

From this day forward...

Everybody dreams of having the perfect wedding but achieving it is less romantic. Like any big event, even wedding ceremonies can have one or more hiccups which need to be resolved. However, good planning will go a long way to making sure that your day is as successful as possible.

The most important thing to keep in mind is that the day is for the bride and groom and the choices that you have made must be honoured above the choices of others. Staying cool and calm and keeping within your plans is a vital key to a smooth running day.

At the very start it is essential to specify your preferences, likes and dislikes. Once planned things can't always be reversed. Decide on any 'must have' details between you, set your budget and agree any decisions made, and then stick to them.

First of all, decide on the wedding date. Check the required date is available at your preferred venue/ location. If it isn't you will have to settle on an alternative, so it always helps to have more than one option when you are ready to book. Do ensure you stick to your budget. Be rational when choosing for your wedding. If you can, think of ways to try to cut costs without having an impact on the final finish. For example, ask around for suggestions on a DJ for the music at your reception - word of mouth and referral is an extremely useful tool at this important time.

When it is time to start purchasing 'wedding things' it is ideal to make out a list of everything required, costs involved and stick to it.

Choosing your photographer is one of the biggest decisions. Your wedding photos will capture your memories and be with you all of your lives.

Decide on how many guests you would like to invite, but be realistic. Your budget may not allow for everyone you want to ask and in that case you'll have to shorten your list. Think of the most important people in your lives first.

There are usually a lot of local wedding events at this time of the year. These are perfect - they will save you time because most will have exhibitors covering every aspect of your wedding including stationery, car hire, flowers, tiaras and bridal wear etc.

Just remember above all - this will be one of the most special days of your life, so enjoy it!

