## At Least 12 Months Before

Create a wedding binder that includes a calendar and a copy of the Bridal Guide magazine

Set the date/time for ceremony

Select engagement and wedding rings

Decide on type/style of wedding

Discuss and set a budget

Visit and book the venue for your ceremony

Visit and book the venue for your reception

Visit officiant to discuss the ceremony

Choose an event planner

Choose a Professional Caterer

Select wedding attendants

Select wedding dress and veil

Select a professional photographer

Select a professional videographer

Select musicians for ceremony/reception

Select a professional florist

Set up a separate checking account for wedding expenses

# At Least Six to Twelve Months Before

Determine the color scheme for the wedding

Begin writing vows

Make first draft of the invitation list

Select and order attendants' gowns

Select a baker for your cakes

Get fabric samples to match shoes

Select tuxedos for the Groom.

Groomsmen, Ushers, and Fathers

Order wedding invitations and stationary

Mothers of the Bride and Groom to select their dresses

Put engagement announcement in the newspaper

Make Honeymoon plans and reservations

Reserve hotel rooms for out-of-town guests

Choose a florist and make flower selections

Register with a bridal gift registry

## Three to Six Months Before

Check passports/visas

Decide on the shop for you trousseau

Order the wedding cake and groom's

Order the limousine and transportation

Schedule a constituation with your hair

Check on regulations and cost of obtaining your marriage license

Groom's family to make arrangements for the rehearsal dinner

Decide how you want to exit the reception and the ceremony

Find out if guests can throw birdseed, rice, flower petals, etc.

Buy/make favors to give guests if desired

Make second draft of the invitations list

Make appointment for a bridal portrait

Make hair/nail appointment for bridal portrait

First wedding gown fitting

Select reception decorations

### Two to Three Months Before

Get a bridal portrait taken

Finalize vows and memorize (if necessary)

Buy gifts for Maid of Honor, Bridesmaids, personal attendant

Buy gifts for Best Man, Groomsmen, ushers

Finalize invitation list

Order invitations

Order programs (if used)

Order monogrammed napkins for reception if desired

Get any immunizations you need for the Honeymoon

Arrange special music selections

Plan Bridesmaids' luncheon

Wedding day appointment for your hair & make-up stylist

Make nail appointment for one day before wedding day

Open a joint savings and checking

Name your intended spouse as the beneficiary on your insurance policy, and in your will

### One to Two Months Before

Arrange final fitting of your gown and Bridesmaid dresses

Confirm with photographer, caterer, musician, florist, limousine, and bakerv

Select Bride's and Groom's gifts

Meeting with officiant on ceremony details

Obtain marriage license

Address & mail wedding invitations (if not completed)

Pick up wedding bands

Ensure home/renter's insurance covers wedding bands,

or additional wedding jewelry

Confirm Honeymoon reservations

Record gifts as you receive them and send thank-you notes

Send maps to out-of-town guests

## One Week Before

Pack a Honeymoon trousseau

Arrange head table seating

Reconfirm Honeymoon arrangements

Make certain that attendants and helpers have their instructions

Pick up wedding gown and veil

Pick up attendants' gowns

Notify the caterer of final guest count (if not already completed)

Make sure arrangements have been made for out-of-town guests

# The Day Before

Attend wedding rehearsal

Nail appointment

Pick up tuxedos

# On the Wedding Day

Bride's hair and make-up appointments

Allow three hours to dress and relax ◆

