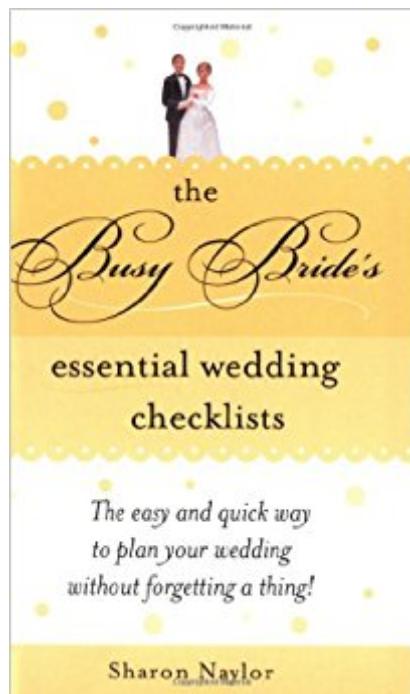


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# The Busy Bride's Essential Wedding Checklists



## **Synopsis**

In addition to her wedding planner, every bride needs this checklist book to keep track of the thousands of details of planning a wedding. The Busy Bride's Essential Wedding Checklists vastly outdoes its competition with attention to detail, complete question lists, more realistic suggestions and presenting topics to the bride in the order in which she will need them. The Busy Bride's Essential Wedding Checklists includes twenty-first century wedding options and brings technology to the forefront, knowing that 94 percent of brides and grooms use their computers to plan their weddings. These checklists go into depth, providing a detailed To-Do checklist, and very real and realistic inspiration in each category. This is a book for a savvy bride, providing jam-packed information in a useful, highly organizational tool that promises to keep her on track and in command of her planning process, and enjoying every minute of it.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Sharon Naylor is the bestselling and internationally-renowned author of over 35 wedding books, including The Complete Outdoor Wedding Planner, Bridesmaid on a Budget, The Mother of the Bride Book, Mother of the Groom, and many more award-winning titles. She has been featured in Bridal Guide, Southern Bride, Brides, InStyle Weddings, New York Weddings, Destination I Do, VOWS, and many other top bridal publications, as well as in Glamour, Redbook, Better Homes and Gardens, Ladies Home Journal, Woman's Day, The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times and others. She has appeared on Good Morning America, Martha Stewart Weddings satellite radio, the BBC, Lifetime, ABC News, and countless other media programs. She is a syndicated wedding

columnist and the green weddings expert at [GorgeouslyGreen.com](http://GorgeouslyGreen.com), as well as the Q&A maven at iVillage Weddings, [WeddingMapper.com](http://WeddingMapper.com) and more. She is also the destination wedding and honeymoon spokesperson for the Best-Of award-winning Rosewood Resorts Caneel Bay and Jumby Bay. Visit her website [sharonnaylor.net](http://sharonnaylor.net) and follow her on Twitter @sharonnaylorwed for her latest news and to potentially be featured in her upcoming wedding articles, blogs, and television segments.

**DJ or Band? Entertaining Your Crowd** You might already know whether you want a DJ or a band as your main entertainment for the reception. There are pros and cons to each-such as price package differences, hiring one person vs. hiring twelve and having to feed them as part of your catering bill. There are stylistic differences you may consider, such as the elegance of a twelve-piece orchestra vs. the hip, club-hopping environment provided by a great DJ. But first, think about which other kinds of musicians you might want for your cocktail hour or for other spotlight performances during your reception (and after-party!): Pianist Flutist Cellist Jazz band Ethnic musicians Harpist Trumpeter Guitarist (or guitarist duo) Singer(s)-soloist, a cappella group, Doo Wop &#x99;group, opera singers, etc. **Where to Find Musicians** You'll find great musicians, bands, and DJs through the usual channels of referrals, but you also could find the ideal performers at the most surprising of locations. Here's where to start your search and collect the business cards of experts you'll audition: Referrals from recently married friends and family. Expert referrals from your wedding coordinator and site managers. (They may have a concert pianist on staff!) Through a professional musician association. (Check out [www.musicintheair.com](http://www.musicintheair.com) if you're in the New York City area, and look for federations like these in your area.) Performances at bridal expos and showcases. Hotel lobbies. (Their pianists, harpists and cellists often work weddings as well.) Bookstores and cafes. (Guitarists and musicians often make extra money on the side by booking these appearances.) University performing arts departments or musical academies. (Your wedding would be great for a talented student's resume and portfolio!) Other (One bride found a terrific guitarist performing in a city park.) **Setting Up Auditions** Once you've narrowed down your list to possible experts who will play on your day, it's time to audition them. They'll come in, set up, and play for you the kinds of songs they'll perform on your wedding day, and you'll get to see them in action-not just for their talent, but for their sense of style and how they would interact with your crowd. Remember, DJs and band leaders can create a great atmosphere with their energy level, how they speak to your group, the way in which they take requests, and their general friendliness. So if that DJ seems to be a pompous, self-important jerk, cross him off your list. **Special Songs to Be Played:** Here is where you'll

record any special songs you'd definitely like played at your celebration:Cocktail hour:As the wedding party enters the room:As bride and groom enter the room: First dance song: Father-daughter dance song: Mother-son dance song: Spotlight dances by request:During the bouquet toss: During the garter removal: During the cake cutting: As we make our exit: Additional party songs we love:For Each Musician You Hire:Make sure you have a rock-solid contract with all details spelled out. Record when deposits and final payments are due, the exact hours they are to perform, and you can even write into your contract what you want them to wear (as in, tuxedos to match your crowd, all-black outfits, no sequin-studded jackets.)Bridal Luncheons and BrunchesUse this worksheet to share your preferences, or to make your own final plans for the party:Sample Ideas:&#x95; Lunch out at a fabulous restaurant, eating al fresco on their garden terrace.&#x95; An elegant brunch at a restaurant or hotel, with a lavish buffet spread, free champagne, and a pianist providing the mood music.&#x95; Breakfast at home, with bagels and paninis-plus an assortment of fillings and toppings-on the do-it-yourself menu.&#x95; Afternoon tea at a restaurant or hotel's well-appointed lobby.&#x95; An excursion to a cultural restaurant, such as Thai food, Indian food, Mexican, Japanese, German, etc.Date:Time:Location:Location website:Site manager's name:Site manager's contact info:Theme or style:Who's hosting this party:Dress code:RSVP date:Invitation plans:Invitation send-by

This book covers every little detail to planning a wedding in checklist style. When you get all the checks in the box, you will have the wedding of your dreams!

There were a lot of lists in this book... too many actually. I'm a serious list person and really thought this book would help me to be efficient, but so many of the items on each list were irrelevant that it was more time consuming than anything else to sift through to the relevant ones. The overall, high-level to do lists were fine, but you could easily find those on any decent wedding planning

website like theknot.com.

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