



1-Page Wedding Plan™

A simple way to create your best day.

Use the attached guide to complete the 1-Page Wedding Plan for an easy, down-to-earth overview of planning your wedding. Couples that use the 1-Page Wedding Plan are empowered to celebrate their love in unique, personal ways without breaking the bank.

Pre-Planning

Next Big Goal

What's your next big goal after your wedding?

Post-Wedding Savings: _____

Budget

\$ _____ Starting Budget

+ \$ _____ Savings Plan

+ \$ _____ Contributions

= \$ _____ Wedding Budget

* Check the guide for helpful details!

Wedding Size

\$ _____ Wedding Budget

- \$ _____ Est. Min. Fixed Costs

= \$ _____ Est. Services Budget

÷ \$ _____ Est. Cost Per Guest

= \$ _____ Est. # of Guests

TIP: Use a Honeyfund Wedding Fund to organize contributions

TIP: Cost per guest on average may be between \$130-300 depending on the size and scale of your event

Wedding Plan

Vision

Time of Year _____

Indoor/Outdoor _____

Location _____

Sights, Smells, Details

Venue & Date

Ceremony Venue Fee

Reception Venue Fee

Per Guest Fee (if any)

Wedding Date

Services + Vendors

Fixed Costs	Per-Person Costs
_____ Attire	_____ Cake
_____ DJ/Musicians	_____ Catering
_____ Florist	_____ Favors
_____ Officiant	_____ Guest Rooms
_____ Photographer	_____ Invitations
_____ Planner	_____ Rentals
_____ Stylist	_____ Transportation
_____ Videographer	_____ Other
_____ Other	\$ _____ Total
\$ _____ Total	\$ _____ Per-Person Rate

TIP: Find unique vendors in Honeyfund's Vendor Directory!

Guests

Guest List

\$ _____ Wedding Budget

- \$ _____ Actual Fixed Costs

= \$ _____ Actual Per-Person Costs

÷ \$ _____ Per-Person Rate

= \$ _____ Actual # of Guests

Invites & Registry

___/___/___ Save the Dates

___/___/___ Register for Gifts

___/___/___ Order Invitations

___/___/___ Send Invitations

Thank You

Print Honeymoon Photos

___/___/___

Mail Thank You Cards

___/___/___

TIP: Check your budget one more time before making your guest list!

TIP: Cash is flexible. Register at honeyfund.com/signup



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WELCOME!

Not the **BIG** day, the **BEST** day.

You're embarking on the greatest adventure of your life: marriage. And it all starts with one special day. In your wedding planning journey, you'll discover you're up against some pretty intense forces pushing you toward a bigger, more expensive wedding. We know there are some amazing vendors out there committed to making your day special. But those forces can result in some serious fear of screwing up the most important moment of your life. This plan is foolproof against that kind of pressure.

The 1-Page Wedding Plan was created to help you make your wedding day the best day of your life.

You see, Honeyfund was created by a real couple—like you!—to solve a wedding budget problem. Over the past 15 years, we've learned a thing or two about making extraordinary things happen on a realistic budget. And we know something doesn't have to be big to be great. And neither does your wedding. In fact, when you focus more on making the wedding authentic to you two, it becomes something bigger than the cookie-cutter event with a \$35,000 price tag. Your wedding becomes something better than you could have ever imagined. This plan will get you there. Ready? Let's go.

The Next Big Goal

Step one of our plan starts with a peek into your life beyond the wedding day. Why? Because a good plan always begins with the end in mind. Many couples make the mistake of thinking that the result of all this time, effort and money is a wedding. That's wrong. The result is your marriage. That's the end that you should have in mind. More specifically, imagine the next big goal that you have as a couple. Is it buying a new house? Starting a family? Finishing a graduate program or paying off loans?

Whatever it is, it probably requires you to have some savings on Day 1 of your marriage. So, take a moment to write down your next big goal on the 1-Page Wedding Plan. How much money would you like to have in the bank when you wake up the morning after your wedding? You may not need the whole budget for your next big goal on day one. If that's the case, just write down the amount you'd like to start with.

Budget

Creating a wedding budget is simple. You'll just use the formula from the 1-Page Wedding Plan.

Wait, this plan makes you calculate formulas?

Don't worry. We'll help you do this simple math. All you need are our calculators on the next page.

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Starting Budget} \\ &+ \text{Savings Plan} \\ &+ \text{Contributions} \\ &= \text{Wedding Budget} \end{aligned}$$



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STARTING BUDGET

The first number is your Starting Budget. Think of it like all the money you have available today, minus what you need to have left over after the wedding. Use our calculator at right to tally it up.

TIP: If your Starting Budget is negative or very small, don't worry! This plan will help you come up with a workable wedding budget anyway. All we need to do is add some money.

SAVINGS PLAN

The first way to add money to your wedding budget is with monthly savings. How many months will you save? The typical engagement period is 12-24 months.

How much can you each afford to save during your engagement period leading up to your wedding day? There are plenty of ways to find additional funds in your monthly income. Try taking on a side hustle, adjusting your paycheck's tax withholdings or asking for a raise. It's hard for an employer to say no when you tell them you're getting married.

Use the Savings Plan calculator at right to see how much you can add to your wedding budget.

TIP: Calculate the formula with different numbers of months to see how that changes the total Savings Plan.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY CONTRIBUTIONS

Next, you'll calculate Friends and Family Contributions. Parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles often want to contribute financially or donate food, desserts, drinks or flowers. If you have no idea what this number might be, one easy way to find out is to set up a wedding fund in your Honeyfund account. List the common costs associated with a wedding and share the page with your closest friends and family. They can donate the money right there or peruse the list and let you know their intentions. [Here's an example of what that could look like.](#)

The other option is to simply call them up and ask. It will feel awkward, but it's a conversation each bride and groom need to have. Use the Contributions Calculator at right to total up the contribution.

Starting Budget Calculator

\$ _____ Total Savings
 Write in how much you have combined, today, in cash or liquid assets

-
 \$ _____ Next Big Goal
 Write the number from your Next Big Goal box.

-
 \$ _____ Emergency Savings*
 Write in your monthly expenses multiplied by 3

=
 \$ _____ Starting Budget

* Emergency savings is how much you'll need to cover three months of living expenses. That includes your rent or housing payment, food, utilities and anything else you need to live month-to-month. Now that you're getting married, you have a responsibility to protect your family in case of the unexpected. Your emergency savings is how you do that.

Savings Plan Calculator

\$ _____ Monthly Savings
 Write in how much you can save each month.

x _____ Months Until the Wedding
 How many months are there until your wedding?

\$ _____ Savings Plan

* **TIP:** We advise not to pick a wedding date before working on the budget so you can create a timeline that works for your savings plan. When friends and family ask when you're getting married, you can respond, "We're still working out the details, but we're shooting for a year (18 months, two years) from now."

Contributions Calculator

\$ _____ Name: _____
 Contributing: _____

+
 \$ _____ Name: _____
 Contributing: _____

+
 \$ _____ Name: _____
 Contributing: _____

=
 \$ _____ Family & Friend Contributions



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Congratulations! With these figures, you're ready to calculate your WEDDING BUDGET on your 1-Page Wedding Plan. Write in the final figures from your calculators on the Budget box of the 1-Page Wedding Plan. Got it? Great!

Important: Think of your wedding budget, no matter the number, as an aspect of your unique personalities.

Fun, jaw-dropping and surprising weddings can happen on any budget. Pop-up weddings, flash weddings, backyard weddings, park weddings, and potlucks have unique character and charm because they are infused with YOUR love and vision for your future together. You will have a great wedding because this budget and the authentic day you create represent the two of you at this moment in your lives.

Wedding Size (Skip for Elopements)

There's one more simple calculation to do, and then we're done with the math for now. This box will help you get a rough estimate of how many guests your budget can accommodate. If you think of a wedding's fixed cost as the bare minimum you need to actually get married, that's usually somewhere between \$500 and \$2,000. That would cover the cost of things like a marriage license, an officiant, and a photographer.

To estimate your wedding size in terms of the number of guests, write your wedding budget into the box. Subtract your estimated fixed costs and enter the new total. This is how much you can afford to spend on everything else, including the per-person fees, like cake, food, drinks, flowers and favors.

Let's say the "per head" price for all these things is \$130, which is on the low end of the range (it can easily be \$300 per guest or more). You'll divide your remaining budget by \$130. The result is the number of guests you can afford to host.

TIP: If you want a more elaborate wedding—the large wedding cake, a plated meal, open bar and expensive favors—divide your per guest budget by \$200 or \$300. You can have a fancier event, but it will impact your number of guests. See how that works?

Can't afford to pay costs per guest?

Consider eloping, getting married in a standup ceremony, or other ideas from our "[Weddings For Every Budget](#)" series on the Honeyfund blog. We've got guides for [\\$5000 weddings](#), [\\$1000 weddings](#), and even [\\$500 weddings](#).

Vision

By now, you should have a good sense of the size of the wedding you'll be able to pull off with your budget. With this number in mind, it's time to close your eyes and start to picture your best day.

Do you have wedding guests watching? Or are you alone on a mountaintop, jumping out of an airplane or in a Vegas chapel? (Yes, people get married this way! For more "alternative" wedding ideas, visit the [Honeyfund blog](#).) Are you at your favorite travel destination? Which country, state and city are you in? What time of year is it? Are you in the church or other house of worship? Are you outside in a wooded area, near the

ocean, or at a park? Do you have a wedding party? Whose faces do you see? Look out at your wedding guests. Who are the people smiling back at you from the first two rows?

Try to imagine the SIGHTS, SMELLS, SOUNDS, COLORS, and FEELINGS you are having. Now complete the Vision box on the 1-Page Wedding Plan.

TIP: You may want to do this visioning exercise separately, then discuss until you have a combined vision. When you do, write it into the plan.

Venue/Date

Ok, this is exciting. You are getting really close to setting a date! But first, you have to settle on the venue. Many couples find that the venue they fall in love with isn't available on their dream date, so they change the date or get a new venue. But you won't have that problem.

At least 9-12 months in advance, start shopping for a venue. With your vision already done, narrow down the venues you are going to consider. Are you looking for a church, a restaurant, a resort, a community center, a friend or family member's home, or a public park? Are you eloping to a favorite destination or seeking another alternative wedding? Find unique wedding venues at honeyfund.com/TopResources. Or find a local directory of traditional wedding venues, circle the venues that fit your style and wedding size, and call them up.

TIP: Ask if they can accommodate your budget before you visit! Don't worry if you get a lot of nos. There are plenty of yeses out there.

Once you've seen several venues and chosen one, find out their availability and book a date.

TIP: Be sure to choose a date that coincides with the number of months you've committed to saving up.

You now have your wedding date! Write down your wedding date on the 1-Page Wedding Plan. You can also write in the essential venue-related fees here. Total these numbers and subtract them from your overall budget. This is how much you have left to book services and vendors.

Services

Brainstorm about the services you plan to have for your wedding. If you're eloping or having another alternative type of wedding, it won't be many! Even for a traditional wedding, you certainly don't have to choose them all. Once you know who you need to hire, start to research costs and choose a vendor in each category.

Shop around to get the price that fits your budget. Remember, if you need to make adjustments, you can always reduce the guest list to fit the budget. You haven't invited anyone yet!

Need help asking the right questions? Check out "[How to Ask Venues, Vendors and Friends for Anything for Your Wedding](#)" on the Honeyfund blog.

Looking for nontraditional wedding resources that won't break the bank? Read up on our "[Weddings For Every Budget](#)" series or check out the unique services in the [Honeyfund Wedding Vendor Directory](#).

Finalize Guest List

It's time to make your final guest list. You might be thinking, "But wait, aren't couples told to make the guest list first? Why did we do all these other exercises before that?" Because your budget should be the guiding factor in your wedding guest list size. Most of us only have a handful of truly close friends and family who we must include. Our wider circle of family, friends and coworkers will support us even if they don't attend the wedding. And if they don't, aren't you glad you didn't blow your budget to include them? It's also a great excuse when

your parents and friends start asking for additional guests to invite. "I'm sorry, our budget only allows for a certain number of guests. We'd love to plan a get-together with those friends after the wedding."

TIP: If you absolutely must include everyone, you'll have to reduce the per guest price, do some things yourself, and/or cut some services. Find DIY and cost-cutting resources at honeyfund.com/TopResources.

Invites and Registry

A great way to save on the cost of your wedding is to keep communication with guests simple. The first step: e-mail or text Save the Dates. You save money, and your guests can easily reply when you ask for their addresses. Boom! Mailing list done.

TIP: Create a Save the Date image in your Honeyfund account under "Share." Write the date you'll send your Save the Dates into the plan. Do this as soon as you finalize your guest list.

About six months before your wedding date and before you send invitations, register for gifts. Write that date in the plan. Dreading the registry? Don't worry. You can set up a cash-based Honeyfund page in your pajamas. The best part: Guests prefer shopping for experiences over dishes and towels. How do we know? Honeyfund was started by a real wedding couple to solve a real problem: no budget left for the honeymoon. Since then, more than a million couples have done the same, and guests always RAVE about the idea. With your Honeyfund account, you can register for all the fun experiences you'll have on your honeymoon.

Got the honeymoon covered? Use your Honeyfund for a home down payment or your Next Big Goal. It's totally customizable. Guest contributions end up as cash in your bank account, giving you the ultimate flexibility. Bonus: You can register for nearly 200 popular [gift card](#) brands, too.

Check out some of our popular [starter registries](#):

[Starter Honeymoon Registry](#)

[Starter Home Registry](#)

[Fun! Registry](#)

[Anything Registry](#)

About four months before the wedding, you'll need to be ready to mail your invitations. Write that date into the plan. If you are ordering invitations, give yourself about two months before the mailing date. Don't forget to print invitation inserts from your Honeyfund account. They include a link to your page.

TIP: We have a ton of DIY invitation ideas on our website at honeyfund.com/TopResources

Thank You Cards

Congratulations, you made it to your big day. You're married! Now make some time to write Thank You cards. Pick an evening you'll be together and write that date on the plan. Handwritten cards are a lovely touch and inexpensive. Include a picture of you both enjoying your honeymoon experience or other gifts you received from your guests.

TIP: You can even send faux-handwritten cards from a service that prints and mails them for you. Find all our recommendations at honeyfund.com/TopResources.

What About the Honeymoon?

Honeyfund has been helping couples plan and pay for the honeymoon of their dreams for 15 years. All you need is a free Honeyfund account at honeyfund.com/signup. We'll walk you through the rest.

Need help deciding how to register?

Whether you're dreaming of [Vegas](#), [Fiji](#), [Italy](#), or another amazing destination, we've curated [starter registries](#) you can browse as inspiration for your romantic getaway!



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Questions or Feedback?

We'd love to hear from you. Visit [honeyfund.com/ContactUs](https://www.honeyfund.com/ContactUs).

Check Out These Resources

TOP WEDDING PLANNING RESOURCES

<https://www.honeyfund.com/TopResources>

HOW TO ASK VENUES, VENDORS AND FRIENDS FOR ANYTHING FOR YOUR WEDDING

<https://www.honeyfund.com/blog/asking-vendors-venues-and-friends/>

WEDDINGS FOR EVERY BUDGET

<https://www.honeyfund.com/blog/category/wedding-budget/>

[\\$500 Weddings](#)

[\\$1000 Weddings](#)

[\\$5000 Weddings](#)

HONEYFUND WEDDING VENDOR REGISTRY

<https://www.honeyfund.com/blog/online-wedding-vendor-directory/>

HONEYFUND GIFT CARD SHOP

<https://shop.honeyfund.com/gift-card>

SAMPLE REGISTRIES

<https://www.honeyfund.com/starter-registries>

[Anything Registry](#)

[Fun! Registry](#)

[Starter Home Registry](#)

[Starter Honeymoon Registry](#)

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