

Your Wedding Countdown by Shangri-La

6-9 months before

- Announce your engagement to family and close friends.
- Choose and finalize your wedding date.
- Work on a budget.
- Decide on the wedding theme (formal or informal) and size (grand or intimate).
- Book a wedding coordinator, if desired. Select one you are most comfortable with.
- Book your church or ceremony location and reception venue.
- Arrange appointments with your priest or civil marriage celebrant.
- Start working on the church or civil registry requirements. Obtain the necessary documents.
- Draft your wedding invitations and misalettes, as approved by your church.
- Make a list of possible suppliers (e.g. photographer, caterer, cake designer, videographer, calligrapher, musician etc.) Discuss your plans with the suppliers including the schedule, budget and theme.
- Select your bridal entourage
- Choose your sponsors. Arrange for a visit and formally inform them of your decision.
- Look for your barong or and suit. ♣
- Choose your wedding gown designer and discuss your style preference. *
- Begin a health and beauty routine. *
- Discuss honeymoon plans and make travel bookings; update passports if necessary.

4-5 months before

- Complete the guest list and organize with mailing addresses and contact numbers.
- Decide on the time of day you want the ceremonies to take place.
- Book wedding and reception suppliers (e.g. caterers, photographer, videographer, musicians and/or entertainment, florist, wedding transportation)
- Confirm your stationery including wedding invitations and thank you cards.
- Select wedding bands.
- Select an emcee or host for the celebration.
- Order the wedding cake
- Arrange schedule for wedding gown fittings.
- Schedule fitting dresses of your wedding entourage.
- Select outfits for the groom and his party.
- Assist mothers with selection of their outfits.

♣ For the groom

* For the bride

3 months before

- Obtain marriage license and request certified copies.
- Have wedding bands engraved.
- Organize gift registry.
- Start shopping for veil and other accessories
- Reconfirm honeymoon flights and accommodations.
- Book your wedding night and accommodation
- Consult with a hair and make-up artist and schedule a test make-up. *

2 months before

- Deliver wedding invitations.
- Discuss details of menu and finalize with caterer.
- Discuss the wedding service with your officiating priest.
- Set the program for reception with emcee
- Discuss the music with chosen performers, musicians and/or entertainers.
- Tap performers for reception from family and friends.
- Inform persons who will deliver speeches of their role so they can start drafting their speech.
- Choose your ceremony vows or start writing them.

1 month before

- Determine total head count. Begin finalizing the guest list and call those who have not confirmed.
- Buy guest book.
- Have programs printed.

3 weeks before

- Draw up a timetable for the wedding day.
- Reconfirm all details with all bridal suppliers.
- Draw a seat plan for the reception and write place cards.
- Organize final fitting of wedding dress.
- Contact local newspaper about publishing wedding announcements.

2 weeks before

- Give final number of guests to your reception manager
- Assign specific responsibilities to members of your wedding party, such as handling out corsages and boutonnieres.
- Check that the bridal entourage outfits are in order.
- Check bridal outfit for last minute repairs; try it with wedding lingerie and shoes. *
- Break in your wedding shoes at home. *

♣ For the groom

* For the bride

1 week before

- Confirm details with caterer.
- Finalize the seat plan.
- Deliver place cards to the reception manager
- Hold a ceremony rehearsal; make sure junior attendants are confident and comfortable.
- Make sure speeches have been prepared.
- Rehearse your speeches
- Present bridal entourage with tokens or gifts.
- Pick up wedding dress or have it delivered.
- Get a massage, facial, manicure and pedicure.
- Begin packing for honeymoon.

1 day before

- Have a rundown of payment details to suppliers with your wedding coordinator, or to whoever the task is assigned to.
- Confirm transportation arrangements for ceremony and reception.
- Give gifts to parents to thank them for their support.

Wedding day

- Relax and enjoy yourselves!