Creating a Timetable

12 to 10 Months Before the Wedding

- ☐ Set wedding date and time.
- ☐ Select and order at least your engagement ring. (If ring is part of a set, order the wedding band as well.)
- ☐ Send out publication and personal engagement announcements.
- ☐ Discuss and set a wedding budget.
- ☐ Decide wedding style.
- ☐ Review ceremony and reception sites.
- ☐ Begin shopping for gown.
- ☐ Select and invite wedding party.
- ☐ Book reception site.
- ☐ Reserve ceremony officiant.
- ☐ Book consultant (if using one).
- ☐ Book caterer (if not included in reception package).
- ☐ Book photographer.
- ☐ Book videographer.
- ☐ Book florist.
- ☐ Book musicians.
- ☐ Book ceremony site.

Task	When to Do It	Completed

9 to 7 Months Before the Wedding

- ☐ Select and order gown.
- ☐ Select and order all needed accessories.
- ☐ Register for gifts.
- ☐ Visit ceremony officiant, and discuss requirements and/or ceremony alterations.
- ☐ Compile guest list.
- ☐ Collect all addresses for guest list.
- ☐ Get at least two estimates from printers.
- ☐ Begin discussing honeymoon options.

Task	When to Do It	Completed

6 Months Before the Wedding

- ☐ Start planning ceremony, including flower choices, music choices, and so on.
- ☐ Start planning reception, including menu choices, music choices, and so on.
- ☐ Book limousine service (if desired).
- ☐ Book printer.
- ☐ Order invitations and any other stationery goods.
- ☐ Finalize honeymoon plans, and make reservations.
- ☐ Set a date for attendants to order their dresses.

Task	When to Do It	Completed

5 Months Before the Wedding

- ☐ Reserve accommodations for out-of-town guests. (You will need to estimate, since you don't yet have a complete R.S.V.P. list.)
- ☐ Begin discussing rehearsal dinner plans and options.
- ☐ Book invitation calligrapher (if using one).
- ☐ Begin discussing post-wedding party plans (if having a party).

Task	When to Do It	Completed

4 Months Before the Wedding

- ☐ Finalize ceremony plans.
- ☐ Finalize reception plans.
- ☐ Make sure mothers have selected their dresses.
- ☐ Purchase any wedding day accessories that are still needed.
- ☐ Order the groom's and groomsmen's wedding day attire.
- ☐ Finalize plans for post-wedding move to new address (if needed).

Task	When to Do It	Completed

3 Months Before the Wedding

- ☐ Finalize guest list.
- ☐ Finalize post-wedding party plans (if having one).
- ☐ Make appointment for first gown fitting.
- ☐ Buy all necessary wedding day lingerie.
- ☐ Buy any needed honeymoon clothing.
- ☐ Order wedding rings (if not already done).
- ☐ Check state marriage requirements, such as mandatory blood tests.
- ☐ Decide on wedding day hairstyle, and make any needed hair appointments.
- ☐ Book a makeup artist (if desired).

Task	When to Do It	Completed

2 Months Before the Wedding

- ☐ Address and mail invitations. (Mail four to six weeks before the wedding or six to eight weeks before a wedding planned for a holiday weekend.)
- ☐ Complete gown and headpiece fittings.
- ☐ Pick up wedding rings.
- ☐ Finalize plans for bridesmaids' party.
- ☐ Finalize accommodations for out-of-town guests.
- ☐ Finalize rehearsal party plans.
- ☐ Purchase your wedding gifts for each other.
- ☐ Purchase gifts for wedding party members.
- ☐ Begin writing thank you notes for any gifts received.
- ☐ Have a formal portrait taken (if desired).
- ☐ If you are moving to your post-wedding address, book moving company (if desired).

Task	When to Do It	Completed

1 Month Before the Wedding

- ☐ Get blood tests done (if needed).
- ☐ Purchase marriage license.
- ☐ Schedule final fittings for attendants' gowns.
- ☐ Host bridesmaids' party.
- ☐ Continue writing thank you cards for received gifts.
- ☐ Review all necessary wedding day accessories, such as toasting goblets, ring pillow, garter, candles, and so on.
- ☐ Confirm dates for wedding day hair and/or makeup.

Task	When to Do It	Completed

2 Weeks Before the Wedding

- ☐ Address legal issues, including changing your name on your Social Security card, driver's license, insurance, medical plans, and bank accounts (if needed).
- ☐ Send out announcements to publications.
- ☐ Address wedding announcements (if desired) to be mailed on wedding day.
- ☐ Give post office a change-of-address card if you plan to move after wedding.
- ☐ Give final list of requests to photographer.
- ☐ Give final list of requests to videographer.
- ☐ Give final list of requests to musicians.
- ☐ Continue writing thank you cards for all received gifts.

Task	When to Do It	Completed

1 Week Before the Wedding

- ☐ Phone guests who have not yet responded. (This task could be assigned to maid of honor.)
- ☐ Give final count to caterer and/or reception site coordinator.
- ☐ Review final details with caterer and/or reception site coordinator.
- ☐ Finalize reception seating.
- ☐ Invite someone special to help you get ready on wedding day.
- ☐ Groom should pick up and try on all wedding day attire.
- ☐ Review wedding day makeup needs, either by yourself or with a professional.
- ☐ Groom should get hair trimmed.
- ☐ Determine if and how you will adjust makeup for photo sessions.
- ☐ Purchase traveler's checks for honeymoon (if necessary).
- ☐ Call rehearsal participants, and review details and schedule (if formal invitations weren't sent).
- ☐ Continue writing thank you cards for all received gifts.

Task	When to Do It	Completed

1 to 2 Days Before the Wedding

- ☐ Make sure you have all wedding day paperwork, such as officiant's fee, marriage license, and any payments due that day.
- ☐ Treat yourself to a professional manicure and pedicure.
- ☐ Attend rehearsal.
- ☐ Attend rehearsal party.
- ☐ Pack for honeymoon.
- ☐ Make plans to have luggage in car or at hotel suite for wedding night.

Task	When to Do It	Completed

The Wedding Day

- ☐ Eat something before the ceremony.
- ☐ Fix hair or have it professionally done at least four hours before the ceremony (to accommodate any pre-ceremony photo shoots).
- ☐ Apply makeup or have it professionally applied at least four hours before the ceremony.
- ☐ Begin dressing at least an hour and a half before ceremony. Adjust time accordingly if you scheduled an extensive pre-ceremony photography session.
- ☐ Groom should begin dressing at least an hour before the ceremony (or earlier if needed for photo shoots).
- ☐ Begin music 30 minutes before ceremony.
- ☐ Have groom's parents seated five minutes before ceremony begins.
- ☐ Your mother should be seated immediately before you walk down the aisle.
- ☐ Have maid of honor and best man sign the wedding certificate as witnesses.

Task	When to Do It	Completed