



VICTORIAN BELLE
WEDDINGS AND EVENTS

12 MONTH WEDDING CHECKLIST

Planning a wedding can seem like a daunting task. But like any big project, it is important to avoid becoming overwhelmed by breaking it down into manageable steps. Here at the Victorian Belle, we are here to help.

We have created a suggested month my month Wedding Check List. We recognize that every wedding is unique, and planning times may vary. However, we have found that it is common for weddings to require a year to plan. With that in mind, here is our recommended planning outline.



12 MONTHS OUT

☐ BUDGET

Determine your budget. The budget is the foundation for every decision moving forward.

☐ GUEST LIST

Start another spread sheet for your guest list. Your budget and your guest list are very interrelated.

☐ WEDDING PLANNER

Decide if you are going to DIY your wedding, or hire a wedding planner to assist you.

11 MONTHS OUT

☐ THEME

Determine the theme you want to capture for your wedding. Allow your imagination and creativity to blossom.

☐ VENUE

Selecting the venue that fits with your theme, budget, and guest count is the next most important decision.

☐ CATERING

Feeding your guests can seem like a daunting task. And again, your venue will influence your choices.

☐ GUESTS

Accommodations, parking and transportation for out of town guests. Block hotel rooms, check venue for parking availability.

☐ VENDORS

If you are working with a wedding planner, they will be instrumental in helping you get set up with top shelf vendors.

DID YOU KNOW?

At the Victorian Belle, we offer several in house catering options, depending on what package you select.

You will have the opportunity to schedule a tasting to get a sense of the food that will be served during your event. You will want to schedule your tasting for around month four.



WEDDING DRESS

The selection of a wedding dress is an incredibly personal and often emotional choice. There are a wide spectrum of options, from having a custom dress created, to shopping the sale rack at bridal dress shops.



10 MONTHS OUT

☐ INVITATIONS

Start shopping for save the date and wedding invitation stationary.

☐ PHOTOGRAPHY

Select a wedding photographer.

☐ GIFT REGISTER

For those who wish to register with a store for wedding gifts, the tenth month is a good time.



9 MONTHS OUT

☐ SAVE THE DATE

Now it's time to send out the "Save the Date" notifications.

☐ WEDDING DRESS

If you've not yet purchased your dress, now is the time.

☐ DO IT YOURSELF

Decide, plan and purchase what you are going to do yourself like table centerpieces, guest favors, or some of the other decorations.



8 MONTHS OUT

☐ BRIDE'S MAID DRESSES

You'll need to make decisions about what you are going to ask your bridesmaids to wear.

☐ FINAL VENDOR CHOICES

Decide what vendors you want and get them reserved for your date.

☐ WEDDING CAKE

Now is the time to focus in, make your final decisions and make the reservations with the bakery.

7 MONTHS OUT

☐ REHEARSAL DINNER

If you are going to include a rehearsal dinner, the seventh month is a good time to incorporate it into the overall plan. This is an opportunity for both sides of the family to mingle and connect before the wedding.

☐ OFFICIANT

If you are not married in a church, it will be necessary to hire an officiant.

☐ BRIDESMAID DRESSES (AGAIN)

Although you may have started the conversation about bridesmaids dresses in month eight, it's a good idea to circle back with your bridesmaids and be sure that they have what they need, dresses have been selected, and any problems resolved.

☐ RENTAL EQUIPMENT

As you plan your wedding, you'll need to determine what equipment and other items are not provided by your venue. Even if the venue has chairs, tables, linens, tents, etc. to offer, you may want something different. Begin planning at 8 months and finalize now.

☐ MUSIC

If you are considering live music, you'll want to decide who you want to play at the wedding, choose the music desired, and get the musicians booked.

☐ LIGHTING

This is another detail that can be easily overlooked. But you will want to consider what kind of lighting you want. Examples range from candles for the table, electric vs wax burning), lighting for photos, and lighting for the evening after sunset.





6 MONTHS OUT

☐ HONEYMOON PLANS

Ok! You are now at the halfway point! It's time to finalize your honeymoon plans.

☐ NEWLY WED DEPARTURE

Are you going to leave in a stretch limousine? A horse drawn carriage? A rickshaw or tandem bicycle? Perhaps a vintage car?



5 MONTHS OUT

☐ GROOMS ATTIRE

If you are going with a more formal look for the groom, you will need to either purchase or rent a tuxedo.

☐ GROOMSMEN

You'll want to be sure the groomsmen also are appropriately fitted in their attire, especially if you are going with a more formal look.

☐ WEDDING BANDS

You may have your beautiful engagement ring. But if you don't have your wedding bands, it's time to make decisions on what bands you will purchase.

☐ HAIR & MAKE UP

You will want to select a hair style and make up artist who will enhance your best natural features.





4 MONTHS OUT

☐ FINAL TASTING

You've set up with your caterer way back around month eleven, but month four is a good time to have your final tasting to make any changes or adjustments to the menu.

☐ FINAL CAKE SELECTION

If you have selected your bakery, but not formalized your cake selection, now is the time.

☐ INVITATIONS

You've selected your stationary invitations. Although you've already sent out the save the date notifications, month four is the perfect time to send out the invitations for both the rehearsal dinner and the wedding.

☐ RSVP'S

It is important to know who can attend and who can't. You'll want RSVP's due one month before your wedding.

☐ VOWS

By month four you want to be honing in on writing your vows and mapping out the ceremony itself.

3 MONTHS OUT

☐ FINALIZE MENU

You've had a successful tasting, and now it's time to finalize and approve your menu with the venue or caterer.

☐ GUEST GIFT BAGS

Perhaps you are doing DIY gift favors or gift bags, or you are purchasing them. Either way, month three is a good place to pull this piece together if you are incorporating this into your event.

☐ MUSIC & FLOWERS

Finalize your music selections, and your floral selections.

2 MONTHS OUT

☐ WEDDING DRESS

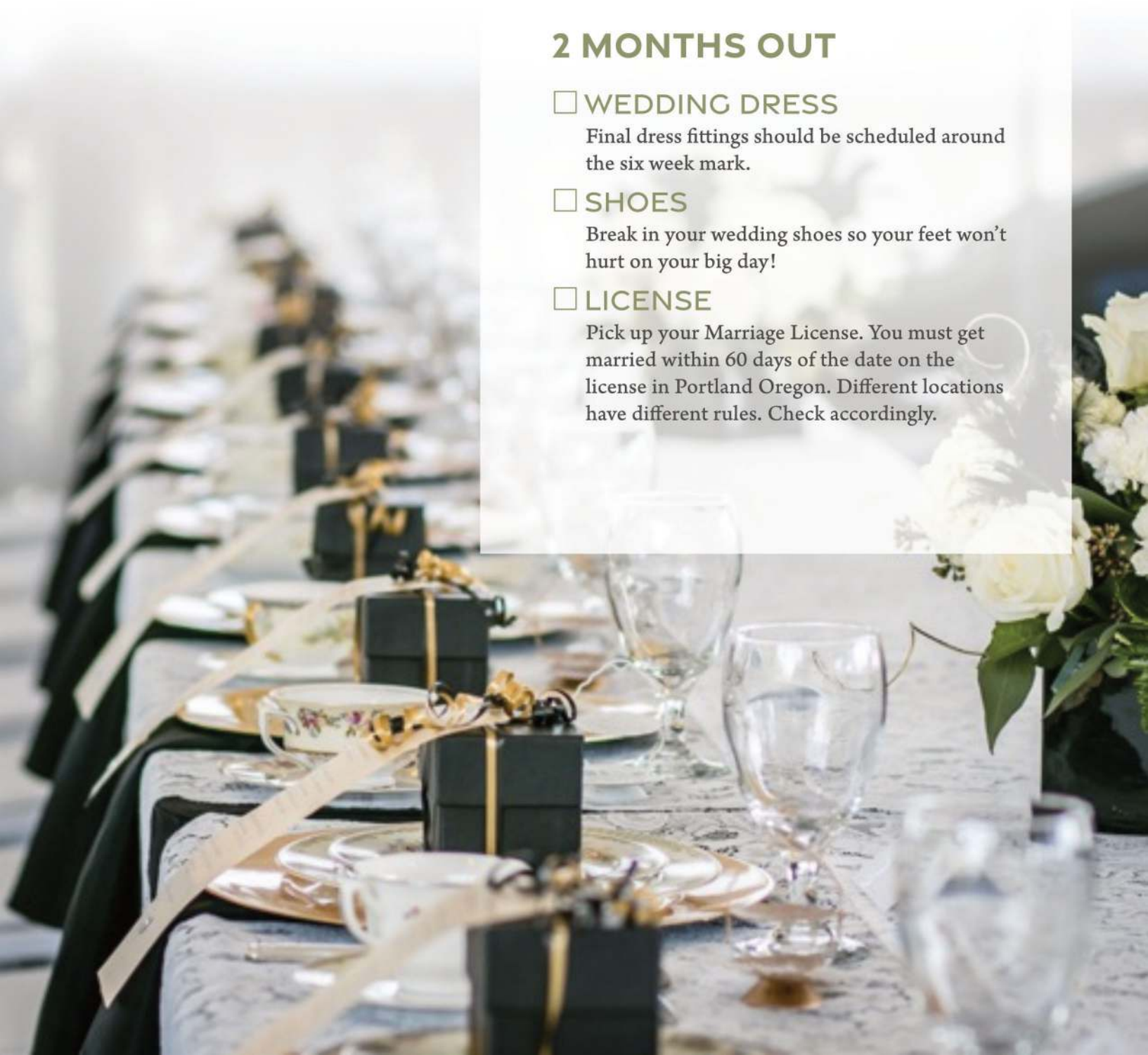
Final dress fittings should be scheduled around the six week mark.

☐ SHOES

Break in your wedding shoes so your feet won't hurt on your big day!

☐ LICENSE

Pick up your Marriage License. You must get married within 60 days of the date on the license in Portland Oregon. Different locations have different rules. Check accordingly.



HERE COMES THE BRIDE!

1 MONTH OUT

☐ VENDORS

Submit your final vendor payments.

☐ GUESTS

Finalize your guest list and seating chart.

☐ VENUE

Do a final walkthrough at your venue.



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