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magazine

10 THINGS
YOU MUST AVOID

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CELEBRITY WEDDING

AT THE FAUST HOTEL

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PLANNER**

**VERA WANG'S
BOUQUET GOWN:
*A Diary of the Dress***



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EDITOR'S NOTE:

What a difference six months makes! I feel like it's only been a couple weeks since our last issue. We've been busy here creating a new format for the magazine to help you plan better, updating the website, launching The Daily Bride newsletter and going through so many feature wedding submissions!

After planning my daughter's Sweet 16 in May 2010, I learned how much I didn't know about event planning. I can sympathize with brides and understand how overwhelmed brides and party planners can feel. For this reason – I wanted to help brides in the planning process. While having coffee with a couple of good friend, it hit us! Make the magazine a planner! Go through the process chronologically, have room to make notes, give inspirational ideas and offer helpful tips from the experts. So – here is the first issue with the new layout and design. I hope you keep it with you, make notes, follow the daily blog and check the website while you plan your special day.



BOURBON STREET CANDY COMPANY

spring/summer 2011

WHAT'S INSIDE:

CELEBRITY WEDDING

AT THE FAUST HOTEL [PAGE 6](#)

FEATURED WEDDINGS [BEGIN PAGE 8](#)

DESTINATION WEDDING [PAGE 10](#)

SHOP STWMAGAZINE.COM [BEGINS PAGE 15](#)

PICKING YOUR WEDDING DATE [PAGE 21](#)

WEDDING PLANNERS [BEGIN PAGE 21](#)

RUSTIC COUNTRY WEDDING [PAGE 43](#)

10 THINGS YOU MUST AVOID [PAGE 54](#)

VERA WANG'S BOUQUET GOWN [PAGE 57](#)

AFTER THE WEDDING [PAGE 73](#)

FEATURED QUINCEANERA [PAGE 74](#)

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Plan your wedding with *Sparkle*

Obsessed with all the creative details that come with planning a wedding? So are we! Visit stwmagazine.com to see the most amazing ideas and advice and shop for those items you won't find locally! With our current real weddings, our blog, and haute topics in our articles, you will be sure to have everything you need at your fingertips (literally!) Visit www.stwmagazine.com, and find your inspiration and local wedding vendors from your hand-picked lists! **PAGE 16**

ONLINE INTERACTIVE ISSUE VENDOR
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Real Weddings Amazing shopping Elite respected vendors

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361 248 8684



ON THE COVER:

Photograph by M&J Photography. Hair by Josh & Company. Necklace and Earrings by An Affair to Remember. Hairpiece by An Affair to Remember. Bride's personal rings by Susann's. Bouquet by Razzle Dazzle. Garden Party Decor by Razzle Dazzle. Gown by An Affair to Remember. Video by Cinema Elegance and Jason Page





Alicia & Scott Wiggins

Deep in the heart of Texas a beautiful bride wed her talented groom. Country music singer Scott Wiggins, of the Scott Wiggins Band, who got his start playing in Corpus Christi nightspots, found true love and wed his bride, Alicia at the historic Faust Hotel in New Braunfels, Texas. Lots of friends and family gathered at the Faust Hotel to celebrate the young couple's new life together.

Read about their love story at www.stwmagazine.com

Wedding and Reception Venue: Faust Hotel (830) 625-7791 | Special Events: Doug Blank, (205) 908-2893 Celebration Central | Wedding Cake: Laura Nash Cakes | Florist: Comal Flower Shop | Tuxedo: Anthony Jewelry & Tuxedos Photography by Touch of Style, Erin Moore.

Faust Hotel:

HISTORIC WEDDING & HONEYMOON CAPITAL OF TEXAS

Built in 1929, the elegant Faust Hotel has recently been refurbished to provide modern amenities, but the original antiquity and authenticity of the architecture, décor and ambience of the hotel were retained to honor a fantastic decade in American History.

During World War II the Faust was maintained by the reputation it gained as the "Honeymoon Capital" of Texas. Soldiers stationed at nearby military bases used the Faust as the location for committing to their brides before being shipped off to war.

The Faust is currently the site of spectacular weddings, receptions,

and anniversaries. The Grand Ballroom is perfect for banquets and grand celebrations.

Faust Hotel is located between Austin and San Antonio – on I-35 facing the only spot in the world where a blue river and an emerald green river run together.

The Faust's event staff is the best in the county. "All the reasons to be married on Friday and Sundays", in Southern Living Weddings written by staff members. "I Do" magazine and Alabama Weddings magazine feature Faust's staff also. Garden weddings are available in front of the Faust also.



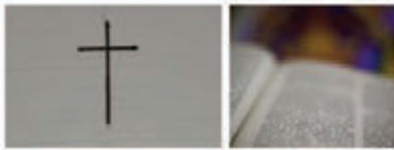


Lyndie & Damon Bentley

Wedding Style: Autumn at the Beach | Wedding Colors: Black and White stripes | Bridal Shoes: Jeweled flip-flops | Engagement and Wedding Rings: Heirloom rings from Daman's grandfather Dorris Cogburn | Hair: Bride | Makeup: Bride and Rosemary Olivo | Floral Arrangements & Bouquet: Bride and Rosemary Olivo | **Photographer: Jason David Page** | Wedding Song: "Let it be Me" by Ray LaMontagne | Wedding Location: Port Aransas beach at sunset | Reception Location: The Scow Home Port Aransas, TX | Bride's Cake: white cake with raspberry and cream cheese filling. Butter cream frosting | **Wedding night Accommodations: Seashell Village, Port Aransas.**

Most memorable part of the wedding? Bride: The breath taking setting of the ceremony, the sun set and the each. | Groom: Looking into Lyndie's eyes-she was so beautiful it hurt!

Thank you to special vendors: Tom and Donna Scrow-reception venue Justin and Krishin Bates-Honeymoon



Christina & Bryan Monteson

Wedding Style: Nature | Wedding Colors: Green & Blue | Religious Elements: Bible | [Wedding Coordination: Beth Knolle](#) Engagement & Wedding Rings: Kay Jewelers | Groomsmen's Attire: Tuxedo Junction | Invitations: by the bride | Officiate: Justice of the Peace, Judge Larry Cox | [Florist: Knolle Farm & Ranch, Bed Barn & Breakfast & Always in Bloom](#) | [Photographer: Jason Page](#) | DJ: Blue Moon Entertainment/ John Garcia | Wedding Song: My Best Friend by Tim McGraw | [Wedding and Reception Location: Knolle Farm & Ranch, Bed Barn & Breakfast](#) | [Caterer: Knolle Farm & Ranch, Bed Barn & Breakfast](#)

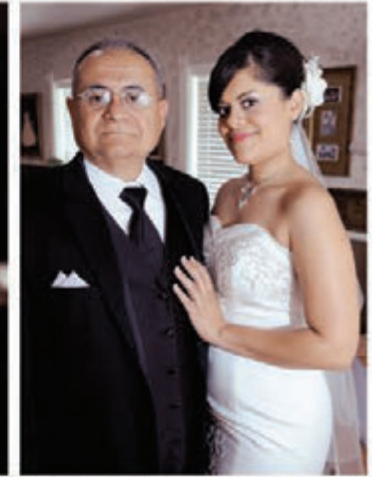


Marchee & Derek Jones

Wedding Style: Traditional ceremony / contemporary reception
Wedding Colors: Plum, Champagne & Gold | Religious Elements: Catholic Traditional with padrinos and madrinos | Photographer: M&J Photography | DJ: Mansion Royal | Wedding Song: Angel by Jack Johnson | Caterer: Mansion Royal | Décor: Mansion Royal
Rehearsal Dinner: Salinas Catering | Honeymoon: Carnival Cruise Ship Ecstasy – Cozumel

How did you meet your spouse? Work romance, Friendship that developed into love. The proposal? He proposed in my kitchen, I was in my pj's!

Thanks to special vendors: A special 'thank you' to M&J Photography all their staff! They were great and I got so much special attention. I would advise all brides to use M&J!





Mercy & Darrell Wood

Wedding Style: Sunset | Wedding Colors: Pink & Orange | **Bridal Salon: New Beginnings Wellness Spa** | Engagement & Wedding Rings: Custom Rings by Japanese Artist | Groomsmen's Attire: Chocolate & Camo | **Hair & Makeup: New Beginnings Wellness Spa** | **Florist: New Beginnings Wellness Spa** | Photographer: Lui-Anderson Photography | **Videographer: Cinema Elegance by Andy Moody** | Wedding Song: Maybe I'm Amazed by Paul McCartney | **Wedding Location & Reception venue: Seashell Village Resort in Port Aransas, TX** | Caterer: Couture Catering in Corpus Christi | Wedding Night Accommodations: Seashell Village Resort | Honeymoon Accommodations: Costa Rica. *Thanks to all who had a part in the wedding & Grace at Lui-Anderson Photography.*



Juanita & Domingo Medrano

A love of a lifetime: Wedding Vow Renewal Ceremony on Baffin Bay

Wedding Colors: Red, White & Black
Wedding Coordination, Razzle Dazzle Bridal Salon, Shear Perfection – Sylvia Garza in Kingsville | Invitations, M & J Photography | Officiate: Pastor Ron Lotz Florist: Razzle Dazzle Corpus Christi Photographer: M&J Photography DJ: Joey Lozano DJ Services | Wedding Location & Reception: The Spot on Baffin Bay | Bride's Cake, Cherry Tree Tea Room, Kingsville | Groom's Cake: Cherry Tree Tea Room | Rehearsal Dinner: The Spot on Baffin Bay | Wedding Night Accommodations: The Spot on Baffin Bay.

Read their love story on www.stwmagazine.com



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Oh, sweet deliciousness! Thrill your guests' taste buds with these delightful bride and groom apples. Each delectably sweet treat is dressed for the occasion in pure white chocolate for 'her' and a dashing, dark and white chocolate tuxedo for 'him'. Perfect as wedding favors, engagement party favors or bridal shower favors.

Give tuxedo apples as groomsmen favors or serve up a mix as bridal shower favors. Or, if you're looking for a bite-sized treat, try our monogrammed petit fours.

Get these locally at Bourbon Street Candy Company, call for pricing (361) 985-6077 LaPalmera Mall, Upper Level, Corpus Christi



Moroccan Chocolate Bar

In a color palette that can only be described as vivacious this collection contains the essence of bold Moroccan art. Eye pleasing patterns and an ornate flair combine in a set of stationery that will dazzle and delight. shop.stwmagazine.com
Minimum of 24 bars.
2.50 each.



Printed truffles

Savor your day with these mouth-watering truffles. Modern brides with style love their chocolate wedding favors, but for the most discerning chocolate lovers, only true artisan chocolates will do. These gourmet truffles are made with all natural ingredients and blended with fresh cream

for a silky consistency that makes each a little bite of heaven. Our wedding collection features a 3-piece box decorated with wedding themed designs for your special day. shop.stwmagazine.com
7.50 per box of 3

For these and other delectables, shop.stwmagazine.com



A FOUR-LAYER CAKE dressed in white fondant with hot pink ribbons of fondant and accented with a small black ribbon encrusted with sparkles and glitter. Handmade sugar paste roses with glitter and large crystals dance along the tiers. It is set on a mirrored base that sets off the cake topper of tiled crystals and blooming sparkling hot pink sugar paste roses.



Cake by Sugarbakers. Hair by Josh & Company. Necklace and Earrings at Foxy Designs (55.00). Bride's personal rings by Susann's. Bouquet by Razzle Dazzle. The white chic décor is by Razzle Dazzle. Gown by An Affair to Remember. Photograph by M&J Photography.

IDEAS THAT Sparkle

EVEN WITHOUT A SET THEME OR COLORS, SPARKLE MAKES THE DAY FEEL EXTRA SPECIAL



Cake Crystals

Add sparkle to any cake with luxurious layers of rolled fondant icing and accent with crystals. Sugarbakers Cakes. 361.884.9541 by appointment only.



Benjamin Adams Charlize Wedding Shoes

Perfectly placed Aurora Borealis crystals give this shoe all-over sparkle and a fabulous couture look. Hand crafted with ivory duchesse silk and soft leather lining for comfort and structure. The heel measures 4.25" and is complemented with a platform sole. This shoe is not dyeable. Shop stwmagazine.com 399.00



Custom 18" Hair Extension Set

Want long flowing hair on your wedding day? You can have it! Our hair extension set is 18" long and available in a 4-piece half set or an 8-piece full set so you can the right amount of hair for the style \$350.00 - 600.00 per set of four



Dressed To The Nines Tuxedo Mint Tin

Filled with mints or other treats, these mint tin favors bring a breath of fresh air to your event plans From our exclusive "Dressed to the Nines" mint tin collection, these metal tins with a classic tuxedo design are a stylish addition to your tables 1.29



Eco-Friendly Confetti Poppers. \$12 for 12



Ravishing Bridal Purse

Romantic times await each time you carry this one-of-a-kind baroque handbag with a modern coil handle. Handcrafted of European white or ivory silk, it is embellished with delicate rhinestones and a floral detail set in your choice of silver, bright gold or antique gold. Each bag measures 7" x 7" 350.00



Glitz Crystal Bracelet

Dress things up with some wrist candy! All-that-glitters link bracelet features multiple rows of alternating round- and baguette-cut crystals. The silver tone lobster clasp gives extra security. 225.00

For these and even more wedding bling, shop stwmagazine.com





GARDEN *Variety*

SOFT AND FEMININE,
THESE TRINKETS ARE SURE
TO MAKE YOUR HEART FLUTTER

Hand painted butterfly from Eliza Fig

A welcome spot of whimsy, these hand painted butterflies can be added to your favors or flowers for extra color, natural elegance and appeal. Feathers are beautifully painted and trimmed just so, each measures 4 1/4" x 1 3/4." 10 for \$12.00



Silhouette Butterfly Mint Tin

12 or more 2.50



Princess Bride Cake Topper

A fairy-tale moment for your fairy-tale day, this figurine makes a cute topper for a bridal shower or wedding cake. Each is made of hand painted porcelain bisque. Measures 5.5" tall and just over 4" at the base. The paint colors are available only as shown, we are not able to provide custom paint. Also available as a two piece set with a Frog Prince Groom. 52.00



Badgley Mischka Rande Wedding Shoes

This sandal is dressed for drama with flirty chiffon flower details. Crafted from diamond white silk, the heel measures 4". This shoe is not dyeable. 215.00



Kate Spade Gracious Wedding Shoes

From the slender heel and ankle strap to the wrapped bow at the toe, this shoe brings runway style to the wedding aisle. 325.00

For these and other fluttering things, shop stwmagazine.com



BEAUTY & *The Beach*



Monogrammed beach towels.
 Personalized Bottled water, 1.45 ea.
 Silver Starfish bottle opener 2.15 ea.
 Personalized Disposable Camera 7.95
 Wedding couple lip balm, 1.25
 Seashell tealight candles set of 4, 1.25
 10" Round Chinese paper lanterns,
 2.75 to 2.00.



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PICKING YOUR WEDDING DATE

Congratulations! You're engaged and now the real work begins

Before you get to planning all the details of your big day, you first have to decide when that day will be. The most important factor for most couples is the time of year. In my professional opinion, choosing a wedding date based solely on the seasons will inevitably lead to problems in planning your big day. Likewise, choosing a date based on sentiment may also lead to difficulties. Whether you've selected your date because it's the day your grandparents were married, or because it was the first available date you and your groom could get vacation time, it is best to consider the following tips before setting the date.

First, check your finances. Do you have enough to be able to get all the things you want without going into debt or adding undue stress to your relationship? You will want to give parents or anyone helping you pay for the wedding enough time to get their finances in order, also. Deciding on what you can and are willing to spend will help determine if you'll be taking a trip down the aisle with 300 of your closest friends and family, or a trip to the courthouse to see the Justice of the Peace. Once you have a handle on what you want to spend, and are able to save, select a date that allows you to pay everything off at least 30 days in advance. This will ensure you have nothing but wonderful memories the month leading up to your wedding day.

Second, check the availability. If you have your heart set on getting married in the church, this is an especially important step. Many churches are booked months or years in advanced for special occasions and programs. To avoid disappointment, it's best to check first to see what dates are available. The same is true for your reception venue.

Finally, check with your family. A wedding is a celebration of a bride and groom joining in holy matrimony or a civil service before family and friends. It will be in your best interest to run whatever dates you are considering by the people who mean the most to you to be sure they can attend. This is not asking for your family's approval on the date, but more a courtesy to be sure they haven't already made plans that can't be changed. It may seem like a lot to consider for such a simple task like choosing a wedding day, but taking these issues into consideration before setting the date will definitely increase your chances of choosing a perfect wedding date.

— Leza Chandler, ChaCha Events (361) 939-9968

9-12 MONTH Planner

- Start a wedding folder or binder. Begin leafing through bridal, lifestyle, fashion, gardening, design, and food magazines for inspiration.
- Arrange for parents to get together and meet each other if they haven't already.
- Pick a special date to begin your lives together.
- Work out your budget. Determine how much you have to spend, based on your families' contributions and your own. Pick your wedding party. As soon as you're engaged, people will start wondering who's in.
- Interview wedding planners if you're using one.
- Pick the ceremony site and meet with the officiant. Map out the ceremony and confirm that you have all the official documents for the wedding (these vary by county and religion).
- Start the guest list. Make a head count database to use throughout your planning process, with columns for contact info, RSVPs, gifts, and any other relevant information. Download form at stwmagazine.com
- Visit reception sites and reserve one.
- Begin shopping for your wedding gown.
- If you want to drop a few pounds for the wedding start now.

NOTES: _____

MY BUDGET: _____

Coordinator PLANNER

★ EDITOR'S CHOICE:

CORPUS CHRISTI

Cha Cha Events
10241 S. Padre Island Dr.
Suite 140,
Corpus Christi, TX
(361) 939-9968
chachaevents.com

Get Jeweled

Josh Salinas & Greg Ybarra
1312 Ayers
Corpus Christi, TX
(361) 437-8989

COASTAL

Anthony's By the Sea
732 South Pearl Street
Rockport, TX 78382-2420
(361) 729-6100
anthony'sbythesea.com

Port A Weddings

Beach Wedding Packages
814 Peoples St #106
Corpus Christi, TX 78401
(361) 772-5571
portaweddings.com

VICTORIA

The Gathering Company
5803 John Stockbauer, Ste. F
Victoria, TX 77904
(361) 572-8600
(361) 564-7052 / christina@
thegatheringcompany.com

Accent Designs by Annette

601 East Rio Grande,
Victoria, TX 77901
(361) 652-1801
elegantvictoriaweddings.com

Planner Questions

- What are the different wedding packages?
- What time do you start? (On the wedding day)
- How late do you work during the wedding day?
- What is the overtime cost per hour?
- Is there a minimum time requirement?
- Are there extra charges if there is an assistant?
- How many weddings have you done?
- Will you (personally) be present on my wedding day?
- How large or small of a wedding have you ever worked on? (Number of Guests)
- Are you familiar with different cultural practices for wedding ceremonies? (Chinese Banquet Style Pictures) (Tea Ceremonies)
- Are there extra charges for travel?
- Can you give me references from previous clients?
Note: It's really important to verify with previous clients see client questionnaire for guide (right)
- May I see pictures of previous weddings (if any)?
- Accreditation/member Associate of Wedding Professionals?

MY BUDGET: _____



■ Photo by Danny Vivian

Client Q&A: What to ask References

- ♥ Is the coordinator flexible? _____
- ♥ Was the coordinator professional? _____
- ♥ Was the coordinator helpful? _____
- ♥ Is the coordinator reliable? _____
- ♥ What was the best quality? The worst? _____
- ♥ Would you recommend to friends? _____

SUGGESTION: When calling references, be sure to ask if it is a good time to be calling the previous client. Limit your questions as not to over impose or take up too much of their time. (No more than 15 minutes)

GETTING IT TOGETHER: LEAVE IT TO THE PRO'S

My parents were married 53 years ago. They had cake and punch at my maternal grandmother's house and they looked radiant in the photos I have from the Big Day. I'm sure Grandma made the cake and sweets from scratch... I'm having trouble writing as I'm tearing up just thinking about it... so precious and so sweet! If you are having a small reception in the same location or one close to the ceremony, it is very possible that you and your family can handle everything along with the church or temple coordinator. But, if you are planning to spend upwards of \$25,000.00, get a veteran wedding planner on your side! Not only is peace of mind worth some bucks, but a seasoned wedding planner can help ensure your budget is maintained, and help you avoid making financially-costly mistakes!

I urge you to avoid learning after the fact, because once you've had your wedding and you've gone through the experience to learn what it is all about, then you'll know why having an expert on your side is needed.

Today, I compare weddings to a movie production, but with only a onetime run through. In a large production, there is always the need for a "go to" person to arrange everything and keep the show under control during execution.

From my initial "What I Do First?" list, there are 54 entries of pre-wedding things I count on needing to be done, not to mention any extraneous items from each person's needs... and these are just the pre-wedding details, now imagine it is the

week of your wedding. Your family starts to arrive from Sunday to Tuesday; everything begins to be turned upside down. You have all kinds of last minute things you want to do and now most certainly, you don't have the time as your family and friends want you to go to a Hooks game or a day at the beach.

Where the real action is, is on the day of the wedding. This is when it's truly action-packed as far as details. For most weddings, set up begins before makeup; leaving vendors with the need of a point person to fine tune what is live and happening. Most of a coordinator's time during the last two weeks of wedding planning is spent refining time line adjustments for vendor time in/out, confirming time for highlights (like cake cutting), etc. as there are always last minute changes once everything plays out.

Along with all of the aforementioned items to attend to, imagine the bride being a consummate hostess with a smile plus having to handle the RSVP management, wedding rehearsal execution, guest list management, guest's umpteen million questions that roll in all day long, transportation organization, amenity distribution.... A mad woman would be an easier role for a bride left alone! But when you have someone you can trust working on your behalf, available to call, text and e-mail like a maniac to get what needs to get done, done, you have the comfort to actually relax, and enjoy your wedding day.

— Michael S. Willms



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chachaevents.com

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Event Coordination

Décor Styling by Greg & Josh
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Venue PLANNER

Questionnaire

VENUE REQUIREMENTS

- Are there any time limits for venue?
- Security? Is that provided or do we organize this?
- What is the standard table setting? Linens, centerpiece, chair covers, sash, candles?
- Breakages and cleaning fee?
- Bridal Suite? May be extra if wedding party needs to change later in the evening?
- Restrictions?
- At what time the music must be off?
- Does the venue allow candles or confetti?
- Are there smoking restrictions?
- Indoor / Outdoor flow at venue?

FOOD/ALCOHOL/ENTERTAINMENT

- Ask about wine/alcohol - Corkage if any?
- Wine options?
- What time can the DJ/Band have access to set up?
- Who takes care of clean up? Service charge or included?
- Menu options, including vegetarian options etc?
- Entertainment: do you provide or can they recommend?
- Will there be a schedule of the function provided to staff and wedding organizer? If it is standard for all functions, what is it?
- Are there any time limits?
- Can we see a sample menu?
- If catered in a restaurant, can we provide other foods to go with the menu that are not available?
- Can you make changes to the menu for your own tastes?
- Do we supply cake table and knife?
- Does your venue do wedding cakes and if so could we see a range of styles you have?
- Are we able to take leftovers home, if we bring our own containers? (great for brunch)

**DOWNLOAD THE COMPLETE
VENUE PLANNER AT STWMAGAZINE.COM**

MY BUDGET: _____

VENUE LIST: THE PERFECT PLACE

COASTAL

Seashell Village
502 East Ave. G
Port Aransas, TX 78373
(361) 749-4294
seashellvillage.com

Tarpon Inn
200 E Cotter Ave
Port Aransas, Texas 78373
(361) 749-5555
thetarponinn.com

Anthony's By the Sea
732 South Pearl Street
Rockport, TX 78382
(361) 729-6100
anthonysbythesea.com

Aransas Pass Civic Center
700 West Wheeler Avenue
Aransas Pass, TX 78336
(361) 758-0009
aransaspassciviccenter.com

Saltwater Pavilion
212 Seabreeze Dr
Rockport, TX 78382
(361) 727-2158
cityofrockport.com

Paws and Taws
402 N. Fulton Beach Road
Fulton, TX 78358
(361) 729-2388
pawsandtaws.com

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418 Peoples Street, #106
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portaweddings.com

**Hill Country
Faust Hotel**
240 South Seguin Avenue
New Braunfels, TX 78130
(830) 625-7791
fausthotel.com

**Lavaca County
Moravia Store**
FM 957 South of Schulenburg
Moravia, TX
979) 562-2217
themoraviastore.com

**Corpus Christi
Hilton Garden Inn**
6717 South Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi, TX
(361) 991-8200
hiltongardeninn.com

ARIA

326 N. Chaparral
Corpus Christi, Texas
(361) 882-8801
www.ariacc.com

American Bank Center
800 North Shoreline Boulevard
Corpus Christi, TX 78401
(361) 888-8200
americanbank.com

Mansion Royal
8001 South Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78412
(361) 985-9955
mansionroyal.com

Solomon Ortiz Center
402 Harbor Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78401
(361) 879-0125
ortizcenter.com

**Courtyard
at Gaslight Square**
1018 Santa Fe Street
Corpus Christi, TX 78404
(361) 883-0113
thecourtyardatgaslight.com

**Museum of Science
and History**
1900 North Chaparral Street
Corpus Christi, TX 78401
(361) 826-4650
ccmuseum.com

**Botanical Gardens
of South Texas**
8545 South Staples Street
Corpus Christi, TX 78413
(361) 852-2100
stxbot.org

**Flour Bluff
Conference Center**
10241 South Padre Island Drive
Suite 140
Corpus Christi, TX 78418
(361) 939-9968
chachaevents.com

**South Texas
Knolle Farms**
13016 FM 70
Sandia, TX 78383
(361) 547-2546
knolle.com

**Richard M. Borchard
Regional Fairgrounds**
1213 Terry Shamsie Blvd.
Robstown, TX 78380
(361) 387-9000
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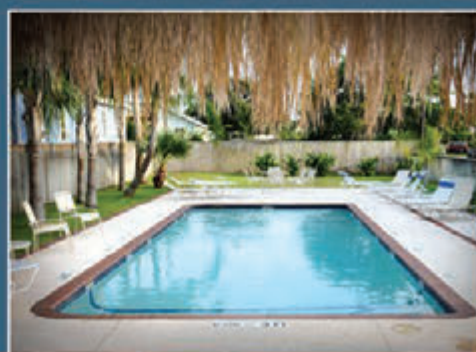


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The Sand Ceremony, with its possible origin in Hawaii, is a lovely alternative to the Unity Candle Ceremony, especially if your wedding is to take place on a beach. As the Unity Candle, the Sand Ceremony is performed after the vows. The symbolism is similar in that the "two shall become one."

You can purchase sand in various colors (to match your color scheme!) along with two smaller glass containers for the bride and groom and one larger glass container representing your marriage, relationship and new life.

If you have children, your children may also participate by pouring some sand into the container as well.

Written notes can be read by the officiant and then placed into the bottle, a favorite of mine is William Blake.

"(Bride) and (Groom) your lives are now joined in the most sacred and joyous of unions. We pray that your life be blessed. In the immortal words of the poet mystic William Blake, together may you..."



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Sand Ceremony Vows





"(Bride) and (Groom), you have just committed yourselves to one another through sacred vows. Your lives are no longer two, but one. To symbolize this joining, we ask that you each pour some sand into this bottle. (Each scoops some sand from the beach and pours it into the bottle)."

Officiant: (Name) and (Name) as you pour your sand into the one container, please repeat after me: "As these grains of sand merge together as one, I merge my life with yours. Please take my love throughout the sands of time. My heart is forever in your keeping."

Officiant: (Name) and (Name) as these grains of sand are joined together, so are your hearts, your bodies and your souls in marriage. Please repeat after me: (Here the nuptial pair may add whatever vows they wish....)

"My beloved (Name) as these grains of sand are joined together, so are our hearts, our bodies and our souls. I offer myself as your husband/wife forever."

For children: "(Children's name/s) your mother (and/or father) and (name) love you very much, and want you to know that you are and will always be a very important part of their lives. Will you please pour some sand into this glass container along with your good wishes? That would mean so much to them." (Parents then hug and kiss their children!)







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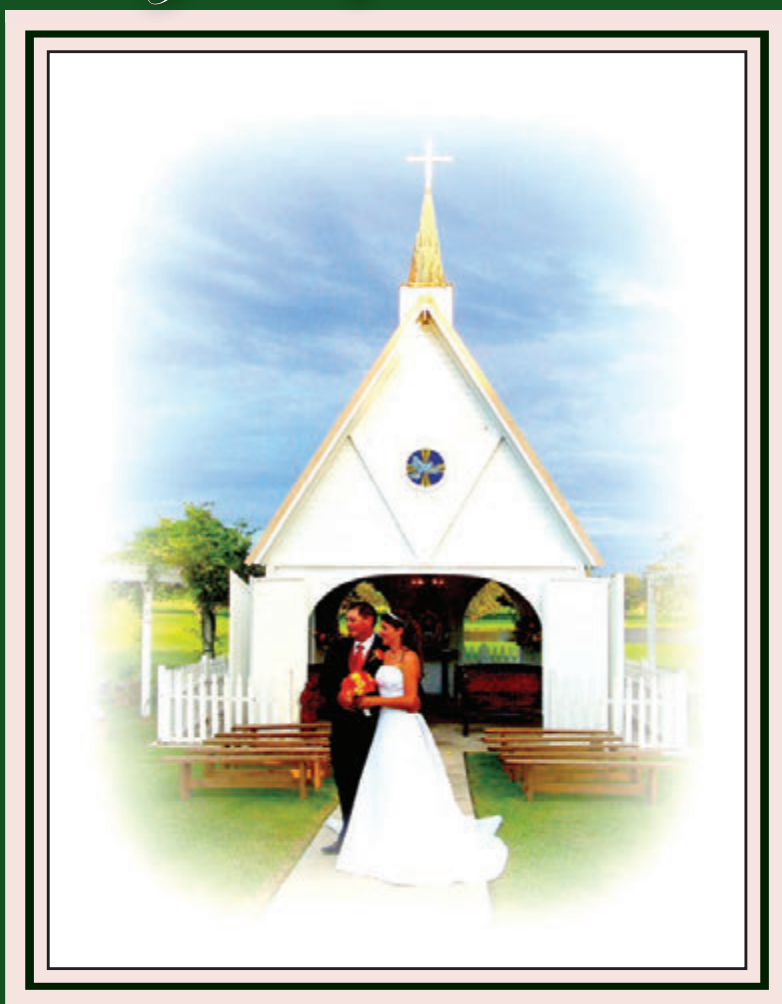
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DID YOU KNOW?

The Dress

The first known white wedding dress was worn in 1499 by Anne of Brittany, for her marriage to Louis XII of France.

Until that time, women simply wore their best dress, often yellow or red in color. In biblical times, most dresses were blue because blue symbolized purity. But in China and Japan the brides have traditionally always worn white.

White is the color of mourning, which is thought to be appropriate as the bride is leaving her family of birth to join that of her husband's thereby undergoing a symbolic death. Since early Roman times, white symbolized a joyful celebration. In the twentieth century white stood for purity. Today it is a symbol of happiness.

Bachelor Party

This was the last chance before his new wife took over the finances for the groom to gather money by gambling for his own future use. Ancient Spartan soldiers were the first to hold stag parties.

The groom would feast with his male friends on the night before the wedding. There he would say good-bye to the carefree days of bachelorhood and swear continued allegiance to his comrades.

Ritual Bath


A ritual bath is a widespread custom in many European countries, especially in France. The custom symbolizes the purification of the bride of all evil influences - and thoughts of previous boyfriends - from earlier in her life.

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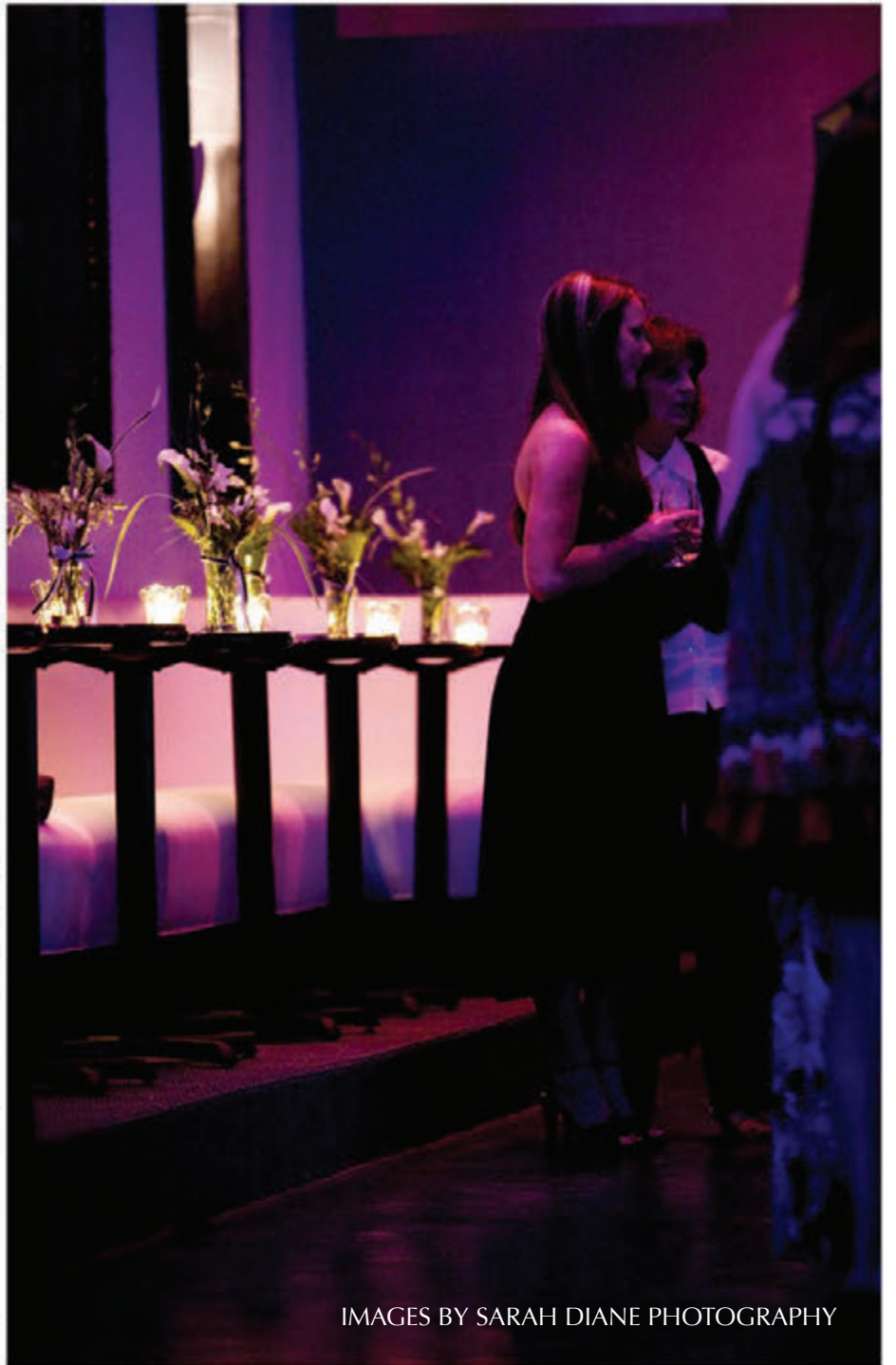
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Portrait Planner:

♡ Schedule introductory meetings w/photographers

♡ Schedule engagement photo session

♡ Schedule bridal photo shoot

♡ Give photographer subject checklist

♡ Order pictures & albums

MY BUDGET: _____

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM YOUR PHOTOGRAPHER



Demand Professionalism: Make sure the appointments you set are with reputable professionals. Take note right from the beginning about how you are treated on the phone and how soon you get a call back if you leave a message. The little things make a big difference. Never forget, this is a service business. Also, make sure that wedding photography is at least 50% of the photographer's business.

Portfolio: Ask to see the photographer's work. Make sure that the person whose work you are viewing will be the one actually photographing your wedding. Ask to see work from an entire wedding, preferably an album or a set of proofs from a recent wedding they have photographed. Look for examples of styles that you would like to see in your wedding images.

Ask About Prices and Services: Find out what type of services are offered, such as how many hours of the photographer's time are included in the price and what his/her overtime rate is. Ask how many images you will get back, and if the price will include black and white film as well as color. Does the package price include an engagement sitting and, if not, how much does a sitting cost? The most important thing to know up front is what the package price does and does not include.



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Checklist

- Set a budget
- Archway
- Altar arrangements
- Pew bows
- Aisle runner
- Headpieces
- Centerpieces
- Chair covers
- Head table decor
- Backdrops, ceiling canopies, mandaps, mehendi & sangeet, chuppas...
- Lighting
- Gifts for guests (purchased or self made?)
- Gift table
- Basket / Box for gifts
- Place / seating cards
- Car decoration

MY BUDGET: _____



FIND YOUR DREAM THEME

Don't know where to start?
Try these ideas for inspiration

Looking to have an incredibly romantic wedding?

Romantic and Valentine's Weddings

Perhaps you want to celebrate the season, with colors, flowers, and special touches appropriate for the time of year.

Spring, Summer, Fall or Winter Weddings

Are you a couple that loves tennis, bright fresh color combinations, and boating?

Weddings for the Country Club Set

Do you dream of a very formal wedding worthy of royalty?

The Formal Wedding

Are you more relaxed and want to do something akin to a family reunion?

The Casual Wedding

Do you want to feel like a glamorous movie star?

Hollywood Glamour Wedding Theme

Do you spend your weekends in hip art galleries and your nights sipping cocktails at swanky downtown parties?

Do you consider Damien Hirst passé?

Weddings for the Sophisticated Art Lover

Is the Christmas season your favorite time of the year?

Do you want to get married in the season of giving?

A Christmas Wedding

Do you love nature and value preserving our environment?

The Natural Wedding

Have you always loved sports and athletics?

Don't have a frou-frou wedding, go long for a sports-theme!

A Wedding for the Sports Fan

For those who love velvet and lace, old-fashioned sensibility, and Victoriana, have a wedding from the 19th century.

The Victorian Wedding

If you're a couple that loves the simplicity of country charm and being out in nature, have a farm wedding.

A Country Wedding

If every summer you can be found munching on a mutton chop at your local Ren Fair, why not have a wedding ripped from the pages of Romeo and Juliet?

The Medieval Wedding

For those creative couples who have no limit to their imaginations or appreciate show-stopping antics, why not center your wedding around a particular TV show, era, or theme.

The Whimsical Wedding



Today, I adore lilac, sky blue and pistachio green!

STW a wedding sketchbook
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The second story was torn down leaving the one story Moravia Store. The Moravia Store remained open until 1990 then store closed for the first time in 109 years, but it was reopened in 1996. "The Moravia Store was reopened on May 1, 1996 to



new owners Henrietta and Leroy Rehak, then my husband got real sick and died of cancer in July" Henrietta says. "Before he died he made me promise that I would keep the store going as long as I could. It was slow going at first, but it really picked up since. In February of 1998 Henrietta was remarried to Franklin Filip.

The store has an old wooden floor and the display cases are originals. The walls are covered with old beer signs, photographs, license plates, serving trays and soft drink advertisement. The old meat market is now the pool room. Mrs. Filip has placed a red caboose next to the store, filled with Coca-Cola memorabilia.

The store has become somewhat popular for the song "Moon Over Moravia", by local songwriter Daniel Klapuch and Mark Hermes. Like the song says, "957 leads right to the door."

Besides the cold liquid refreshments, the store also makes hamburgers with french fries and onion rings, cooked by Henrietta's husband Frankie. Also, they have live music on Fridays or Saturday Nights. Henrietta tries to have a band at least once a month.

The Moravia Store also makes reservations for your special event. Call and make your appointment today. Also, if you would like to take your wedding pictures or any portraits, call ahead of time. The store can be reached at 979-562-2217.

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RUSTIC Country WEDDING



Want a country-style wedding with rusticity and charm by the bucketful? Envisioning a glorious ride for two around the hay field? See yourself gliding down the aisle in a fresh-as-summer cotton eyelet gown?

Back to the Land

Start with a palette of earthy tones: yellows and golds, tans and umbers, sage and russet, celadon and cinnamon. Then, try building the theme around your favorite rustic flower (like sunflowers, black-eyed susans or daisies), or a carefree member of the insect world, such as bees, butterflies or dragonflies.

If you're lucky enough to be holding your event in a barn or a lodge, wrap any rafters and pillars in elegant twinkle lights. Make good use of square hay bales by covering them with cloth and using them as benches.

To jazz up personal focal points like favors and place settings, start with raffia ties and cinnamon sticks, individual wheat stalks or lavender springs, or Mason jars, burlap bags and small pots of jam or honey.

Country-Style Centerpieces

It's simple to set the table with a little down-home glory. Candles are inherently rustic, so start there: tea lights floating in water-filled mason jars, for example. Or tuck pillar candles into terra cotta pots, or place in glass cylinders filled with popcorn, dried peas or coffee beans. Casual flowers make a big, joyous statement at a reasonable price. Try massing cheerful sunflowers in galvanized pails or watering cans. (You can even use a sunflower's enormous, friendly face as your ring pillow.) Or instead of sunflowers, try sprays of shasta daisies, lupine and viburnum mixed in with small green apples wired to birch branches, or stuck to dowels. Another popular choice: group colorful Gerber daisies into simple mason jars.

More Ways to Make it Country

Give your guests an adorable first impression by hanging escort cards from clothespins on a clothesline near the entrance. Once it's time to eat, dress up the chair backs at the sweetheart table with dramatic sheaves of wheat tied off with russet ribbons or roses. And if your main meal's held outside, you could set the stage with homey touches like buffet or serving tables made from planks set on hay bales and sawhorses.

READ MORE: stwmagazine.com

Accommodations PLANNER

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Guests Checklist

for Hilton Family Hotel

♡ Determine out-of-town guest list

♡ Select hotel(s) for your out-of-town guests

♡ Use our Guest List Manager so you can reserve and track guest reservations

♡ Set up Personalized Online Group so guests can book online

♡ Determine parking and transportation needs

♡ Send reservation deadline reminder to guests who haven't booked

♡ Consider whether to provide amenity bags

NOTES: _____

MY BUDGET: _____



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A PHOTOBOOTH ADDS UNIQUE FLAIR

When you're planning your wedding, you can add a unique flair by ordering a photo booth for the reception. The Corpus Christi Photo Booth offers instant entertainment for your guests, as well as the wedding party. You can even add amusing photo booth pictures to the wedding photo album you get from your photographer.

What You Need to Know

Check with The Corpus Christi Photo Booth at least three months before your wedding to reserve your date.

Step 1: Order your photo booth so it's there for your reception. Make sure the booth is set up before the reception starts.

Step 2: Choose a good location for the photo booth at your reception. It shouldn't be in the way of anything else, though it should be set up where everyone can see it. People may line up to wait for their turn, so make sure there's enough space in the surrounding area.

Step 3: Encourage photo booth use by using it yourself. Get a few booth shots of you and your new spouse. When guests see how much fun it is, they'll want to get pictures, too.

Step 4: Use the photo booth with your guest book. Let guests add their photos so you can keep a copy with the rest of your photos of the day. Some photo booth rental companies can set up their booths to produce two copies of the pictures. This way, guests can give you a copy and keep one for themselves.

Step 5: Consider the young children invited to your wedding reception. Make sure that if older guests do racy photos in the booth, they keep the images to themselves. Encourage your young guests to have their pictures taken as well.

Tips & Warnings

- Try to keep the photo booth rental until the very end of the reception, as pictures can get more outlandish and funny as the night progresses.
- Have the DJ announce the presence of the photo booth repeatedly to encourage all of your guests to visit.



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DISC JOCKEY Checklist

- ♥ Establish your budget
- ♥ Meet the talent
- ♥ Establish your budget
- ♥ Establish what services you want
- ♥ Write out your Itinerary (See sample, page 47)

_____:

_____:

_____:

_____:

_____:

_____:

_____:

_____:

_____:

_____:

- ♥ Sign the contract
- ♥ Have fun!

NOTES: _____

MY BUDGET: _____

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Today's professional DJ is much more than just a few turntables and a couple of speakers. The modern DJ of today has traded his LP Records for CD's and MP3's. He has the state-of-the-art system that will rock a wedding like nobody's business. He has lights, lasers and other visual effects that will keep you dancing much longer than your legs want you to. Some DJ's incorporate video screens for added visual flavor and even dress up like Spongebob Squarepants, if the price is right.

1. Establish your budget

This part is extremely crucial. Remember, great entertainment is NOT cheap. In "DJ World", you get what you pay for. With that said, it's important to mention to your DJ how many people will be at the event and what you will require of him, so he can give you a price for his services.

2. Meet the talent

Disc Jockey Services are a big business! Now that there are many different Entertainment Providers to choose from, you will want to meet the actual DJ that will host the music for your event. Don't leave this to chance. If you are calling an Entertainment Company, insist that you meet the individual who will be at your event.

3. Services

Establish what type of services you will need from your DJ. Do you want bubbles floating over you and your guests while you're exiting the Church? Would you like your entire hall lit up with intense blue and purple lights? Do you need "snow machines" for your Winter Wonderland Wedding? Will your DJ make announcements throughout your event (MC)?

4. Itinerary

While meeting with your Disc Jockey, it is important to plan an itinerary for your event. This ensures everyone will know what they need to be doing at any given time, especially if you have other event coordinators assisting you. This also ensures that you, the client, can focus on enjoying your guests.

6. Contract

You MUST have a signed contract. This way both you and the DJ will know exactly what is expected of each other, and it's in writing. No contract, No business.

7. Have fun!

The object is for you and your guests to enjoy your memorable event. Hiring an established DJ Service can make all the difference! Oh, and a nickel's-worth of free advice... Feed the D.J.!!! He works better when he's not hungry!

- DJ Benji, Dr. Rockstar

SAMPLE ITINERARY

6 pm

Reception Music Begins (ambient music)

6:45 pm

Bride & Groom Arrive at Hall. Introduction.

6:55 pm

Bride and Groom First Dance as a Married Couple (name of song)

7- 7:30 pm

Dinner (light music playing)

7:30 pm

Best Man / Maid of Honor Speech/ Various Toasts (DJ introduces Best Man/ Maid of Honor)

7:45 pm

Cutting of the Cake

8 pm

DJ announces the call for all single ladies for the Bouquet Toss (name of song)

8:05 pm

DJ announces the call for all single men for the Garter Toss (name of song)

8:10 pm

Father & Daughter Dance (name of song)

8:15 pm

Mother & Son Dance (name of song)

8:20 pm

Prepare for the "Dollar Dance" (name of song(s))

8:30 - 11:00 pm

DJ has the floor...

The DJ shall then play the music you have chosen for the event or you may leave the music to him. A great DJ will be able to read the crowd and play music that your guests will enjoy dancing to. Please keep in mind that the music you choose might not be what your guests wish to hear. Hiring a DJ with an extensive library of music and that can adapt to suit the needs of your guests is key. Ask for references!

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WEDDING DAY QUALITY: THE LOST ART

Many brides base every wedding vendor decision on one thing: price. The first question we are usually asked is "What's your price to video my wedding?" without any real information about the wedding day, what the bride and groom are expecting, or what our company can offer them. With the recent economic situation people are concerned about getting the most for their money. The problem is that we have a tendency to make the price more important than the end result. Most brides say that before the wedding day getting the lowest bidder sounds great. When the couple looks back, though, it's always a different story. That's when you hear the horror stories of the DJ that didn't have good equipment or didn't play the songs you requested. Or, you might be looking at images that are poor quality from the low cost "lucky to get" photographer.

For an amazing wedding day, protect your dream by hiring vendors that are concerned about helping recreate that dream instead of just earning a paycheck. To do that, look at a lot more than price and possibly even options. You have to look at the vendor and decide if they are a good fit for your special day. Does their work match the look, feel, and style that you've always wanted? If not, then why consider them?

Set priorities for which services are the most important to your dream. Since the ceremony and reception are very important to you, spend your money on making them amazing and classy. Hire photographers and videographers that give you the products to treasure those memories. Capturing those moments is a one shot opportunity. You can't redo them later.

Know what you want and look at the differences. Hire the vendor that matches what you really want – capturing your special day in the products you will cherish. You might cut a few unimportant things out of your wedding, but you'll gain all of the memories that made your wedding day special.

After it's all over quality beats quantity every time!

Andy Moody is the owner of Cinema Elegance Films and is well known for creating breathtaking custom wedding films. His experience in high quality videography services keeps them in constant demand. Check out some of their amazing work at www.cinemaelegance.com.

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WEDDING VIDEO STYLES

Nostalgia

Your wedding video would begin with photos of the bride and groom as small children. It might show a photo slideshow with high school and college photographs, and progress to the beginning of the relationship, showing special moments the couple shared while dating. The video goes into scenes from the wedding ceremony, reception, and ends with shots from the honeymoon.

Documentary

A documentary representation is often thought of as an 'as-it-happened' editing style. It is all-inclusive and assures that every moment captured is faithfully portrayed. The multiple angles are blended, titles are applied and background music is added. The running time can vary from 75 minutes to 120 minutes depending on the lengths of the ceremony, toasts and dance floor events.

Cinematic

Through time-shifting, time-compression, creative use of audio overlays and tight integration with carefully selected music, cinematic editing is able bring out the emotion, highlight the humor and keep the viewer entertained without the feeling that something has been left out.



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(361) 596-7323
kloesel.com

Two Georges

5884 Everhart Road
Corpus Christi, TX 78413
(361) 993-8008
www.2georgescc.com

CORPUS CHRISTI

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6717 S. Padre Island Dr.
Corpus Christi, TX
(361) 991-8200
hiltongardeninn.com

Anthony's By the Sea

732 South Pearl Street
Rockport, TX 78382
(361) 729-6100
anthonysbythesea.com

Coastal Catering

Mark Admire
Port Aransas, TX 78373
(361) 749-2333
markadmire@gmail.com

The Couture Caterer

(361) 238-4849
www.couturecaterer.com

Caterer Questionnaire

- Are you available on my wedding date?
- Can you supply menu examples along with prices?
- Do you insist on doing all the catering at our wedding?
- If we supply the wine, what do you charge for corkage?
- Are you familiar with my wedding site?
- What do you charge?
- What are the deposit and cancellation policies?
- What are your guarantees?
- What time do you insist the reception finishes by?
- What about the cake, punch and coffee?
- When is the deadline for notification of menu selection?
- How do you determine the head count?
- Can you provide colored linens?
- Will you serve the buffet or is it self-serve?
- What are the sizes of the portions?
- Do you use disposable china and flatware?
- Will you set up the room?
- When is the final guest estimate needed?
- Will there be a representative on-site during meal-time?
- Will you provide references or a portfolio?

MY BUDGET: _____



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CATERING TIPS

AFTER YOU HAVE NARROWED THE LIST TO A COUPLE OF CATERERS:

Meet and Eat

You and your fiancé, and maybe even a food-savvy third party, should be able to sample some of the chefs' signature dishes (note that there may be a fee involved). You can expect the food to look precisely the way it will at your reception. So if the salad is meant to be garnished with flowers, you should have them for the tasting, and they should look fresh. That said, seasonal items you plan to serve may not be available at the time of the tasting, so you'll have to imagine how those dishes will ultimately look and taste. Though you shouldn't expect a total overhaul of a recipe, don't hesitate to make suggestions or to ask the chef if spices or subtle elements can be modified to suit your taste.

Wine While You Dine

Let caterers know before tastings that you'd like to sample the wines that will be served with the wedding meal. If you don't like the way the cabernet sauvignon goes with your food, ask to taste-test another wine. Don't get hung up on which wine should go with what food, however—the best choices are those you, your fiancé and your guests will enjoy drinking.

Put It On Paper

You'll need a written contract—not just a verbal agreement—spelling out the date, time, fees and specific menu items. Both you and the vendor must sign this to make it binding. The number of guests may change at the last minute, so be sure to agree on a deadline for your final count.

Get It To-Go

Ironically, after all the time and energy you've put into planning the meal, you may not even have a spare second to eat during the reception. Ask your caterer to pack a basket for you and your new hubby so that you can devour it later, back in the hotel room. You deserve to enjoy the meal, too!



Photo by Mesmerizing Photography

SERVING LIQUOR:

Make sure your caterer has a liquor license if he or she will be responsible for providing and maintaining the alcohol for your reception. If your caterer doesn't, then you need to contact a liquor-licensed dealer. It's also important to have an experienced bartender throughout the entire reception.

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Corpus Christi and Surrounding Areas

6-9 MONTH Planner

- Reserve structural and electrical necessities. Book portable toilets for outdoor events, extra chairs if you need them, lighting components, and so on.
- Select and purchase invitations. Hire a calligrapher, if desired. Addressing cards is time-consuming, so you need to budget accordingly.
- Reserve a block of rooms for guests.
- Launch a wedding website. Create your personal page through a free provider such as www.eweddings.com. Note the date of the wedding, travel information, and accommodations. Then send the link to invitees.
- Choose the members of your wedding party.
- Select a caterer.
- Enroll in a bridal registry.
- Order your wedding gown.
- Shop for bridesmaids' dresses. Allow at least six months for the dresses to be ordered and sized.
- Pick a photographer and videographer.
- Book entertainment for reception.
- Hire a florist.
- Start planning a honeymoon. Make sure that your passports are up-to-date, and schedule doctors' appointments for any shots you may need.
- Send out save-the-date cards, especially if your wedding is on a holiday weekend.
- Start composing a day-of timeline. Draw up a schedule of the event and slot in each component (the cake-cutting, the first dance).

NOTES: _____

MY BUDGET: _____



■ Photo courtesy leadingedgeimage.com

MARRYING FOOD & DRINK

Chardonnay is one of the most popular white wines. It has an impressive range of flavors—butter, oak, apple, pear, citrus, and melon—and can have a long finish. Chardonnay can go very well with poultry, white meat and cream sauce as well as with Brie and Camembert cheeses.

Sauvignon Blanc, also known as Fumé Blanc, can be high in acid and very crisp, dry and sometimes grassy, with an aroma of grapefruit, lime, melon, gooseberry, passion fruit and a little bell pepper. It goes well with sea food, fish and salad.

Merlot is the safest choice of the red wines. In general, Merlots are softer wines with lots of fruit flavors like plum, black cherry, orange blossom and violet. It goes well with red meat, red pasta, chicken and chocolate.

Cabernet Sauvignon is known as one of the world's finest red wines. It has depth, complexity and rich flavor like black currant, blackberry and mint. Traditionally aged in oak for five to ten years, this wine has a tobacco finish, and in cold climates it has what we call a funky finish, a touch of bell pepper or cabbage. Cabernet will pair well with game, lamb, red meat, heavy cheeses and dark chocolate.

Pinot Noir is one of the most difficult grapes to grow. It needs warm days and cool nights. Its most notable components are cherry and strawberry and it is very versatile in its ability to pair up with food.


Zinfandel, an American classic, is one of my favorite wines, next to Pinot Noir. Zinfandel is a spicy peppery wine with fruity flavors like berries and dark cherry. It matches well with thick red sauces, red meats, and cheeses like stilton and cambozola, and should be served at a temperature of 65 degrees.

Champagne/Sparkling Wines are the wines of celebration and they are a perfect way to start your hors d'oeuvre party—caviar, foie gras, smoked salmon, poultry, lobster and scallops. They are also great with chocolate-covered strawberries and chocolate truffles.


Cheese and Wine: are a perfect match. In general, hard cheeses are better paired with red wines and softer cheeses with white wine. Another rule is that stronger cheeses pair well with heavier wines and delicate cheeses with lighter wines.

- Camembert with Chardonnay and Cabernet
- Manchego with Sherry and Merlot
- Parmesan with Chianti
- Roquefort with Sauterne and Port
- Brie with Champagne and Merlot


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4-6 MONTH *Planner*

- Select and order your wedding invitations, envelopes and thank-you cards
- Hire a calligrapher, we suggest: Vintage Style Calligraphy. Chad Mixon (361) 728-8899 www.vintagestylecalligraphy.com
- Select and purchase wedding favors
- Purchase any desired ceremony and reception decorations - candles, vases, aisle runner, etc.
- Start researching wedding cake pictures and local bakeries for ideas
- Book your honeymoon and verify that you have any necessary travel documents including passports & visas
- Book a room for your wedding night, if you will be leaving for your honeymoon the next morning
- Book accommodations for out-of-town guests
- Finalize your guest list and send out save-the-date cards
- Print out directions to the ceremony, reception, rehearsal dinner and hotel(s) for guests
- Compile a list of area information and things to do for out-of-town guests
- Reserve transportation for you and your wedding party to and from the wedding, as well as a bus or trolley for your guests (if necessary)

NOTES: _____

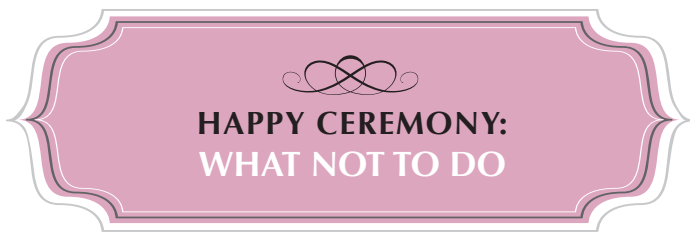
MY BUDGET: _____

2-4 MONTH Planner

- Purchase marriage license from your cities county clerk.
- Finalize the readings. Determine what you would like to have read at ceremony—and whom you wish to read.
- Order tuxedos for the groom and groomsmen.
- Purchase undergarments. Schedule your second fitting.
- Finalize the order of the ceremony and the reception.
- Print menu cards, if you like, as well as programs. No need to go to a printer, if that's not in your budget: You can easily create these on your computer.
- Meet with caterer to go over menus, wine selections, etc. Finalize the menu. You'll want to wait until now to see what will be available, since food can be seasonal.
- Order the wedding cake.
- Select wedding ceremony and reception music. What should be playing when the wedding party is announced? During dinner? To kick off the dancing? Keep a list of what you want and do not want played.
- If you plan on writing your vows start writing them now.
- Purchase wedding shoes and start dress fittings. Bring the shoes along to your first fitting so the tailor can choose the appropriate length for your gown.

NOTES: _____

MY BUDGET: _____



10 THINGS TO **AVOID** AS YOU PLAN YOUR WEDDING

1 A Lack of Personality

The biggest mistake I see is a wedding devoid of the couple's own personalities. I'm not saying everyone must have a theme wedding, but a cookie-cutter wedding and reception is unimaginative, and you may regret it later. This is the most important day of your life – it should reflect your life and what is important to you both.

2 Wasting Money

The wedding industry is just that – an industry. So while there is a lot of good advice, there is also advice from people who'll profit from it. Be careful you're not spending money where you don't need to – prioritize your wish list and stick with the plan. Make sure you know your budget, what's important to you – and what isn't.

3 A Wedding is a Day, A Marriage is Forever

The wedding ceremony is the main event – the reception is just a celebration of it. Make sure you've put enough thought into the music, readings, and vows that will make your wedding ceremony memorable. Take the time to discuss the roles you and your partner will take up after the wedding, topics such as children, holidays, religion, education and expectations for the future.

4 Not Knowing the Master of Ceremonies

There are two people whose personalities are almost as important as the couple getting married – they are the MC of the ceremony (often the officiant) and the MC of the reception (often the DJ or band leader.) Let's face it, if your officiant is boring and dry, your wedding ceremony is going to be boring and dry. And if your DJ is super cheesy, you're going to be doing the chicken dance. Make sure that your personalities mesh well with these two people, and that you feel listened to and respected.

5 Thinking "It Could Never Rain"

So many couples forget to plan for things going wrong. If you're having an outdoor wedding, make sure that you have an alternate location in case of rain. Give a trusted person a list of vendors, phone numbers, and expected time of arrival so that you won't be caught 10 minutes before the wedding without the bouquets. Bring a bridal emergency kit for last minute snafus.



6 Losing Your "Budget"

You started off well, figuring how much you could save, how much parents would give, and what you already had in your bank account. But before you know it, you could spend twice what you budgeted for apparel on shoes alone, and the caterers laughed at you when you told them the food budget. Use the budget as a tool to figure out what you can cut, what you can save and where other income might come from.

7 Overindulging Before the Wedding

Whether your friends have mistakenly planned the bachelor/ bachelorette parties for the night before the wedding, or you plan to drink through the rehearsal dinner, the last thing you need is to wake up with a headache, puffy skin, fuzzy head, or worse, an upset stomach. Do yourself a favor, skip drinking the night before.

8 Being Inconsiderate

Yes, it's your wedding, and your special day. However, you will need to take other people into consideration as well. A good host/ hostess puts others needs front and center. Think about what you are asking.

Is what you need the wedding party to do fair? Have you been clear about your expectations about level of commitment? Will your guests be forced to stand around for over an hour while you take pictures? Will they be comfortable in the weather or have you thought to provide bottles of water, fans, and/or wraps and heaters?

9 Not Involving Your Better Half

Wedding planning can and should be the domain of both people, rather than just de facto delegated to the bride. I suggest setting aside a regular weekly meeting time to talk about new ideas, research that you've done, and set wedding-related goals for the next week.

10 Losing Perspective

Don't forget to keep your eye on what's really important to you. Don't get bogged down in so many small details that you don't spend enough time on what's important. If something goes wrong, try your best to take deep breaths and think about the big picture. Above all, keep your sense of humor!

2-4 WEEK Planner

- Work on the seating arrangements for the reception.
- E-mail and print directions for drivers of transport vehicles. This gives chauffeurs time to navigate a route.
- Assign seating. Draw out table shapes on a layout of the room to help plan place settings. Write the names of female guests on pink sticky notes and the names of male guests on blue sticky notes so you can move people about without re-sketching the entire setting.
- Confirm times for hair and makeup and all vendors.
- Purchase bridesmaids' gifts for rehearsal dinner.
- Get your hair cut and colored, if desired.
- Enter RSVPs into your guest-list database.
- Phone people who have not yet responded.
- Stock the bar. Now that you have a firm head count you can order accordingly.
- Visit the dressmaker for your last dress fitting. For peace of mind, you may want to schedule a fitting the week of your wedding. You can always cancel the appointment if you try on the dress then and it fits perfectly.
- Send out as many final payments as you can.
- Get final beauty treatments (manicure, facial, massage, waxing, brow shaping, etc.).
- Get your marriage license. The process can take up to six days, but it's good to give yourself some leeway.
- Book a spa treatment. Make an appointment for a manicure and a pedicure the day before the wedding. (You might want to get a stress-relieving massage, too.)
- Send the final guest list to the caterer and all venues hosting your wedding-related events at least 72 hours before. Break in your shoes. Assemble and distribute the welcome baskets.
- Pack for the honeymoon.
- Mail the rehearsal-dinner invitations.

NOTES: _____

MY BUDGET: _____

Dress PLANNER

★ EDITOR'S CHOICE:

LAVACA COUNTY

K & K Bridal Rail

100 W Moore
Moulton, TX 77975
(361) 596-7772
kkbridal.com

CORPUS CHRISTI

An Affair to Remember

5830 Mcardle Rd #9
Corpus Christi, TX
(361) 985-2800
anaffairtoremembercc.com

Checklist

8-12 MONTHS

- Start your dress search.

6-8 MONTHS

- Order your dress now so you'll have plenty of time to attend fittings.
- Get a swatch of fabric of your dress so that you can match shoes and other accessories.
- Make shopping for accessories and choosing a hairstyle easier by taking front and back photos with your dress.

3-8 MONTHS

- Shop for your accessories:
- Bra/panties/bustier
- Hosiery
- Headpiece
- Veil
- Petticoat/slip
- Gloves
- Jewelry
- Wrap or shawl
- Handbag
- Garter

2-3 MONTHS

- Attend your first fitting; bring your shoes, lingerie and accessories with you.
- Attend your final wedding-dress fitting.

1-2 WEEKS

- Pick up your wedding dress. Try it on one last time.

MY BUDGET: _____



■ Photo by Danny Vivian

BRIDESMAID DRESS AND WEDDING GOWN PAIRINGS

Your bridesmaid dresses should complement, not clash with, your gown. Fair enough—but now what? Start by taking a close look at your gown's fabric, feel, and formality, and use our pairings to help you determine a shopping strategy.

We imagine this lace sheath looking gorgeous at a formal garden affair, so we chose a floor-length bridesmaid dress with a floral detail at the waist, and a similar sweetheart neckline. The bright pink hue emphasizes the bridal gown's feminine and romantic vibe.

If you're sporting a sexy and dramatic gown, you clearly love the spotlight. So keep your bridesmaids looking smart and put-together in LBBDs (little black bridesmaid dresses) — the contrast will make you stand out even more. The wear-again potential increases with something cute, short, and black.

A red carpet-worthy satin bridal gown pairs well with a bridesmaid dress made of a lustrous fabric and daring neckline. Glamorous beading — on the bridal gown's shoulders, and the bridesmaid dress's waist — are another unifying element

A ballgown in an airy fabric like tulle requires a bridesmaid dress in a lightweight fabric, like chiffon. The to-the-floor length and dark hue of this bridesmaid dress hold up to the wedding gown's air of black-tie formality.

— www.brides.com

VERA WANG'S BEHIND THE DRESS: A LACE 'BOUQUET'

Yes, it's flowery and romantic—but lace also represents a centuries-old European tradition. The finely tuned and intricate craft of lace-making once supported entire villages, and the skills and unique patterns were closely guarded secrets passed from mother to daughter for generations, until the Industrial Revolution made it a dying art.

Leave it to Vera to bring lace into the 21st century, as she does so beautifully with her "Bouquet" wedding dress. Marrying the ethereal fabric to a modern silhouette, she adds a bold flourish to the waistline: A huge bow that is anything but demure. Read on for more details as Vera Wang goes "Behind the Dress." – Jolene Rae Harrington, *Here Comes the Guide*, www.herecomestheguide.com

Inspiration

As Bouquet illustrates in a very compelling way, contrast is powerful. The inspiration for Bouquet began with a modern form—a strapless, modified A-line silhouette—that offered the necessary structure to support the intricate, elegant details that would best offset the silhouette. The design elements of Bouquet transcend time and will feel as appropriate today as they did twenty years ago, or a century ago.

The timeless magnificence of lace and embroidery is undeniable. The skirt of the Bouquet wedding dress fuses Alencon, Chantilly and Battenberg laces on French tulle and is



embellished with floating floral embroidery. Bouquet reflects the weight of tradition supporting the age-old institution of marriage, as well as the buoyant happiness that brings beauty to every bride. A bride wearing this wedding dress will feel delicate and light, as if she is floating on the joy of her day.

The spectacular bowed sash at the waist enhances the striking drama of Bouquet, helping to create a wedding dress that is at once deeply romantic and evocatively traditional, weaving its magic with its unabashed charm.

Keep in mind that hand-embroidered details add cost to a wedding dress, but they also add stature and visual excitement. Consider embroidery as an alternative to beading, particularly for daytime or outdoor weddings. Also consider embroidery as the connective design element in your wedding look: for example, the floating floral embroidery detail on Bouquet can be mirrored in your bridal headpiece or your wrap.

Lace

Historically, lace has been known as the ultimate wedding dress fabric because of its intricacy, rarity and cost. Today, lace gowns are often chosen by brides who wish to embrace tradition.

Lace comes in many varieties, each distinct for its weave and corresponding unique look. Lace can range from the fragile and delicate, such as Chantilly, to the elaborate and bold, such as Alencon. The Bouquet wedding dress incorporates a combination of laces, to create a gown that is greater than the sum of its parts.

Tradition

A Traditionalist is a bride who prioritizes style over fashion. Her choices are understated, focused on refinement, dignity and quality. A Traditional bride knows the power of subtlety—hand-tied bows, lace trim and embroidery—as captured in Bouquet. Graceful and confident, the Traditionalist seeks relevance and timelessness in her wedding dress. What kind of bride are you?

—Excerpted with permission from Vera Wang's RSVP Club newsletter.



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(361) 985-2800 • anaffairtoremembercc.com

Photo by M&J Photography

Honeymoon PLANNER

★ EDITOR'S CHOICE:

Cruise One

Anne Waters,
(361) 949-1011
(877) 775-7245
www.grrr8cruises.com
awaters@cruiseone.com

Wine Country, California

Napa Inn Bed and Breakfast
1137 Warren Street,
Napa, CA 94559
(707) 257-1444
napainn.com

Starkey Properties

1115 Texas 361
Port Aransas, TX 78373
(361) 749-3591
starkeyproperties.com

6 MONTHS OR MORE AHEAD

- Set a budget.
- Start trading honeymoon fantasies. Where do you want to go? What do you want to do? Wine Country? (we love Napa Valley Inn) Cruise? Mini-honeymoon?
- If you're planning a destination wedding, get the ball rolling on paperwork and/or contact a wedding planner who specializes in destination weddings.
- Think about ways to save money. Investigate what your frequent flyer point balance can buy you and/or research honeymoon registry options, (we love CruiseOne).
- Book tickets, get seat assignments, order special in-flight meals, and check luggage allowances (you'll need these for buying – or registering for – luggage later).
- Research hotels, check room availability, reserve a room.
- Reserve a rental car.
- If you're traveling abroad, sign up for a foreign-language class or buy a language course on tape and start practicing at home or on your way to work.
- Ask your travel agent or visit the CDC Travelers' Health Site to check whether certain vaccinations are recommended or required before visiting your destination. (Some programs need to start months in advance of your trip.)

3 MONTHS AHEAD

- Obtain your passports and visas, if necessary.
- Consider travel insurance. Research coverage offered by your credit cards, travel agent, or an independent agency; secure additional coverage for your specific concerns if necessary.

Download the rest of the planner at stwmagazine.com

MY BUDGET: _____

WHAT KIND OF HONEYMOONER ARE YOU?

WHAT TYPE OF HONEYMOON IS RIGHT FOR YOU? TAKE OUR QUIZ

1 - How would you most like to spend a free afternoon?

- A. Hiking or biking on a nature trail
- B. Shopping for bargains
- C. Strolling a garden in bloom
- D. Attending a free concert or museum

2 - The drinks are on the house! Which type would you prefer?

- A. House-specialty martini
- B. Chateau d'Yquem sauterne
- C. Champagne
- D. Beer

3 - Which dream getaway appeals to you most?

- A. Camping in the mountains under the stars
- B. Deluxe suite at a 5-star resort
- C. Hotel room with a fireplace and a big bathtub
- D. Caribbean cruise

4 - What scent appeals most to you?

- A. Bonfire/thunderstorm
- B. Sizzling steak
- C. Rose garden
- D. Clean laundry

5 - What is your favorite season?

- A. Spring
- B. Winter
- C. Fall
- D. Summer

6 - Which would you rather have underfoot?

- A. Grass
- B. Mosaic floor
- C. Carpet
- D. Sand

7 - Whose music are you most likely to listen to?

- A. U2
- B. Puccini
- C. Andrea Bocelli
- D. Alicia Keys

8 - What flowers do you like best?

- A. Wildflowers
- B. Dendrobium orchids
- C. Long-stemmed roses
- D. Tulips

9 - Which would you most likely choose in a restaurant?

- A. Sushi
- B. Risotto with truffles
- C. Oysters on the half shell
- D. Cheeseburger



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HOW TO SCORE THIS QUIZ

Add Up **A's**, **B's**, **C's**, And **D's** You Answered.

If you answered mostly **A's**

As an adventure traveler you follow the seasons: You're skiing or snowboarding in winter. You go sailing, surfing, boogie boarding, waterskiing, or scuba diving in summer and whenever you can get to the tropics. In spring and fall you're hiking, biking, and trying new activities.

Best Vacations for Adventure Travelers

Grand Canyon, Ski Vacations, Scuba Vacations, Water Sports Adventures, Beaches and Resorts, Cruise Tour to Alaska with a Destination wedding on a Glacier, Cruises to the Caribbean or South Pacific.

If you answered mostly **B's**

As a luxury traveler, you prefer oceanfront rooms to garden views, suites to deluxe rooms, balcony suites to inside cabins, and table service rather than buffets. Regardless of whether you travel to a sand-rimmed island, a glittering city, or an amazing European cruise, you want to be where the action is.

Best Vacations for Luxury Travelers

Award-Winning Hotels and Resorts, Best of the Caribbean, Culinary Travel, Villa Vacations, Luxury Cruise Vacations to Europe, Australia, and New Zealand on Azamara, Oceania, and Celebrity.

If you answered mostly **C's**

You're a romantic traveler, so you're happiest when it's just the two of you on vacation with no distractions. You like rose petals on your bed, a big enough bathtub for two to soak in, dinner by candlelight, and a beach to stroll or a fireplace to sit beside afterwards.

Best Vacations for Romantic Travelers

All-Inclusive Geared to Adults, Castle Hotels, Greece, Hawaii, Venice, Train Travel, Mid-Luxury Cruise Lines Azamara, Oceania, Celebrity.

If you answered mostly **D's**

You're a budget traveler: You've got big dreams but a small amount of cash to spend. Yet that doesn't stop you. In order to travel, you're willing to sacrifice on luxury. Sleeping on a train, or a hostel, or couch-surfing, or staying a hotel with a bathroom down the hall doesn't bother you: In fact, you consider it an adventure. Consider a Honeymoon Registry so friends can pitch in.

Best Vacations for Budget Travelers

Budget Boutique Hotels, Camping, Central America, All-Inclusive Resort Mexico, Budget Cruises on Royal Caribbean, Norwegian or Carnival, Hostels, Las Vegas.

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♡ **Bridal Party:** Quantity Needed: _____

Brides Bouquet
Throw-away Bouquet
Maid/Matron of Honor Bouquet
Bridesmaids Bouquets
Flower Girl (flowers as applicable)
Grooms Boutonniere
Best Man Boutonniere
Groomsmen Boutonniere
Ushers Boutonniere
Ring Bearer Boutonniere (if applicable)

♡ **Corsages:** Quantity Needed: _____

Bride's Mother/Step-Mother
Groom's Mother/Step-Mother
Bride's Grandmother(s)
Groom's Grandmother(s)
Godmother(s)
Personal Assistant(s)
Guest Book Attendant (if female)
Candle Lighters (if female)
Readers (if female)
Soloists (if female)
Other females you wish to honor

♡ **Boutonnieres:** Quantity Needed: _____

Bride's Father/Step-Father
Groom's Father/Step-Father
Bride's Grandfather(s)
Groom's Grandfather(s)
Godfather(s)
Guest Book Attendant (if male)
Candle Lighters (if male)
Readers (if male)
Soloists (if male)

MY BUDGET: _____



The Location

Draw ideas from your venue. A posh ballroom demands fanciful arrangements: roses embellished with feathers or crystals, for example, or jewel-toned cockscomb.

The Time of Year

Take advantage of the season's bounty. A fall fete might lead to chrysanthemums in orange and rich brown, with miniature pears. Pink peonies and bright green bear grass can celebrate spring.

The Theme

Make your wedding a complete package, with help from your flowers. Going nautical? Consider wrapping vases with white rope. Tying the knot on New Year's Eve? Add crystals to white cattleya orchids.

The Colors

Keep your palette focused: Choose two hues that you love and use them throughout for an elegant, unified look. Or stick to just one: Variations on a single color make a sleek, sophisticated statement.



■ Photo by Mesmerizing Photography

Bridal Flowers

Flowers were incorporated into the ceremony because they represent fertility, purity, new life and never ending love. Traditionally, bouquets were a mixture of flowers and herbs. Dill was a very popular choice as an herb because it was believed to promote desire. Following the ceremony, the dill was eaten for that purpose.



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Beauty PLANNER

★ EDITOR'S CHOICE:

CORPUS CHRISTI

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Renew Medical Spa

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ccdagnosticclinic.com

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(361) 437-8989

Janie McCrelles

Eyelash Specialist
(361) 232-2490

VICTORIA

Fountain of Youth Medical Spa

6234 North Navarro Street
Victoria, TX 77904
(361) 576-9100
fountainmedicalspa.com

6 MONTHS OR MORE AHEAD

- Schedule your skin care consultation; for blemishes, flaws consult an esthetician.
- Start facials, new skin products or treatments, anything you think may cause an allergic reaction, so as to be over the reactions by your wedding day.
- Three or four months before your wedding day.
- Consult with a professional makeup artist; book your portrait and wedding day make-up.
- Start taking special care of your eyes and hands.

1-2 MONTHS BEFORE YOUR DAY

- Choose a wedding fragrance.
- Schedule appointments for hair. Bring your veil in to work into styles.
- Schedule regular sessions for manicures and pedicures.
- Schedule waxing sessions (facial, bikini, full leg) and continue until the week of your wedding day.

1 MONTH BEFORE YOUR DAY

- Apply your wedding makeup to see how long it stays.
- Get your last haircut; don't color and perm your hair at the same time (1 month between).
- Get plenty of rest and drink plenty of water so your eyes are bright and your skin will look radiant.

Download the rest of the planner at stwmagazine.com

MY BUDGET: _____

WHAT TO DO FOR BIG, SPARKLING EYES THAT GET ATTENTION.

- Think seriously about hiring a makeup artist; everyday makeup is different from your wedding day needs.
- Take time to try a few different makeup artists and choose one who understands your personal tastes.
- Get your teeth whitened a week before the wedding. This will ensure a bright smile.
- Get as much sleep as possible the night before the big day.
- Apply concealer to banish dark circles under your eyes.
- Matte eyeshadows are photo-ready.
- Use an off-white matte shadow along your brow bone if you have light skin, or peach if you have dark skin, to illuminate your eyes even more.
- Blend well, especially at the corners of your eyes.
- Define your brows with a pencil or powder that matches your hair color.
- Wear at least two layers of mascara.
- Use an eyelash curler before and after applying your first coat of mascara.

Check online for the DON'Ts list at stwmagazine.com



Janie McCrelles
Certified Eyelash Extensionist 361.232.2490

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Gala Grande Hair Pin Set

This substantial 2" starburst gives your style a lot of pop - times three! Lori loves to sprinkle this set throughout an updo, or line them up at the base of a chignon for a pretty alternative to a traditional headpiece. 350.00 per set of 3



Jasmine Freshwater Pearl Hair Pin Set

These delicate hair pins give pop and sparkle to your hairstyle with real freshwater pearls and a tiny rhinestone center. The set includes five hair pins so you can scatter them throughout your updo or line them up at the top or bottom of your chignon. Each silver pin measures 3" long. 200.00 per set of five

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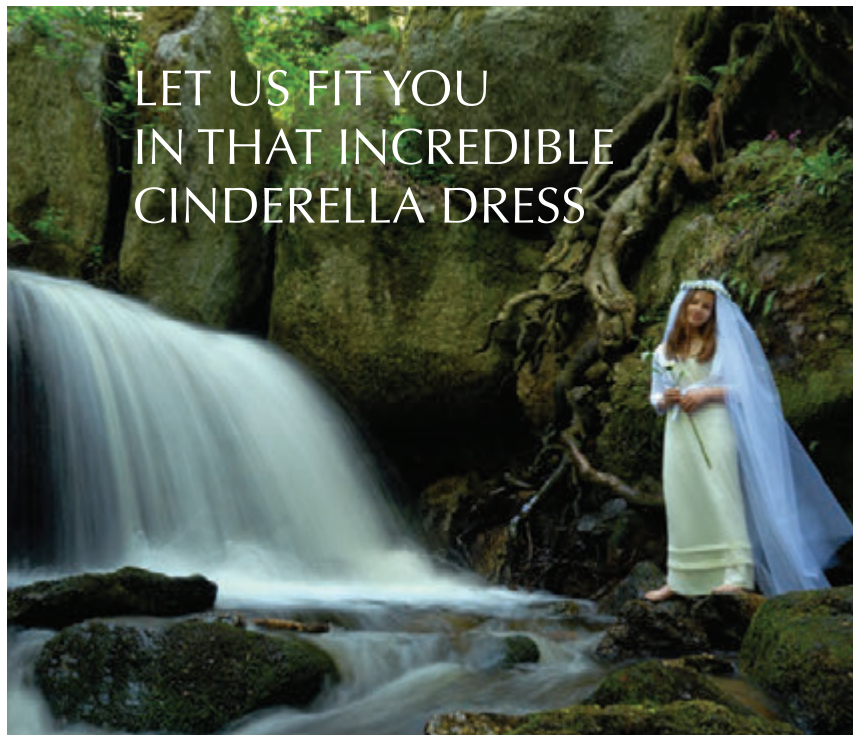
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We have taken 35 inches off a client in one session, 10 pounds off a bride in one week, and 30 pounds off a gentleman in 2 weeks. We use three unique techniques to accomplish the perfect results in each session.

The body treatments are rejuvenating, pampering, and offer a variety of health benefits. Do you or your wedding party need help with certain problem areas before the big day? Well, listen how it is possible! First our body treatments start with an amazing vibratory massage called enderma-

therapie. This helps eliminate fat deposits reducing the appearance of cellulite. Endermathérapie has a extensive list of benefits that you can read more about on our website at www.newbeginningswellnessspa.com.

After breaking up the fat cells and toxins we will wrap your body in a sensational hot clay herbal wrap to cleanse your body of toxins, tighten loose skin, and reduce inches. After being wrapped like a mummy you will be placed in a relaxing dry sauna capsule or a rejuvenating wet steam Jiaogulan Tea Bath. In our exclusive herbal steam you will remove toxins that have accumulated in the last ten years or more. The secret is to remove the toxins and allow your organs to work properly and your metabolism will start to work much faster. Sweating detoxifies your body by removing the accumulation of potentially carcinogenic heavy metals as well as alcohol, nicotine, sodium and cholesterol. Profuse perspiration also deeply cleanses the skin, creating beautiful and improved tone, texture, and color.

There are many routines you can change to help yourself lose weight and feel much healthier. By eliminating the major sources of toxins in your life — addictive substances such as coffee, sugar, alcohol, processed food, fast food, junk food, trans fats, and high-fructose corn syrup — and reducing toxic stress for only 7 days, your body can renew and rejuvenate itself. By eliminating the major sources of inflammation in your diet — food allergens, sugar and flour products, and bad fats — your body can heal. You have the power to transform your



35 INCHES TAKEN OFF IN ONLY ONE SESSION



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life forever by choosing to work with your body, rather than against it. The body knows what to do if you simply get out of the way. If you give it a rest and a chance to repair and heal, it will. You may even realize how bad you were feeling and how great you can really feel. All this is possible if you address toxicity and inflammation your body has.

At New Beginnings Wellness Spa we offer a variety of facials to help with acne, wrinkles, dark spots, scars, or dry and oily skin. Our Micabella extensive facial care line is based on the latest and most scientifically advanced formulas. Our anti-aging skin care products are based on natural herbal organic ingredients, anti-oxidants, natural vitamins (E, A, C, D). Micabella skin and cosmetic products are also nontoxic and chemical free, petroleum by-products free, and silicone free.

To help out with many of our flaws we have the remarkable new Diamond Microdermabrasion. Without the use of harmful crystals the diamond tip provides rapid improvement for skin concerns such as fine lines, blemishes and resultant scarring, stretch marks, age spots and sun damage. This method works especially well on issues such as acne which is caused by too many dead skin cells leading to an infection within the skin. By removing this buildup of cells, skin is improved and additional problems are reduced or prevented. At our unique spa there is also a magical tea everyone is raving about. It is always tea time at New Beginnings Wellness Spa. It is called.....well maybe you should come in to try some and I will give you the name.

This tea is truly amazing and life changing. The natural energy I receive from the tea has taken the daily afternoon crash out of my life since I started drinking it. We also carry it in pill form as well for non-tea drinkers or busy on the go people. The tea has been researched for the last forty years and is proven to improve diabetes, blood pressure, cholesterol, cardio-vascular function, strokes, reduces stress, and much more. Drop by anytime for a complimentary cup of purifying tea. New Beginnings Wellness Spa will help you lose the inches in plenty of time for your wedding day and will even be there for you on the day of the wedding.

I have a wonderful crew who will help calm and relax you on your wedding day. At the same time we will give you the perfect face with Micabella creams and cosmetics. We will also finish you off with a fabulous up-do. Rely on our professional team to take care of you and make sure everything works out perfect for your wedding. Look great for your special day with the helping hands of New Beginnings Wellness Spa.

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Beautiful skin is a strong indicator of one's overall health. But one look in the mirror and you may notice the imperfections of your own maturing skin. Make-up, creams and over-the-counter treatments may cover up some of the blemishes and aging signs, but what about long-term solutions for looking better? Fortunately, skin-resurfacing techniques using state-of-the-art lasers can help you reclaim what was once lost to the ravages of aging.

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- Lifestyle habits such as Sun Tanning
- Use of medications, e.g. Retin A or Glycolic Acid

Fraxel laser resurfacing treatments promote the body's natural tendency to produce new, younger looking skin on an ongoing basis. Out with the old, in with the new!

Nhi Le, M.D., FACP

Medical director of

Fountain of Youth Medical Spa

drnhile@fountainmedicalspsa.com



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Cake PLANNER

★ EDITOR'S CHOICE:

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Checklist

- Select your bakery 3 to 6 months in advance
- Choose shape, size, theme, flavor, filling, icing, and decorative toppings for the wedding cake
- Order the Groom's cake
- Provide the bakery with complete delivery information, e.g., date, time and map of location.
- Pay deposit
- Purchase cake knife and server
- Decorate cake knife and server
- Purchase or borrow a cake topper
- Assign someone to handle the cake knife, server and cake topper to the bakery or reception site
- Determine who will be cutting the cake at the reception
- Pay the balance
- Arrange for someone to take the top of the cake home after the reception and preserve it for you
- Assign someone to return cake stands & pillars to bakery

NOTES: _____

MY BUDGET: _____



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After THE WEDDING


The Next Day

- Host a post-wedding brunch.
- Send out wedding announcements.
- Return rental equipment.
- Assign someone to take care of any valuables (heirlooms, etc.) from the wedding.
- Take your wedding gown to be professionally cleaned (or ask one of your bridesmaids to help).
- Confirm honeymoon flight and double-check luggage for passports, etc.

After the Honeymoon

- Unpack from honeymoon.
- Call VIPs (bridal party, close family) to thank them for their wedding-day help.
- Open wedding gifts.
- Get a copy of your marriage certificate.
- If changing your name, do so on all official documents (credit cards, bank accounts, driver's license, passport and social security card).
- Update mailing address & send out new contact info.
- Notify your employer of your new marital status.
- Arrange for proper storage of your wedding gown.
- Organize and store wedding keepsakes.
- Make sure all vendors have been paid, and double-check credit card and bank statements.

Download the rest of the planner at stwmagazine.com



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