

# How to Save Money on Your Wedding

Your wedding will be one of the most important, joyful days of your life. Many people spend a lot of money on their weddings. In fact, Bride Magazine reports that most couples spend between \$18,000 and \$22,000 on their nuptials. However, you do not need to mire yourself in debt to enjoy your special day. You can easily cut wedding costs in a variety of ways.

## Planning

Discuss your wedding budget with your partner first, before you begin any plans. This is the easiest way to keep your wedding spending at bay. You and your partner should also come up with your wedding priorities. That way you can cut other wedding costs that are less important to the two of you. For example, if you or your partner really wants to have expensive floral arrangements at your wedding, you could then opt for cheaper catering.

## Wedding Gowns

There are a variety of ways to find bargains for on wedding gowns. You could buy the gown on consignment or rent one for the day. You could enjoy special sentimental value from borrowing a gown from a mother, sister, or in-law. Think about it, are you ever going to wear it again? No matter how you buy your dress, it helps to begin shopping at the end of the bridal season to find the best deals.

## The Reception

Try to keep your guest list to a minimum.

Consider having your reception at a national park or your or a friend's backyard. Buffets are less expensive than sit-down meals. Drop-off catering is another low-cost option.

## Other Money-Saving Wedding Tips

Buy your invitation stationary all at the same time. Make sure your invitations do not weigh too much, because you might have to spend more on postage otherwise.

Plan your wedding day on a Friday or a Sunday during January, February, or November. Weddings are less commonly scheduled for these times. You will more easily find bargains as a result.

When you buy your flowers, give your florist your budget up front. Also tell your florist you want the flowers that are in-season and locally available. He or she should be able to help you find what you are looking for.

## **Wedding Insurance**

You may want to look into insuring your wedding. Wedding insurance typically covers your costs if your wedding is cancelled due to the death, injury, sickness, or pending military service of a member of your bridal party. Insurance would also cover photography costs if your original photos were damaged, new wedding rings if your originals were lost, and the replacement of wedding gifts if yours were damaged, stolen, or lost. Make sure that whatever policy you do decide to take out fits your needs.

## **Conclusion**

You will remember your wedding for the rest of your life. The amount of money you spent on your wedding is really not important. What is important is that you enjoy your special day with your family, friends, and the person you love most, your new spouse.