



The day you've been waiting for has finally arrived - you're engaged!! Congratulations! Here are a few ideas to help you along the way.

Share the Exciting News

Now is the time to share this wonderful news with the VIP's in your life: parents, siblings, grandparents and best friends. All of your VIP's are going to be so happy that you may want to remind them that YOU want to be the one to share the news with everyone so...hush...until they see your social media post :)

Celebrate the Moment

Now that you are engaged a whirlwind of activity is going to take place. But remember to stop, enjoy this sweet time of just being engaged and go out on dates and have fun. Remember, through the whole planning process, to simply enjoy each other. I know it will seem easier said than done but, trust us, it's important!

Set a Timetable

As soon as you announce your engagement everyone will start asking you when the big day is. One of the most important things to do at this stage is to sit down and think of the time of year you would like to get married in - do you want a spring wedding when everything is just beginning to bloom or are you a cold weather couple who would love a winter wedding? There is no right or wrong answer here - it's your wedding and your choice!! So start dreaming!

Dream Up Your Style

This is the time for you to really think about what type of wedding you envision. Think about the things that are most important to you and your fiance - write them down! It will help keep you focused and remember what matters the most. When you think of your special day what do you see? How many guests to you want to invite - everyone you know or do you want to keep it small and intimate? Do you see yourself getting married inside or do you prefer an outdoor setting? Do you want to stay close or do you think a destination wedding might just be perfect for you? If you need inspiration you can check out Pinterest, wedding magazines and search for ideas on the internet.

Set Your Budget

This step is essential and will provide you with a realistic idea of what you can spend. It will effect every decision and purchase you make. Determine if you have any family members that will be contributing or if you and your fiance will be paying for the wedding. There are plenty of online wedding budge tools like this one from The Knot:

<https://www.theknot.com/wedding-budget/start>

Book Your Venue (and setting your date)

This is a where all the amazing moments will happen! This is where you will say "I Do" and where all of your portraits and candid moments will happen. This is where your storybook day unfolds and where your photographs will help you relive each and every moment! The venue will likely be one of your biggest expenses so make sure you visit several before signing a contract. Make sure you love everything about it - from the area where you and your fiance get ready to the ceremony site and, of course, to the reception celebration! If the venue has in-house caterers, make sure you go to a tasting to sample their menu. One of the most exciting parts of making this choice it that now you have your wedding date...yay!!

Secure your Photographer, Florist and DJ/Band

Your wedding day is one of the most important moments in your life. Our goal at Your Captivating Moments Photography is to capture your love story through timeless, classic images that you will treasure forever. Our calendar fills up quickly and it's not uncommon to have weddings scheduled a year in advance so once you've secured your venue and date, give us a call so we confirm if we are available! If we have your date available we would love to treat you to coffee and hear all about your wedding day and answer all of your questions. The floral design on your wedding day will set the mood of the day and is something you will remember forever. You will want to secure your florist well in advance as their calendars fill up fast as well. Lastly, find your DJ/Band quickly as they will be entertaining you and your guest throughout your entire reception! It's great to meet with them to talk about play lists and any special requests you may have.

Finding Your Wedding Dress

The internet will be your friend in narrowing down your likes and dislikes but the real fun will begin once you step foot in a bridal boutique! As you slip into each beautiful gown remember to consider the time of year you are getting married. Satin, silk and tulle are perfect year round! If you are getting married in the summer go with lightweight fabrics like chiffon, or organza and for cooler weather you can add a faux fur. Make sure that you walk around the bridal boutique as much as you can in your dress and actually sit while you have it on. Some are hard to walk in and some are hard to sit in, you will want to do both comfortably so you can fully enjoy your wedding day!

Draft a Guest List

By choosing your venue you determined what the maximum number of guests can be allowed at your wedding. Now is the time think about how large or small you would like your guests list to be. The smaller the guest list the more likely it is that you will have time to visit with each of them. But your goal might be to have a huge party of all your family and friends. Most caterers charge on a per-head basis so the number of guests you invite will greatly increase your expense so refer to your budget when making this decision.

I hope this information has been helpful to you! We would love to hear all about your upcoming wedding day! Give us call so we can find a time to meet and talk all about the fun details!!

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