

Timeline

Reception

Before Grand Entrance

- _____ Background music begins
- _____ Guests arrive (sign guest book, identify their seats via chart)
- _____ Cocktail hour (drinks & hors d'oeuvres served as guests mingle)
- _____ During cocktail hour, family and wedding party take formal photos

Grand Entrance

- _____ Family arrives to reception venue
- _____ MC directs guests to tables
- _____ MC announces Grand Entrance (wedding party, then Bride & Groom)

Dinner

- _____ MC announces dinner (guests are seated)
- _____ Father of the Bride gives welcome speech
- _____ Minister leads grace
- _____ Caterer serves dinner. (or MC directs each tables to buffet)
- _____ Caterer serves dessert, if scheduled, and champagne for toasting
- _____ First toast begins
- _____ Caterer clears tables

Dancing Begins

- _____ MC announces first dance for Bride and Groom
- _____ Father/Daughter & Mother/Son dance
- _____ Wedding Party dance
- _____ Dance floor is opened for all guests
- _____ Dancing throughout the Reception

Reception Events

- _____ Cake cutting by Bride and Groom
- _____ Other special dances (sweetheart dance, money dance, etc.)
- _____ Garter toss & bouquet toss
- _____ MC announces last call for the bar
- _____ MC announces last dance
- _____ MC announces Grand Exit
- _____ Guests depart
- _____ Caterer and venue staff begin clean up
- _____ Designated people gather wedding gifts, guest book, remaining favors, rented items, etc.