

Budget Wedding Planning Tips
Complete Report



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Planning Your Wedding

It is estimated that the average wedding in the United States and Canada costs over \$31,000.00, with the honeymoon costing an additional \$5-10,000.00 on top of this cost. It's no wonder that countless couples end up frustrated when attempting to plan their wedding with a limited budget in place.

Considering that newly wedded couples would likely want to put a down payment on a new home, invest in their future and start their new life together without the strain of such a hefty debt to deal with, learning how to plan your wedding on a shoestring budget so that you are able to save money with every element and feature is critical.

Wedding costs can spiral out of control if a budget is not determined early on, so it's important to sit down together, analyze your finances and what you can afford to spend.

Thankfully, there are countless ways to save thousands of dollars on your wedding and this report will highlight just a few of those options.

Setting The Budget

Setting a budget is something that you need to do very early on. That way, you know exactly what you have to work with and can begin the planning phase of your wedding.

Choosing a budget that you are both comfortable isn't always as easy as it sounds, especially if you are trying to avoid taking out a loan, and instead, save money for your wedding each week. The best way to go about this is to write down an estimate that you feel would cover the bulk of your expenses, then determine how much you can afford to put aside each week until you reach your objective. Depending on when your wedding will take place, you should allocate at least 12 weeks or more to saving up money for your big day.

These days most couples foot the larger portion of the bill themselves, however you may have family that wish to contribute to your wedding, and this is something you will need to discuss when strategizing over your budget. Regardless how much money you end up with however, there are dozens of ways of save money and still have the wedding of your dreams, you just need to get creative and follow the guidelines available in the blueprint at

<http://www.weddingplanningonabudgetguide.com/>

Don't allow yourself to become overwhelmed with the pre-planning phase of your wedding, it's meant to be an enjoyable process, and

while its very easy to get stressed out especially when working with a smaller budget, the first few steps are simply to set your budget, determine how you are going to collectively fund your wedding, and discuss with your partner, what the most important elements of your day are. These are the special features that you both just can't do without.

When it comes to planning a wedding, the easiest way to tackle it is to plan it in phases, grouping tasks together and using a wedding planner to keep track of your progress. You can simply create your own planner with card inserts, a binder and paper or purchase a pre-created one from your local stationary or wedding outlet.

Keeping organized is critical when working with a budget. Each time you make a purchase, keep a copy of your receipt in an envelope or file, and write down exactly what you purchased. Make sure that you keep ongoing communication with your partner, so that you are both on the same page and feel a part of the process. It's easy for brides to do the majority of the planning with their bridesmaids, maid of honor mother or family member, but you need to do your best to involve your partner as much as you can. After all, it's their big day, too.

Saving Money On Flowers

Saving money on your flowers is not as difficult as you may think. You must have the idea about the type of flowers that are in season, if you want to save the most money possible, or go with perennial flowers that are usually that most affordable option of all.

For saving money on your flowers you can buy them in bulk as they will be used for several purposes on your wedding day, and quite often, you will receive a discount when you purchase a larger quantity of flowers, from a local florist.

Creating the bouquets on your own can be a bit overwhelming, but if you are able to do it, you will save a lot of money in the process. Get your maid of honour and brides maids involved!

When you are buying the flowers from florists you need to explore various shops and ask questions about the varieties, sizes, number and prices.

Unless you are a flower enthusiast, you will want to be sure to ask as many questions regarding potential bouquets and centerpieces, so that you can compare pricing and determine what shop to purchase from.

With flowers such as daisies, roses, lilies and carnations, the price structure remains almost the same whereas with flowers including Hydrangea, Tulips, and Lilacs, the price will fluctuate.

Discuss your ideas with a local florist, ensuring that she or he is aware of your budget. Be open to suggestions, even if it's not exactly as you initially envisioned it, there are hundreds of affordable flower types that when mixed together, can create a stunning presentation, so let your florist show you examples of possibilities before you set your mind on a specific flower type.

When discussing your flower arrangements with your florist, be sure to give them a general style and color scheme that you like, as well as any flower types that you simply aren't interested in.

Tip: Carnations are one of the most affordable flowers out there, and even if you aren't a fan of carnations, using small amounts as fillers can cut down on costs and still look absolutely beautiful.

For affordable centerpiece creations, you could put left over flowers to good use by carefully peeling off the petals and placing them into colored glass vases or bowls, where they can float with votive candles.

You could also consider melding a handful of roses with cheaper flowers and baby's breath to give it a full look without the hefty costs involved in pre-created centerpieces. Add in four or five pillar candles for a gorgeous array, at a very little cost.

Saving Money On Your Invitations

When it comes to saving money on your wedding invitations, there are very simple options available that will save you hundreds of dollars in costs. To start, you need to spend some time researching the different options from local stationary stores, as well as investigating online wedding shops where you can purchase invitations from wholesalers at cost.

Another great option is to simply create them yourself, with online websites featuring downloadable templates that you can type in and print out, including envelopes and pre-printed labels. While engraved wedding invitations are absolutely stunning, they will take a lot from your budget, unnecessarily. Invitations are often thrown in the trash after the guest RSVP's, remember, and so it doesn't make a lot of sense to spend a large portion of your budget on them.

Get creative! If you are a crafty person, you could purchase scrapbook elements from your local craft store and offer hand-created, personalized scrapbook style invitations. This is a great way to show your creative side while injecting your own personality and style, plus you'll save a ton of money in the process.

You should also stick with standard size invitations, to save on postage costs and rather than include a return envelope with a stamp, set up a free email account exclusively for people to respond to, indicating whether they can attend or not. This is an easy to save a couple of

hundred dollars on postage costs while staying organized with a guest list that you can manage directly in your email.

Budget Crunchers: Things To Avoid

When it comes to wedding planning, it's incredibly easy just to let loose and forget your budget. It's your big day, and you should be able to throw caution to the wind and have everything that you've been dreaming of since you were a little girl.

The problem is, your budget might not agree with this and before you know it, if you aren't exceptionally careful when considering every element of your wedding planning, you may end up using your entire budget before your planning is even complete.

Here are a couple of budget crunchers to avoid:

Budget Cruncher: Invitations And Wedding Favors

Your guests attend your wedding to celebrate your love and witness your special day. They don't need to leave with a bottle of wine or a knick-knack that they just don't really want. While it's sentimental and thoughtful of you to give your entire guest list a wedding favor, the costs can quickly add up.

Instead, if you really want to hand out favors at your wedding, consider ones that you can create yourself, such as a CD with your favorite music. This is a far more personal gift and won't cost you all

that much to create. Just buy a pack of CD's from a bulk store like Costco and you're in business!

Budget Cruncher: Oversized Wedding Cakes

This is a very common mistake that brides and grooms make when trying to determine an adequate size cake for their wedding. They go over the top and end up with lots of wasted cake that cost them a small fortune.

Do your best to choose a cake size that is reasonable, considering that smaller cakes can be just as beautiful as three or four tiered ones. If you really want an elaborate cake, consider building tiers with false centers or filling it in with roses that match your wedding's color scheme.

You could also have a "display" cake (the cake featured at your reception) with extra sheet cakes in the kitchen in case you run out. These will cost you far less than your actual wedding cake, and will give you assurance that you have plenty to go around.

**Download The Complete Guide
To Planning The Ultimate Wedding
On A Shoestring Budget!**

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