

Wedding

QUESTION + ANSWER

The long road from happy engagement to wedded bliss is paved with potential etiquette faux pas. Wedding planner Lisa Hanslip is here to help you resist your inner Bridezilla along the way.

Q My fiancée and I just got engaged about a week ago but we'd really like to get married this fall. Is there any way to plan a wedding for about 50 guests in less than two months?

A Absolutely! Whether you have five weeks, six months or two years to plan your wedding it is possible to have a lovely memorable event. However, when you're planning a wedding in a short time frame it is imperative that you be flexible (we're talking major, look like a pretzel flexible).

Regardless of how much time you have to plan your wedding, when you are inviting less than 75 guests your options are immensely greater than if you are having a fête for 300. If you're having a wedding in the spring or fall there's a chance that traditional venues like hotels and community halls may have an opening. You might want to consider having your wedding on some day other than Saturday - which will give you more options, whatever your time frame.

Don't overlook all the great restaurants that can accommodate 50 or 60 people and provide both great ambience and great service. Restaurants are often the most amenable to special requests for weddings and are best equipped to deal with last minute bookings. As for all the other vendors you'll need to figure out which ones are available and go from there.

If getting married soon is your priority be prepared for the possibility that your wedding won't look exactly as planned. So, get your dialing finger ready, start chanting your "I am flexible" mantra, and in less than two months you can be ready to say "I do!"

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