Wedding Day Checklist

An hour-by-hour wedding day checklist covering morning prep, the ceremony, the reception, and the emergency kit.

Night Before and Early Morning

- [ ] Lay out attire, shoes, and accessories for everyone getting ready together.
- [ ] Charge all phones, cameras, and speakers fully.
- [ ] Confirm the morning timeline with the wedding party.
- [ ] Set out the rings, vows, and marriage license in one safe spot.
- [ ] Eat a real breakfast and stay hydrated.
  Meals often run late on a wedding day, so fuel up early.
- [ ] Steam or press any garments that wrinkled overnight.

Getting Ready

- [ ] Start hair and makeup on schedule, finishing with the couple.
- [ ] Play music and keep the mood relaxed in the getting-ready space.
- [ ] Capture detail shots of the dress, rings, and invitations.
- [ ] Help the couple into attire with time to spare.
- [ ] Pin boutonnieres and hand out bouquets before photos.
- [ ] Do a final mirror check and touch up before heading out.

Pre-Ceremony Logistics

- [ ] Confirm all vendors have arrived and are set up.
- [ ] Seat any guests who need early assistance or special seating.
- [ ] Hand the rings and license to the officiant or designated holder.
- [ ] Line up the processional and review the cue order.
- [ ] Distribute programs and direct guests to their seats.
- [ ] Take a quiet moment alone before walking down the aisle.

The Ceremony

- [ ] Start the processional on the agreed cue.
- [ ] Exchange vows and rings as planned.
- [ ] Sign the marriage license with your witnesses.
- [ ] Lead the recessional and gather the party for the exit.
- [ ] Move into family and couple portraits during cocktail hour.
  A shot list keeps group photos quick and complete.
- [ ] Send guests toward the reception with clear directions.

The Reception

- [ ] Coordinate the grand entrance with the DJ or band.
- [ ] Share the first dance and any parent dances.
- [ ] Cue toasts and confirm who is speaking and when.

- [ ] Open the meal service and make sure the couple actually eats.
- [ ] Cut the cake and start open dancing.
- [ ] Toss the bouquet or run any chosen traditions.
- [ ] Coordinate the send-off and gather personal items before leaving.

Emergency Kit and Essentials

- [ ] Pack safety pins, a sewing kit, and double-sided fashion tape.
- [ ] Include stain remover, blotting papers, and a lint roller.
- [ ] Carry pain relievers, bandages, and antacids.
- [ ] Add deodorant, breath mints, and extra makeup for touch-ups.
- [ ] Bring a phone charger, snacks, and bottled water.
- [ ] Tuck in flat shoes for dancing and a small cash reserve.
  Assign one person to carry the kit so it is always nearby.