your Notre Dame Wedding event planner to taste the wedding reception menu
- Join a bridal registry
- Order your wedding invitations and book calligrapher
- Book a block of hotel rooms at the Morris Inn for out-of-town guests
- Finalize dinner menu with Your Notre Dame Wedding event planner
- Choose design of ND's Own Wedding Cake
- Bride: select flower girl's dress and share details with the parents
- Purchase wedding guest book
- Book the limo or other wedding day transportation
- Book the rehearsal dinner location with your Notre Dame Wedding event planner
- Groom: start looking at tuxedos/other formal wear
- Run engagement announcement in local newspapers
- Choose friends to give readings and participate in wedding ceremony
- Book honeymoon
- Book a hotel room at the Morris Inn for the wedding night
- Bride: buy bridal lingerie in time for first dress fitting

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## *2-3 Months Before the Wedding*

- Order gift baskets for your out of town guests from Your Notre Dame Wedding event planner
- Give the photographer a list of important shots
- Purchase your wedding rings
- Purchase attendants gifts at Notre Dame's bookstore
- Purchase the groom's gift or the bride's gift
- Groom: finalize tuxedo arrangements
- Bride: schedule your dress fittings
- Bride: book your hair and makeup appointments
- Bride: if you're changing your name complete the proper documents
- Address and send out wedding invitations
- Remember to order favors from Notre Dame's bookstore
- Groom: purchase your shoes, cuff links, handkerchiefs, etc.
- Finalize transportation
- Finalize rehearsal dinner plans with Your Notre Dame Wedding event planner

## *1 Month Before the Wedding*

- Get your marriage license
- Bride: have your final dress fitting
- Finalize and print wedding program
- Finalize song list with DJ or band
- Buy a guest book and pen
- Write speeches for rehearsal and wedding dinners
- Bride: enjoy your bridal shower
- Bride: send out thank you cards for bridal shower gifts
- Send rehearsal dinner invitations
- Bride: do trial-runs of your hair and makeup
- Start working on the seating plan
- Confirm honeymoon details and reservations

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## *1-2 Weeks Before the Wedding*

- Finalize seating plan and write place cards
- Create a seating chart to hang in the reception site
- Bride: pick up your wedding dress
- Pick up wedding rings
- Bride: pick up "something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue"
- Bride: purchase a garter
- Plan your wedding day itinerary
- Have the bachelor/bachelorette parties
- Confirm head count with Your Notre Dame Wedding event planner
- Pack for honeymoon
- Confirm details with vendors
- Create "Wedding Box" with accessories- guest book, place cards, toasting flutes, cake cutting set, cake topper, etc.
- Meet with Your Notre Dame Wedding event planner to pass off the "Wedding Box" and go over final layout and details

## *Day Before the Wedding*

- Bride: get manicure and pedicure
- Give your wedding party their gifts
- Groom: pick up your tuxedo
- Decorate the reception location
- Rehearse the ceremony with the officiate and wedding party
- Enjoy the rehearsal dinner
- Get a good night's sleep!

## *After the Wedding*

- Wedding dress to be cleaned and preserved
- Preserve wedding bouquet
- Write and mail thank you cards
- Check into bridal registry completion
- Meet with photographer/videographer to finalize albums/videos
- Complete your name-changing kit

## *Day of the Wedding*

- Bride or Groom: take a relaxing bath or shower and enjoy the moment of solitude
- Have breakfast; you'll need your energy
- Give your partner their wedding gift
- Get dressed
- Relax and enjoy the day!