

Planningly Perfect

Written by By Ashley Gain

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With my two-year wedding anniversary just around the corner I was recently inspired to put back on my favorite outfit of all time: my wedding dress. While pulling the zipper up the small of my back, all that day's memories came rushing to me.

The first time I saw my husband standing at the end of the aisle, the perfectly colored flowers, the endearing toasts from my sisters, dancing into the night with my family and friends and getting to spend the rest of my life with my true love. It was truly the best day of my life.

But before the wedding day, before the rehearsal dinner, before the flowers were set on the tables, there was a lot of planning and time that went in to make my day perfect.

To a bride there is a lot of what feels like chaos and worrying about each and every detail during the planning process. Let me help you stop, take a moment and regain a little perspective with some ideas that can help you make your day planningly perfect.

Avoiding Wedding A.D.D.

The wedding market is flooded with amazing ideas from extremely talented people within the wedding industry. When you start to narrow down your wedding design remember go with your heart. Pick a theme, concept and colors that reflect both you and your fiancé and then build off of it.

Wedding magazines & blogs are the best places to go for inspiration but make sure you don't over load yourself with ideas. When you have a mental picture in mind of what you are looking for it is going to help weed-out other ideas that might end up causing some wedding design stress!

Trust the Pros

Hire a Wedding Coordinator that you can trust to help bring your wedding-day-dreams to life. They will keep you on time with your planning and help you stick to your theme and design concept.

Wedding Coordinators have the ability to refer you to exceptional vendors so you don't spend weeks combing through the ones that were not good fits. Let someone else take away the stress of planning so that you can take it in. You only get to plan your wedding once!

Plan a day to indulge

Most bride-to-bes take off the day to two before their wedding to complete their planning, tie up any little loose ends, and of course attend the rehearsal and rehearsal dinner.

Don't just rush through the days before with a list of to dos but take some time to sit back and relax. Give yourself an entire day to do some "girls only" indulging. Go to the spa, meet your girl friends for lunch, buy some cute outfits for the honeymoon or go watch a chick flick with your bridesmaids.

This will give you some much needed and deserved relaxation. After all it's one of the last single-girl days of your life!

Eat, Eat, Eat

You've heard the stories, the groom passes out during the ceremony, the bride feels cranky during pictures, or the first thing the newlyweds do post-reception is order room service in their \$500 a night honeymoon suite.

Prior to your wedding day delegate one person in your wedding party to not only make sure you have your favorite food while you are getting ready but that you eat it! Eating will help calm your nerves and give you the energy to enjoy your day.

The Happy Couple

More than likely, something will be different than expected on your day. The roses might not be the exact shade of coral you thought, your mom can't stop crying, your hair looks stunning but not the Sarah Jessica Parker look you were hoping for.

It's important that on your wedding day you keep in mind what is really truly important, the entire reason you have a wedding in the first place: to get married to your fiancé.

Your fiancé is about to become your husband, and you get to celebrate with the people who love you most in the world.

Your wedding day will go by too fast to worry about the small stuff. Take time to talk to your guests, dance with your bridesmaids, and of course make memories with your husband.

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Ashley Gain Weddings & Events

"Planning makes perfect" says event planner Ashley Gain, and we have to say, we agree. Gain promises to take you from conceptualization to realization of every detail you have in mind for your big day. She offers several tiers of planning for couples, so you can be as involved- or uninvolved- as you choose. www.ashleygain.com