



THE WEDDING GUEST LIST CHECKLIST

VISIONS EVENT STUDIO // CHICAGO, IL

PICK YOUR VENUE

Your venue is going to determine your guest list. If you have a massive, luxurious venue, then you will have a large guest list. But if you choose to go with a smaller venue, then you really need to decide who is crucial to the list.

DECIDE YOUR NUMBER

Now that you have your venue, you need a total. Adding or subtracting people from your guest list is the surest way to increase or decrease your wedding budget, so make sure you assess this carefully.

REMEMBER THE TRADITIONAL RULE

Roughly only 80% of those invited will actually attend - but don't put all your eggs in that basket! It doesn't always work out like that. But be sure to keep it in mind.

BREAK UP PERCENTAGES

Once you decide on your number of guests, 50% of that should go to you and your fiancé's guest list and then 25% to the bride's parents and 25% to the groom's.

CREATE YOUR A, B, C LIST

Create 3 tiers. Essential Family should be on your A List. Then your B List might consist of close friends and extended family. Then comes the C list, such as business partners or colleagues. This way you have many people to pick and pull from and a wide variety of options.

PLUS ONES?

If you choose to include a plus one, then your 50% of the guest list suddenly turns to 25%. But nowadays, most weddings are plus one included, so it is definitely something to consider.

CHOP IT DOWN IF NECESSARY

If you are over your 50% limit and not willing to increase your budget, start cutting people from the bottom. Ask yourself this: "Have I talked to this person consistently throughout the past year?"

GET ORGANIZED WITH A COLLABORATIVE SYSTEM

As a Visions bride, you will be given the opportunity of using our beloved wedding workspace to make organizing your guest list easy, organized, and clean. Using any sort of organization website will make your guest list stresses seem more put together.

FINALIZE IT

9 months before your wedding, you need to cut the cords with your guest list. Make it official. No changes! If you keep it going any longer than this, you are going to be second-guessing yourself, adding unnecessary people, and increasing your budget.