

BRIDES OF '85

Timetable for your wedding

Weddings take months to plan. Those who live in large cities, who are having a large formal wedding or who have selected the month of June, the most popular wedding month, should start earlier.

To streamline the planning process, purchase a wedding planning book from a stationery or department store. The book will provide information on wedding planning and space to keep written records. Begin planning at least six months before the wedding date.

THE BRIDE'S TIMETABLE

Six Months to Year Before Wedding

Discuss and set wedding budget with parents. Include groom and his parents in discussions if they are sharing costs.

Review, evaluate and comparison shop for wedding sites. Select a wedding date, time and place as soon as possible.

Start making out guest list.

Plan color scheme for ceremony and reception.

Select and order wedding dress.

Choose attendants for wedding and invite them to participate.

Reserve caterer and musicians.

Register at one or more stores for china, silverware and other household items.

Three Months Before the Wedding

Complete guest lists and check for duplication.

Order invitations and enclosure cards as well as personal stationery (for thank-you notes and future use).

Address invitations.

Choose wedding party attire for bridesmaid's dresses and mothers of bride and groom. Groom and male attendants should also select outfits.

Shop for trousseau.

Hire photographer or video cameraman to record wedding day.

Arrange for bridal portrait, if being taken ahead of time.

Arrange for tests for marriage license.

Discuss ceremony and music with appropriate personnel.

Make final reception plans.

Order wedding cake.

Order wedding flowers for bridal party, ceremony and reception.

One Month Before the Wedding

Mail invitations.

Check with newspaper on wedding announcements. Prepare the announcement and send in when required.

Have final dress fitting.

Have wedding portrait taken.

Choose and order gifts for attendants.

Select gift for groom.

Arrange for accommodations for out-of-town relatives and attendants.

Plan bridesmaid's party, if giving one.

Arrange for rehearsal dinner, if giving one.

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purchase tickets.

Consult with bride on flowers for bouquet and going-away corsage (usually paid for by groom).

One Month Before the Wedding

Pick up wedding ring; check on engraving.

Arrange for lodging for out-of-town relatives and ushers.

Help plan rehearsal dinner, if your parents are hosting.

Select gift for bride.

Choose gifts for attendants.

Make sure documents are in order

(legal, medical and religious).

Check to see that ushers have ordered attire.

Three Weeks Before the Wedding

Get marriage license.

Check on arrangements for bachelor dinner, if you are giving one.

Arrange for transportation to and from reception site.

One Week before the Wedding

Remind best man and ushers of rehearsal time and place.

Present gifts to attendants.

Explain any special seating needs to head usher.

Survey pinpoints best, worst marriage markets

NEW YORK (AP) — Single women living on New York's Long Island have the worst chance of finding a husband, but eligible males abound in San Diego and Houston, a new study has found.

The Princeton University study, released by Money magazine, ranks the nation's 38 largest metropolitan areas according to the ratio of unmarried men available for every 100 single women between 20-59.

San Diego tops the list, followed by Houston, San Francisco, New Orleans, Los Angeles, Nassau and Suffolk counties, which comprise the Long Island suburbs of New York City, have the lowest ratio, just below

Pittsburgh; Columbus, Ohio; Buffalo, N.Y.; and St. Louis.

The researchers said the total number of unmarried men between 16 and 64 is about the same as that of unmarried women, and marriage-minded men can "get a fairly accurate view of their prospects by reversing the ratios" in the study.

The study was conducted by Charles F. Westoff and Noreen Goldman of Princeton's Office of Population Research. They found the marriage market "is one where the forces of supply and demand" apply in the same ways as in business.



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