
Top 10 Tips

F O R Y O U R B I G D A Y

TIP ONE: GUESTS COME FIRST

Get a handle on the approximate number of guests you will invite before settling on a venue. This will ensure there is ample space for all of your guests.

TIP TWO: PRIORITIZE YOUR PEOPLE

Pare down your guest list with the "tiers of priority" trick. Place immediate family, the bridal party and best friends on top of the list; follow with Aunts, Uncles, Cousins and close friends you can't imagine celebrating without. Under that, list your parents' friends, neighbours, co-workers and so on. If you need to make some cuts, start from the bottom until you reach your ideal guest list number.

TIP THREE: TAKE IT ONE STEP AT A TIME

Put together a wedding planning schedule and do things one by one, in a logical order, so you don't take on too much too fast and end up with everything snowballing around you. Don't hire any vendors before you've confirmed your date; don't design your cake before you've envisioned your flowers; and don't book a band before you've settled on a space.

TIP FOUR: GET A SYSTEM

In a ring binder, compile all your correspondence with vendors, notes you make during meetings, and photos or ideas from magazines you want vendors to see. Look into Wedding Planning Apps for keeping all of your digital Wedding planning content in one place.

TIP FIVE: LET ONE VENDOR LEAD YOU TO THE NEXT

This saves you time and means that you are getting referrals from people in the industry that have experience with these vendors. Your Wedding Photographer can tell you which florist's blooms really pop, and your Reception Manager should know which band consistently packs the dance floor.

TIP SIX: CLASSIFY YOUR CASH

Wedding budgets are all about balance. Start your budget planning by making a checklist of the crucial details, like the music, your wedding gown, the invitations, the flowers and the photographer, and assign a number to each—one being the most important and three being the least. Invest your money in all your number ones and cut corners on your number threes. (But everything can't fall into the number one category!) For example, if a designer gown and fabulous food are what really matter, you may have to choose simple invitations and smaller floral arrangements.

TIP SEVEN: CALL IN THE FASHION POLICE

Don't go dress shopping on your own—all the gowns will start to look the same after a while and it will be harder to recall which style you really loved. But be careful about who you do bring. If your Mum or Sibling can't make the trip, ask a friend who is truly honest. This is the time when you really need to know which dress looks best.

TIP EIGHT: WRITE DOWN YOUR DIGITS

Keep an emergency contact sheet or phone with your vendor contacts on you on your Wedding Day—it may come in handy in case your limo driver gets lost.

TIP NINE: PROVIDE DRIVING DIRECTIONS

Make sure guests know where they're going. As easy as online map programmes are to use, sometimes the directions are wrong or there's a quicker, less traffic-prone route to take. Research in advance if there will be a big event on your day that may cause major traffic jams.

TIP TEN: BE REALISTIC WITH TIME

When it comes down to the last month of your planning look at your mile long to-do list and cut three things. Yes, cut three things. Eliminate only the over-the-top tasks like hand-painting "Just Married" signs or baking cookies for all of the welcome bags. Cross them off and make a pledge not to think about them again.

I hope these Top 10 Tips For Planning Your Wedding Day have been helpful. Please do get in touch to chat about your Wedding Photography requirements. It would be my honour and privilege to capture your special day.



LISA MONK
027 537 6045

e lisamonkphotography@extra.co.nz
W Lisamonkphotography.com
f [lisamonkphotography](https://www.facebook.com/lisamonkphotography)
i [lisamonkphotography](https://www.instagram.com/lisamonkphotography)

