

## The Wedding Budget

Determine the amount you plan to spend on the wedding & reception. Below are the various components of the event. The number in parentheses is the *typical* percentage of the total budget allotted to that wedding component. However, each bride has different ideas of which wedding highlights are more important to her.

You may want to review these categories and alter the amount of allotted budget based on your priorities. For example, a full formal reception meal may not be a priority for you while having a more expensive dance band would fulfill your vision of the perfect wedding. Conversely, you may have always wanted a full formal sit down plated dinner for your reception and, having two left feet, want only simple background music. Evaluating your wedding priorities will allow you to modify the following traditional percentages.

### Reception (35%)

Includes fees for the site, food, drinks, party favors, gratuity

### Wedding Clothing & Accessories (10%)

Includes bride & groom's clothing, headpiece & veil, jewelry, shoes, hairdresser, makeup artist, manicure, pedicure.

### Photography (9%)

Includes engagement photos, wedding and reception photos, and albums

### Flowers (6%)

Brides bouquet, tossing bouquet, attendant bouquets, corsages, boutonnieres, ceremony flowers (altar, pews), head table, guest tables, buffet table, drink table, cake table, & cake

### Ceremony (5%)

Includes fees for the site, officiant, wedding accessories (guest book, pen, ring pillow, flower basket)

### Videography (5%)

Includes filming, photo montage, editing, titles, extra copies

### Music (5%)

Includes ceremony and reception music.

### Stationery (4%)

Includes invitations, programs, thank you notes, stamps, napkins/matchbooks, calligraphy.

### Parties (4%)

Rehearsal dinner, attendants luncheon

Miscellaneous (4%)

Wedding consultant, marriage license, newspaper announcements, gown preservation, bouquet preservation, and any legal fees.

Decorations (3%)

Centerpieces, balloons

Rental Items (3%)

Tables, chairs, linens, heaters, tent, dance floor

Gifts (3%)

Bride & groom gifts, attendant & usher gifts

Bakery (2%)

Includes wedding cake, grooms cake, delivery & setup, cutting, cake topper, knife, and toasting glasses.

Transportation (2%)

Limo fees, gratuity