

wedding day

DESIGNER



YOUR
COMPLETE
WEDDING
TIMELINE &
CHECKLIST
GUIDE

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my wish for you

AS YOU GET MARRIED

Planning a wedding can get overwhelming in a hurry. This planner is meant to help you break down your wedding into small, actionable tasks until you make big progress. This whole engagement/ planning thing is supposed to be fun! So, grab a glass of wine and get started because we're in this together!

What sparked the idea for this "Wedding Day Designer"? I've been a wedding planner for over five years and am joyfully obsessed with wedding details! So, when [I was planning my own wedding](#) I knew I wanted an all-inclusive checklist, planner, and timeline to keep me on track. If you're anything like me, you love to check those boxes DONE. I designed this "Wedding Day Designer" to be your insider's guide to realistic to-do lists for your wedding day so you feel confident, calm, and organized along the way.

My wish for you on your wedding day is that you look back on it with love and joy — and not stress or anxiety. My wish for you is that this "Wedding Day Designer" saves you hours of time and research — and brings you peace of mind that everything will go smoothly because YOU planned it. And hey, at the end of the day, you're married! And that's what matters most of all.

My wish for you is that your marriage is even more beautiful than your wedding. With so much love, encouragement, and best wishes always,

Renee Bauman

[Renee Bauman](#) • Owner of Hitch Studio • Certified Wedding Planner (CWP)
Certified Wedding Venue Professional (CWVP) • Author of Wedding Day Designer



about HITCH STUDIO

Started in 2014 with passion and a love for weddings, Hitch Studio is a wedding styling boutique specializing in wedding planning and invitation design. Hitch Studio is located in downtown Brookings, South Dakota. We love that we can share this resource with you! Visit www.hitchstudio.com for more information about us.



We also love recommending amazing wedding professionals, so check out Emily Mitton Photography at www.emilymitton.com. She took the cover photo!

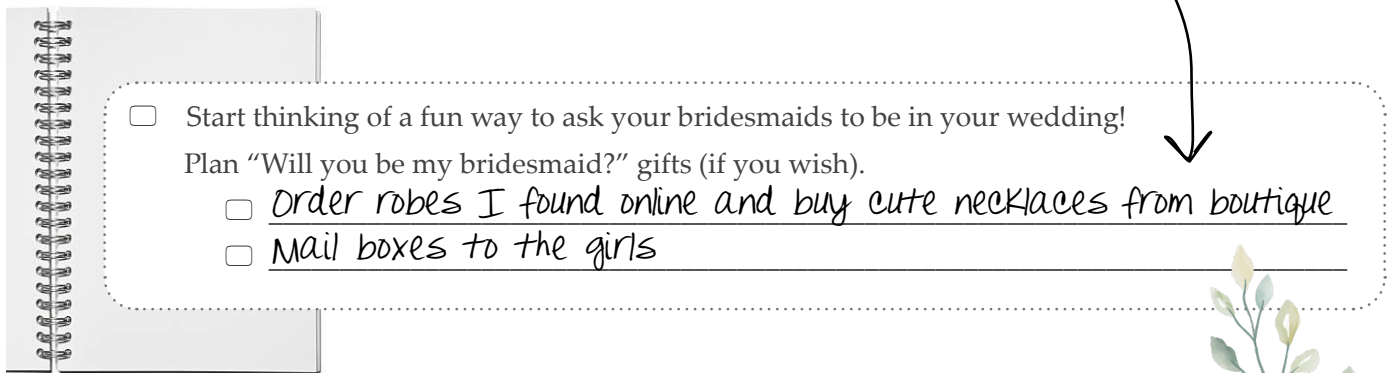
how to use this PLANNER GUIDE

As you make your way through this “Wedding Day Designer”, you’ll notice it starts with a 9-12 month timeline. If your engagement is shorter or longer than that, adjust the dates by writing your own in the blanks. (I planned my own wedding in five months, so just modify these timelines to fit yours best!)

Feeling ambitious? Jump ahead and book things before it’s even suggested in this guide if you’d like. The sooner the better when it comes to planning a wedding! Similarly, you may not need to do/book/complete everything listed in this guide, so skip what you don’t need. Maybe your wedding is religious and maybe it’s not. Take what you need because this “Wedding Day Designer” is YOURS to customize.

There are ★ **TIPS** throughout this guide. Those are bonus tricks, pointers, and [etiquette tips](#) from a wedding planner to save you time and streamline the process.

You’ll also see sub-tasks under some items. Those blank lines are for you to add your own personalized tasks, so it can look something like this:



If you’d prefer the electronic edition to click and type your way through, we have that available as well at www.weddingdaydesignerguide.com

Throughout this guide, we often reference brides and grooms, but if you’re both brides or both grooms, we hope you find this planner just as helpful! Speaking of helpful, you’ll find even more information packed with real wedding examples on our blog: hitchstudio.com/blog

We sincerely hope your wedding day is the best day ever.

Cheers to happy planning!



wedding day designer

LET'S GET STARTED!

AFTER YOU'RE ENGAGED: Date: ____ / ____

- Celebrate! Seriously, spend some good quality time together with your fiancé before things get busy and stressful.
- Call your family and friends (of course)!
- Brainstorm the overall vision for your wedding and start choosing wedding colors and theme/style. (Start a [Pinterest](#) board, start a wedding folder, etc.)
- Decide what kind of wedding you want (traditional, outdoor, destination, [barn](#), [fall](#), [winter](#), etc.)
- Introduce families if you haven't already.
- [Hire a wedding planner/coordinator](#) (if you wish). (We highly recommend it for peace of mind and a joyful, stress-free day — and to [help with all the details that follow](#).)
- Contact your officiant to see which dates are available.
- Decide where you'd like to get married. Start contacting ceremony locations to see if those dates align with your officiant. Consider booking this right away!
 - _____
- Start building your guest list and estimate your guest count. _____
- Set overall budget and vendor budgets. **★TIP:** Start a spreadsheet of expenses & details.
- Research reception locations and consider booking your favorite venue right away! (Ask about capacity, what the chairs/carpet/walls look like, food and beverage minimum, time restrictions, etc.)
★TIP: If you're having an outdoor ceremony and/or reception, be sure to have a "[rain-plan](#)" or back-up venue in case of inclement weather. This can be a [tent](#) or another venue location. Have a plan for the communication of these changes to guests the week of the wedding.
 - _____
- Start thinking of a fun way to ask your bridesmaids to be in your wedding!
Plan "Will you be my bridesmaid?" gifts (if you wish).
 - _____
 - _____
- Choose and tell your [wedding party](#). (Check with everyone in the wedding to make sure potential dates work with their schedules):
 - Bridesmaids (and maid/matron of honor)
 - Groomsmen (and best man)
 - Ushers
 - Personal attendant(s)
 - Flower girl
 - Ring bearer

WHO LOVE THE couples wedding day DESIGNER



“ I looked through all the binders, bought all the planners, and subscribed to the online apps. There wasn't a true all-inclusive wedding planning checklist to follow with the level of detail I was hoping for until now. I loved the “Wedding Day Designer!” ”

— Kate + Michael Peyton

— *Photo credit: Chelsea Jean Photography*



“ I loved my wedding day! Because of the “Wedding Day Designer,” I knew every detail had been checked off and taken care of. I got to be truly present with my friends and family — and my new husband — because I wasn't stressed at all. Open this book and start planning. It's so motivating and you'll be glad you did. ”

— Tori + Derek Meshke

— *Photo credit: Studio 309 Photography*



“ This Wedding Day Designer is the best \$20 you'll ever spend on your wedding. I promise you. ”

— Lana + Brendan Smith

— *Photo credit: Dan Thorson Photography*

For more information and how to purchase the printed or downloadable version of this planner, visit

www.weddingdaydesignerguide.com

Photo credit: Erica Lynn Photography

