

Complete Wedding Planning Timeline Checklist for Canadian Couples

Timeline	Task	Description
12–18 Months Before	 Set Your Budget	Determine your total wedding budget and decide who will contribute financially.
	 Create Your Guest List	Estimate the number of guests you'll invite to help determine venue size and overall costs.
	 Choose Your Wedding Date	Select your preferred wedding date based on season, venue availability, and holidays.
	 Book Your Venue	Reserve your venue early, especially if you're considering one of the Top Wedding Venues in Montreal .
	 Hire Your Wedding Photographer	Book your wedding photographer early to secure your preferred date.
	 Hire a Wedding Planner (Optional)	Consider hiring a planner or day-of coordinator.
9–12 Months Before	 Plan Guest Travel & Accommodation	Reserve hotel blocks and transportation if needed.
	 Book a Videographer	Reserve your wedding videographer.
	 Hire Your Caterer	Confirm catering services and menu options.
	 Book Your Florist	Plan bouquets, ceremony flowers, and reception décor.
	 Book DJ or Live Band	Reserve your entertainment for the ceremony and reception.
	 Book Your Officiant	Secure the person who will perform your ceremony.

	 Reserve Wedding Cake	Choose your cake designer and style.
	 Book Transportation	Arrange transportation for the wedding party if needed.
	 Start Wedding Dress Shopping	Purchase your wedding dress to allow time for alterations.
	 Purchase Groom's Attire	Select the groom's suit or tuxedo.
	 Schedule Engagement Session	Plan your engagement or pre-wedding photoshoot.
6–9 Months Before	 Book Hair & Makeup Artist	Reserve your beauty team and schedule a trial.
	 Design Invitations	Finalize invitation design and printing.
	 Reserve Guest Accommodation	Confirm hotel blocks for out-of-town guests.
	 Create Wedding Registry	Register for gifts online or in-store.
	 Purchase Wedding Accessories	Buy shoes, jewelry, veil, and accessories.
3–6 Months Before	 Send Invitations	Mail invitations approximately 10–12 weeks before your wedding.
	 Create Wedding Timeline	Finalize your ceremony and reception schedule.
	 Plan Photography Timeline	Schedule portraits, first look, family photos, and golden hour session.
	 Prepare Family Photo List	Make a list of important family combinations.
	 Schedule Sunset Portraits	Reserve time for golden-hour couple portraits.

1–3 Months Before	 Finalize Décor	Confirm flowers, centerpieces, signage, and ceremony décor.
	 Create Seating Plan	Begin organizing guest seating arrangements.
	 Confirm All Vendors	Verify arrival times, services, and contact information.
	 Final Payments	Review payment schedules and outstanding balances.
	 Share Special Requests	Inform vendors about traditions or special moments.
	 Final Dress Fitting	Complete all alterations and fittings.
	 Apply for Marriage Licence	Complete your province's legal marriage requirements.
	 Attend Ceremony Rehearsal	Practice the ceremony with your wedding party.
2 Weeks Before	 Pack Wedding Essentials	Prepare rings, vows, shoes, emergency kit, and accessories.
	 Share Final Timeline	Send the finalized timeline to vendors and family members.
	 Confirm Guest Count	Provide your final guest count to the venue and caterer.
	 Prepare Vendor Tips	Organize gratuities and final envelopes.
	 Pack for Honeymoon	Begin packing if you're leaving shortly after the wedding.
Wedding Day	 Relax & Self-Care	Prioritize rest, hydration, and wellness before the big day.
	 Eat Breakfast	Start your day with a healthy meal.
	 Stay Hydrated	Drink plenty of water throughout the day.

 Give Yourself Extra Time	Build extra time into your schedule to avoid rushing.
 Get Dressed Early	Allow enough time for preparation photos.
 Double-Check Essentials	Confirm rings, vows, marriage licence, bouquet, and accessories.
 Silence Your Phone	Stay present and let someone else handle urgent calls.
 Trust Your Vendors	Let your professional team manage the details.
 Follow the Photography Timeline	Stay on schedule for portraits and important moments.
 Enjoy Every Moment	Celebrate, smile, and create lifelong memories.