**HOORAY!’s Wedding Planning Timeline**

**2 years in advance**

* Estimate number of guests and draw up a rough guest list
* Pick a date range (e.g. March/April XX Year)
* Confirm budget
* Research venues for ceremony and reception
* Select venue/s and lock in your date
* Create a wedding planning notebook organizer
* Optional: hire a wedding planner

**1.5 years in advance**

* Select a photographer
* Select a celebrant
* Select a florist
* Select a videographer
* Schedule dress shopping days/trips
* Select stationery designer
* Finalise invite list

**1 year in advance**

* Dress confirmed
* Select ceremony music
* Select reception music / entertainment
* Research and reserve accommodation for interstate guests
* Contact furniture rental companies
* Optional: Make a wedding website
* Optional: Host an engagement party

**8 Months in advance**

* Send Save The Dates
* Book hair stylist
* Book makeup artist
* Book cake designer
* Shop for wedding rings
* Shop for bridesmaid gowns and shoes
* Shop for groomsmen suits and shoes
* Plan and book honeymoon
* Ask friends and family to be in the wedding party
* Optional: create a gift registry or plan for a wishing well

**6 months in advance**

* Hair trial
* Make up trial
* Select bridal shoes
* Select bridal accessories
* Hire wedding day transport
* Select an MC for the event
* Ensure you have your backup plan for crappy weather sorted
* Check that your passports are in date for your honeymoon
* Apply for leave for a few days prior to your wedding, the wedding day and honeymoon.
* Optional: Engagement photoshoot

**3 months in advance**

* Send invitations
* Attend Hens Party
* Attend Bridal Shower
* Decide on songs for key moments, and deliver song lists to DJ and/or wedding band
* Confirm marriage licence with celebrant
* Attend wedding food tasting
* Assign someone not from your bridal party to assist with all the on-the-day duties.
* Write a timeline for the order of events for on the day and what traditions you do or don’t want—for example, bouquet throw, garter toss, groom’s speech.
* Purchase robes for bride and bridesmaids to get ready in
* Arrange for a family member or friend to look after your plants, pets and house while you’re away on your honeymoon.
* Dress alterations
* Optional: Prepare welcome gifts for interstate guests and organise for their delivery to their hotels.
* Optional: Purchase gifts for bridesmaids and maid of honour
* Optional: Organise wedding favours

**1-2 months in advance**

* Confirm RSVPS and call any guests who haven't responded
* Write your vows
* Attend final gown fitting
* Create a list of guests who are giving toasts and give this list to the MC.
* Confirm final seating plan and organise seating charts
* Book nail appointment for two days before your wedding
* Supply venue event manager with vendor needs (e.g. table for DJ, space for florist to set up)
* Create or order your program, menu and place cards

**2 weeks in advance**

* Hair cut and colour
* Finalise the delivery of items to the reception and ceremony
* Break in your shoes
* Try your dress, shoes and accessories on together one last time before the big day
* Give photographer and videographer a final list of shots you want taken
* Print out and email directions for your transport drivers, including pick up and drop off locations.
* Review any printed documents, such as place cards, menus or table seating charts for errors.
* Confirm honeymoon details including flight times, accommodation, activities and reservations.
* Finalise and pay any remaining payments owed to vendors
* Optional: have a massage or facial

**1 week in advance**

* Provide reception venue/caterer with final head count. Specify vendors to confirm vendor meals.
* Determine wedding party positions during the ceremony and the order of the party in the processional and recessional.
* Pack for your honeymoon
* Practice your vows out loud
* Email all vendors to confirm time of arrival and location.
* Check the weather forecast and make sure you have your back up plan for any rainy day disasters.

**3 days in advance**

* Pack a bag for your wedding day
* Pack an overnight bag for the night of your wedding
* Pack an emergency kit for any on the day unexpected mishaps, be sure to include things like a sewing kit, hairspray and face powder.
* Ensure your on-the-day coordinator knows their duties including having a vendor contact list with them as well as picking up any gifts and belongings at the end of the night.
* Attend nail appointment

**2 days in advance**

* Optional: get a fake tan
* Drop off any items that can be left at the venue as soon as they will allow you to.
* Groom hair trim

**The day before**

* Attend the venue for any last minute changes or deliveries
* Optional: Give bridesmaids and maid of honour gifts

**On the day:**

* Eat! Don’t forget to have breakfast the day of your wedding and have plenty of water and snacks throughout the day.
* Hair preparation
* Makeup preparation
* Greet all your guests and thank them for coming to your wedding.
* Relax! Don’t sweat the small stuff—just enjoy your day! Laugh, dance and enjoy each moment.

**Post-wedding day**

* Return any hired suits, furniture or decorations
* Go on your honeymoon
* Write and send thank you cards to guests
* Get your wedding dress cleaned and preserved (or listed online if you’re selling it!)
* Write some positive reviews for the companies that provided you with great service on the day.
* Optional: Once the photos have come back, create a hard copy wedding album.
* Optional: change your name on your license, bills, bank cards and so on.
* Optional: Preserve part of the wedding cake
* Optional: Preserve the bouquet