



Wedding Vendor Checklist: Who to Book, When, and How Much to Budget

Designed with ❤️ by the Wedding Insiders Network (WIN)

Planning your dream wedding is exciting, but it can also feel overwhelming. That's why we've created this easy-to-follow checklist to guide you through the process, step by step. Stay on track, book the best vendors, and keep your budget in check!

12+ Months Before Your Wedding

This is your foundation-building stage. Book the big players early!

Venue

- **What They Do:** Sets the tone for your entire wedding and impacts your guest count, vibe, and logistics.
- **Average Budget:** \$5,000–\$18,000 (can vary widely depending on location and size).
- **Notes:** _____

Wedding Planner (*Optional but game-changing*)

- **What They Do:** Keeps you organized, manages vendors, and ensures your vision comes to life.
- **Average Budget:** \$3,000–\$10,000 (full-service); \$1,500–\$4,000 (month-of coordination).
- **Notes:** _____

Caterer

- **What They Do:** Serves up delicious food and drinks to fuel your celebration.
- **Average Budget:** \$50–\$150 per person.
- **Notes:** _____

Photographer & Videographer

- **What They Do:** Captures the memories you'll cherish forever.
- **Average Budget:** \$3,000–\$7,000 (photo); \$2,500–\$5,000 (video).
- **Notes:** _____

Band/DJ

- **What They Do:** Sets the mood and keeps your dance floor alive.
 - **Average Budget:** \$1,500–\$5,000.
 - **Notes:** _____
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9–12 Months Before Your Wedding

Time to lock in more details!

Florist

- **What They Do:** Brings your wedding to life with stunning floral arrangements.
- **Average Budget:** \$2,500–\$10,000.
- **Notes:** _____

Hair & Makeup Artists

- **What They Do:** Makes you look and feel your best on your big day.
- **Average Budget:** \$500–\$1,500 (for the bride; add \$100–\$250 per additional person).
- **Notes:** _____

Officiant

- **What They Do:** Legally marries you and adds personal touches to your ceremony.
- **Average Budget:** \$200–\$1,000.
- **Notes:** _____

Wedding Stationery

- **What They Do:** Designs and prints your save-the-dates, invitations, and signage.
- **Average Budget:** \$500–\$2,500.

- **Notes:** _____
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6–9 Months Before Your Wedding

This is when your vision starts to take shape!

Cake/Desserts

- **What They Do:** Provides your sweet treat and that iconic cake-cutting moment.
- **Average Budget:** \$500–\$1,500.
- **Notes:** _____

Rental Companies

- **What They Do:** Supplies tables, chairs, linens, and décor for your event.
- **Average Budget:** \$1,000–\$5,000.
- **Notes:** _____

Transportation

- **What They Do:** Ensures you and your guests arrive in style and on time.
- **Average Budget:** \$500–\$2,000.
- **Notes:** _____

Lighting & Décor

- **What They Do:** Creates ambiance with lighting, drapery, and other decor elements.
 - **Average Budget:** \$1,500–\$4,000.
 - **Notes:** _____
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3–6 Months Before Your Wedding

The finishing touches make all the difference.

Favors & Welcome Gifts

- **What They Do:** Adds a personal touch and makes guests feel special.
- **Average Budget:** \$3–\$10 per guest.

- **Notes:** _____

Attire for the Wedding Party

- **What They Do:** Dresses your squad in style.
 - **Average Budget:** \$200–\$400 per person (bridesmaids/groomsmen).
 - **Notes:** _____
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1–3 Months Before Your Wedding

Final touches and confirmations!

Calligrapher (*Optional but stunning*)

- **What They Do:** Creates handwritten or custom-designed place cards, menus, and signage.
- **Average Budget:** \$200–\$500.
- **Notes:** _____

Day-Of Coordinator (*If not already booked*)

- **What They Do:** Manages the timeline, vendors, and logistics so you can relax.
 - **Average Budget:** \$1,000–\$2,000.
 - **Notes:** _____
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Wedding Day Essentials Checklist

Don't forget these must-haves:

- Marriage license!
- Rings.
- Timeline copies for vendors.
- Emergency kit (safety pins, band-aids, tissues).

By staying organized and booking vendors at the right time, you'll reduce stress and make the planning process fun and exciting. The WIN team is here to help every step of the way—let's make your wedding unforgettable! 🌟

