

Planning Date Night

Deal Breakers! Wedding Budget Maker

Creating a budget is vital for booking vendors, buying decorations, and staying sane during the planning process.

Before You Budget

- Prioritize
 - Come up with a list of must haves for your wedding day. Circle the ones you share and talk about the ones you can compromise on.

Partner 1:	Partner 2:

- Determine Income Source
 - Are you getting financial help from family?
 - If so, who is paying for what?
- Make a List
 - Write down a comprehensive list of all possible expenses so you able to assign a general budget for each item.
 - List items can include DJ, rings, marriage certificate, etc.
 - Create a line item for "extras" this will cover any unexpected costs and emergencies.
- Talk about Ways to Save
 - List out items you can compromise on and things that can be done for less.
 - DIY signage, virtual invites, renting or buying used decor.



Trademark Pro Tip!

Resale pages are a great place to find beautiful decor pieces that have only been used once. You can even recover some of your budget post-wedding by selling your items!

- Taper your guest list.
 - Take a look at your guest list at decide who should make the cut.
 - A helpful question to ask: Would I take them out to dinner?
- Set an Absolute Limit.
 - Create a limit for your overall budget that you cannot and will not go over for any reason.

Creating Your Budget

Now you can work your way backwards and create a detailed spending checklist! Let’s make a budget and account for your priorities. If your heart is set on a specific photographer, you can save by limiting how many types of liquor you serve at the bar. Or if your designer wedding gown is non-negotiable, consider arranging the flowers on your own. It’s about figuring out what matters most and planning early, so you can get everything you’re wishing for on your wedding day.



Trademark Pro Tip!

Organize your budget on elements that are important to you. This is a suggested guide showing industry standard information and ranges only. It’s your budget and your day!

Category	Recommended Budget Percentage	Your Budget Amount
Trademark Venues ● Ceremony Space ● Reception Space ● Wedding Planning Team ● Optional Décor ● Catering ● Security ● Bartending Service	40% - 60%	
Entertainment ● DJ ● Live Music (string quartets, acoustic guitar, etc.) ● Photobooth ● Performers (magicians, painters, etc.)	10% - 15%	
Cameras ● Photographers ● Videographers ● Content Creators	10% - 20%	
Beverages ● Alcoholic ● Non-Alcoholic	2% - 20%	

Category	Recommended Budget Percentage	Your Budget Amount
Décor ● Florals ● Rentals	10% - 20%	
Desserts / Snacks ● Cake ● Dessert Bar ● Late Night Appetizers	3%	
Transportation ● Shuttles ● Getaway Vehicle	3%	
Stationary ● Save the Dates ● Invitations ● Thank You Cards ● Place Cards ● Signage	5%	
Attire ● Hair ● Makeup ● Outfits ● Shoes ● Jewelry	5%	
Other ● ● ● ●	5%	
Total Budget:		