



HOW-TO GET STARTED

set your wedding budget



We know the hardest part is knowing where to start. Before you make any life altering decisions, usually there should be a budget involved. You wouldn't buy a house without knowing what the mortgage payment is going to be, right? This how-to guide will make you feel confident in the blink of an eye.

1. HOW TO GET TO THE MAGIC NUMBER?

Talk to your partner and decide what is a realistic number that the two of you are comfortable spending. There are a few factors here such as, if there are family assisting. If so, make sure you get a clear commitment amount and any expectations that come with such an investment. If you plan on using any credit cards or loans, look into no interest cards or negotiate your interest on new purchases. Also, make sure you have a pay off plan. We don't suggest these routes but we trust your judgement.

2. WHAT DO I DO WITH THIS NUMBER?

Use our Epic Wedding Budget Planner sheet, attached. These percentages are industry standard and may not be a 100% good fit for you, but it'll give you a good idea of what amounts will be spend where.

3. TIME TO ANALYZE

Break down each category. Is it enough or too much? Look at areas to save in each category. Use our E.P.I.C wedding planner worksheet to assist you in making these decisions.

4. LET'S GET VENUE SHOPPING

The venue is your biggest spend. Reminder- if you're hosting at home, it's not free (add up all rentals, lawn care, etc.). Ask about insurance, security, or any additional deposits, you'll need to include those in the costs. Do not book your venue yet!

5. NOW THE VENDORS & DECOR

Now you know your venue cost. Start searching for vendors that align with your look and the services you need, and of course costs. Again, don't book yet. You're just price shopping.

6. ROOKIE MOVE

Just because you budgeted for that cost, doesn't mean you should spend the maximum in every category. You will need a buffer for unexpected costs.

7. TALLY UP

Add up all your vendors and don't forget to factor in sales taxes and credit card fees. Also, any gratuity that you expect to give as well.

8. PIECE OF MIND

And now you have a rough draft budget. It may not be totally perfect, but it will give you a working tool to decide what you want to afford. It'll save you head ache and heart ache in the long run.



Overwhelmed? It's okay. We understand.
We're here to help with your planning and take all this off your plate.
Wedding planning is stressful work. Our goal is to make it easy.

epic wedding

BUDGET PLANNER



TOTAL BUDGET: \$_____ .00_

ITEMS	BUDGET	ESTIMATED TOTAL	ACUTUAL VENDOR PROJECTION
VENUE	25%		
CATERING/ALCOHOL	20%		
PHOTOGRAPHY	12%		
ENTERTAINMENT	10%		
FLOWERS/DECOR	10%		
ATTIRE	9%		
CEREMONY	4%		
FAVORS/GIFTS	2%		
CAKE	2%		
TRANSPORTATION	2%		
STATIONARY	2%		
RINGS	2%		
<u>TOTAL</u>			

 DENOTES ITEMS WE SUGGEST LEAVING OUT OF BUDGET IF NEEDED

E.P.I.C *wedding planner worksheet*

This exercise is to help you start your budget. Work through what is **essential** to your day, what **possibilities** you have to save, enhance, or find room for cost saving measures (maybe you know a florist or someone who can do alterations), your wish list or **Inspirations** that, if you had no budget, you would include on your day. and lastly, opportunities to **cut back** to so you can save funds for other, more desired items.

ESSENTIALS

Must have wedding day necessities?

POSSIBILITIES

Where can you save a little extra?



INSPIRATIONS

Wish List Items?

CUT BACKS

What things can you do without?