

DRESSED,  
STYLED, *and*  
DOWN *the* AISLE

Becoming a Stylish Bride

# CHAPTER 01

## FILLABLE 14 MONTH WEDDING FASHION TIMELINE

*brought to you by*

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**YOU'VE GOTTEN ENGAGED, SHARED THE NEWS AND CHOSEN YOUR VENUE.**

Now it's time to start thinking about the dress. We've broken down the steps to make the shopping process as seamless as possible in the hopes of saving you time, money and sanity.

In this document **you can create your own timeline by filling in your wedding date and how many months you have until then.** Divide the number of months you have by 14 and you will know how to assign the months.

**WEDDING DATE:** .....

**TOTAL NUMBER OF MONTHS:** .....



### 1. SET THE DETAILS

*(This must be done before you shop)*

**DATE:** .....

- Lock in your wedding date
- Set the dress code
- Download my Bridal Style Blueprint to identify your core style and how to translate that to your wedding style

### 2. MAKE A SHOPPING PLAN

*(do this a month before you intend to visit stores)*

**DATE:** .....

- Download my designer guide here (QR Code or Link) to quickly find the designers that best suit your personal style
- Identify the stores in your area that carry the designers you are interested in
- If you're having a hard time finding them in your area, consider a trip to NYC (the wedding dress capital of the world) and download my shopping guide here
- Book appointments. You will want to schedule these 1 - 2 months in advance and on weekdays whenever possible to get ideal days/times

### 3. TIME TO SHOP

*(if possible do this between 1 year and 10 months before your date)*

**DATE:** .....

- Decide who to bring wedding dress shopping with you (no more than 2 people)
- Start a shared album for photos/videos and designate one of your people to be the photographer for a day
- Download my guide to what to bring to a bridal salon [here](#)
- Book a place for brunch or lunch to celebrate the moment



#### 4. DRESS DECISION TIME

*(Try to order by 9 months before the wedding)*

**DATE:** .....

- Revisit boutiques, if needed
- Download our Shine Test to find out if the dress is the one [here](#).
- When you are ready, place your wedding gown order
- On the contract, make sure they note any customizations or details regarding specific changes that will be made to the dress during production
- Confirm the due date with the store so you can follow up on progress as the due date approaches

#### 5. ENGAGEMENT PHOTOS

*(Typically before or at the 7- 8 month mark but is flexible)*

**DATE:** .....

- Schedule a date and location for the shoot with your photographer
- Use this as an opportunity to try out a hair and makeup team
- Consider how many looks you are going to do on the shoot (up to 3) and what you own that will work for each
- Coordinate your fiance's outfit(s)
- Organize and steam all items so they are ready to go on shoot day
- Hire a stylist to help you during the shoot

#### 6. BRIDESMAID DRESSES

*(don't wait much later than 6 months to do this)*

**DATE:** .....

- Download my guide to Bridesmaid Styling [here](#).
- Determine the ideal color palette for your bridesmaid dresses. Place your choices side-by-side with the wedding decor to see how they look
- Decide who is paying for the dress, you or the bridesmaids
- Then look on Instagram and Pinterest for inspiration
- Decide which of these looks you want to have:
  1. **Matching:** Everyone in the same dress in the same color
  2. **Coordinating:** Not all dresses are the same, but they are all part of the same collection or color palette
  3. **Mix & Match:** This is where none of the dresses are the same, and the coordinating detail is a color or pattern

## 7. OTHER OUTFITS FOR THE BRIDE

*(can be ongoing throughout your engagement)*



**DATE:** .....

- Make a list of all of your events from your engagement party and shower to your welcome luncheon, rehearsal dinner and the morning after brunch
- Decide if you want to wear white at every event or mix it up
- Go back to your bridal blueprint and start thinking about your core style and what looks you want to wear
- Create an attire board for each event. You can download my guide [here](#).
- Book your Wedding Day Dresser so that you can ensure you have the help you need on your wedding day

## 8. MOMS

*(Going to depend on seasonality, but don't wait more than 4-5 months before)*

**DATE:**

.....

- Download my guide for dressing MOBs and MOGs [here](#).
- Have both moms do the bridal blueprint to get a sense of what they like wearing
- Share the color palette of the wedding and any important notes/preferences that will impact their sartorial choices
- Create an attire board for each mom

## 9. MEN & CHILDREN

*(Typically at 4 months)*

**DATE:**

.....

### Men

- Decide whether men will be buying or renting suits/tuxedos
- Choose the overall looks for attire
- Arrange fittings
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### Children

- Come up with a concept: Traditional, whimsical or modern
- Choose comfortable shoes. I've helped many tiny feet in my day, and it's so sad when they are crying (and sometimes refuse to wear the shoe entirely!)
- Coordinate with their parents on the size and estimate what size they will be at the time of the wedding



## 10. ACCESSORIES

*(3-4 months before the wedding)*

**DATE:** .....

- Book fittings for the wedding gown and any other wedding weekend attire items you will need to have altered (book well in advance to secure convenient dates)
- Choose your shoes (you will need these for your first fitting)
- Choose jewelry options (if undecided, bring them to your second fitting)
- Choose your 'something old, new borrowed and blue'
- If you plan to rent jewelry, this is the time to start considering different pieces

## 11. UNDERGARMENTS & GETTING READY OUTFITS

*(3 months and before the fittings begin)*

**DATE:** .....

- Purchase several undergarments so you can choose the ones that best suit your dress at the fitting (make sure there is a good return policy)
- Choose your getting-ready outfit (nothing you have to pull over your head)
- Coordinate getting ready outfits for your bridal party and purchase them, if you plan to do this
- Select gifts for the bridal party. For bridesmaids, earrings and small jewelry make a great gift and can be worn by the party to ensure consistency in the overall look
- Similarly, the groom might consider bow ties, shirt studs and cufflinks for his groomsmen - which is a nice way to give them a gift while also ensuring that everyone looks the same when standing together as a group

## 12. FITTINGS

*(Fittings typically start 2 months before the wedding)*



**DATE:** .....

- Wedding gown fittings begin - often there are 3 fittings total, but it can vary based on how much work needs to be done
- When going to your wedding dress fittings, don't forget your shoes! If you do (and trust me, it happens a lot!) they won't be able to complete the fitting
- This is the deadline for any fitness goals so you are where you want to be when the fittings start
- Decide whether you want to pick up or ship your wedding dress. Read more about this here
- Bring all of your jewelry and accessories to the second wedding dress fitting to see how they look together
- At your final fitting, take a video of how to bustle your dress and share it with the person that will be doing it
- Check in with your bridesmaids to make sure their dresses have arrived, they have tried them on and schedule alterations as needed
- Do the same for the children's clothes and make sure they have also tried them on

## 13. FINAL DETAILS

*(1 month to go)*

**DATE:** .....

- This is a moment for a good checklist so you don't forget anything! Start to pack for the wedding weekend by putting all attire items in their specified area
- Group outfits together and label them
- Buy or prep your fashion emergency kit here
- Purchase extra nude undies, shapewear, breast lift tape, socks, blister block etc. to have on hand
- Create a plan for where you are going to hang your dress at the venue
- If you don't have professional help coming on that day, purchase a quality steamer and watch videos on how to do it properly (I really don't recommend this route, but if you can't hire a Dresser, it's better than a wrinkled dress)
- Pack a separate suitcase for the honeymoon if applicable
- Make sure all bridesmaids have had their fittings and are set with their dresses and accessories
- Final fitting takes place for the wedding dress and all other items

## 14. ON-SITE PREPARATION

*(Date: 1 week to go)*



**DATE:** .....

- Hang up your dress when you arrive at your venue with the following steps:
  1. Find a spot that is out of the way where you can hang the wedding dress.
  2. Make sure there is a high and secure structure to hang it from, where ideally the train won't be touching the ground when you take it out of the bag. Never hang it on a fire extinguisher.
  3. Place a white sheet or towel on the floor underneath the dress so that it doesn't get dirty. Unzip the garment bag, take out the train and leave the bodice covered.
  4. Don't unpack the stuffing in the bodice until the wedding day when you are about to put it on or the photographer wants to shoot it.
  5. Fold the sheet over it if it's on the floor at all to make sure that it doesn't get stepped on.
  6. Keep all pets and people away from it!
- If you are arriving at a destination or hotel, unpack upon arrival and keep items grouped together. You can ask for a rolling rack to be put in your room if needed

## THE WEDDING DAY

- Make sure you have a space that's just for you so that you can have a moment to yourself if needed.
- Eat something! Trust me.
- Hydrate and make sure you have plenty of water around.

**Remember, at every wedding, something goes wrong, but how you react to it is up to you. Take a deep breath (or five!) and roll with it. Sometimes those are the best stories afterwards!**

To download my tried and true wedding day supply checklist, click [here](#).

## 1 MONTH AFTER: WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR DRESS

*Decide whether you want to clean and preserve your dress, donate it, sell it or repurpose it.*

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