



The Fairy Wedmother

Wedding Supplier Checklist

Just got engaged? **Congratulations!** Here's The Fairy Wedmother's definitive checklist for the first part of your wedding planning. Some things can wait, others need to be sorted soonest. Use our Supplier Checklist to make sure you don't miss anything.

First things first...

Setting the date can be tricky; there are several factors that need to come together to get the time and place you want whether it's a venue or a field for a marquee.

There's a bit of chicken and egg going on – you can't book your venue and date until you know if a registrar is free, and you can't book your registrar until you have a date! Here's how we overcome this:

Get a shortlist of your favourite venues and hold two or three dates at each. Next, contact the registrar and get their availability. Now you will be able to match your registrar availability with your venue availability and viola – you have your wedding date set.

Now you have your date here are the next few bits you'll need to do quickly:

Photographer – their diaries fill up fast so nail your photographer quickly Read our guide on [How to Choose your Wedding Photographer](#)

Transport – for you and your bridal party, and possibly your guests. One car or two? Fun busses? Your choice might be determined by how quickly you book.

Florist - A florist may do two or three weddings a day but best to get one nailed down quickly to ensure you get the one you want that will match your personality and wedding vision. We can help you [Choose Your Wedding Florist](#)

Evening Music – your venue might provide a DJ, or have one they recommend, but if you want a band they can book up well in advance. Go and see your band play if you haven't already heard them, check out reviews and where possible chat to couples who have used them previously to get a sense of their style.

Hair and Make-up: This could be the same person but more often than not it will be two. Are they coming to your house, coming to your venue or are you going to the hairdresser? Make sure you book in your trial in good time.

Cake: There are plenty of cake makers out there but if you have one in mind, or love a particular style you'll want to get your date held soonest. The tastings and design bit can come later down the road.

And if you're using a **dry hire venue** you'll also want to sort the following quickly:

Marquee or Teepee: You might have your 'space' sorted but you'll need to put something in it. While there are a lot of marquee and tepee companies out there, they may not all have your vision available. Check out our Super Dooper Marquee Checklist in the Free Resources section of our website

Catering – get your caterer locked down soonest. Book in some tasting sessions as soon as possible so you can pick the right one for you. If you're going hog roast or other catering van types you probably have a little more time as there are plenty to choose from.

Furniture: you can usually book these right up to last minute but to get the ones you want you might have to be a little quicker.

Linens: Often supplied by your furniture supplier or caterer but you might not like what they've got so shop around.

Crockery, cutlery & glassware may be supplied by your caterer and / or bar supplier but if you not you'll need to source these

Staff: Again, could come as standard with your caterer but check out all options

Coordinator: Of course, having a **Fairy Wedmother** at your wedding will coordinate your suppliers and keep your day running perfectly. Book one soonest!

A few more things to consider:

Insurance: This will usually cost less than £50 and covers you if your venue suddenly closes, caterer goes bust or transport stops, well, transporting. It's worth every penny.

Entertainment: There is soooo much choice out there for entertainment that you'll be bound to source what you want at any point. BUT if you're fussy, get sorted quickly.

Decorations: If you're having a themed or seasonal wedding you might want to start looking for things a year in advance when the sales hit, but places like The Range and Hobbycraft will offer loads of inspiration and the internet is a wonderful place!

Guest Transport: Getting married in the middle of nowhere, or quite a distance from your home town? Consider putting on a coach to get guests back to a town/city where they transfer to a taxi.

'When do I get my dress?' I hear you cry! It takes around 4-6 months for wedding and BM dresses to be made and delivered. Short on time? Got for 'off the rack' or high street.

If you're going for a bespoke made-just-for-you-frock you will need to source a dress maker a lot sooner.

Couple of other things that might need consideration:

The Rings - whether you're buying them or having them made will impact when you purchase. Buying may be around a month for delivery (most jewellers only stock tiny sizes then order in your size).

Invitations and Save-the-Date: If you're making your own - sweet! But if you're having them printed you'll need to source a designer and a printer. Either way, work backwards from when you need your RSVP to work out when you need to have your invitations completed. Your designer will then work towards your print date. If the wedding is a while away, send **Save the Date** cards which will give you a good idea of who can come early on, meaning you can add others if you need/want to. NOTE....check, check and check again, then give them to someone else to check

There you have it - our checklist for suppliers and when to book them. Happy planning!

If you're a Wedmother Couple you'll automatically receive our super dooper supplier checklist to keep track of all of your suppliers

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