



# Mrs. H.'s Event Planning Tips

Mrs. H. has been making dreams come true since 1980. In her role of planner, she has served as trusted advisor, confidante, counselor, and family mediator. From multi-cultural weddings, conferences, proms, Sweet 16s, Bat Mitzvahs, movie and film shoots to festivals with more than 5,000 guests, Mrs. H. has planned – and seen - it all. To date, she has made more than one million dreams come true! Fortunately for the rest of us, this qualified expert enjoys bestowing her best practices for successful event planning.

## February - Wedding Planning Tips

With February being the month of love, how fitting to share my tips on wedding planning - my personal favorite!

This is one of the most exciting times of your life – and rightfully so! Being engaged is such a euphoric experience, but it’s also a time for remaining organized as you plan your big day. Following are my suggestions for prioritizing your to do list so you spend more time floating and less time stressing:

1. Know your budget! This is absolutely the most important step to start with – it’s your foundation for subsequent planning. Without it, you’ll become frustrated as you step back to rethink everything rather than make progress. I always suggest putting together a detailed spreadsheet so you can easily add and change line items. This has many benefits: you’ll have a quick visual of individual and total costs as well as a checklist. Here’s a sample that might help you get started:

My Wedding!			
	Cost per item	Count	Total
Wedding gown	\$700.00	1	\$700
Flowers			
Entertainment			
Invitations			
Thank you notes			
Photographer			
Videographer			
Favors			
Venue	\$100	200	\$20,000
Limosuine			
Rehearsal dinner			
Honeymoon venue			
Honeymoon transportation			
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$20,700</b>

2. Select the date. Select the date so you can work backwards from there. Having the date is helpful because it serves as a timeline to help you calendar events, such as finalizing wedding colors, dress fittings, parties, sending invitations, creating a registry, etc. Are you starting to see how creating the spreadsheet is a helpful exercise?

3. Create and manage your guest list. Of course you want to invite everyone, but keep in mind all venues charge per person. And as you begin visiting different venues, be sure to ask for the total price per person price that includes tax and gratuity.

4. Select the venue. If you want a fairytale wedding, we recommend the Grand Prospect Hall – a former opera house built in 1892 that features all of the exquisite details expected of such a historic treasure! Regardless of venue, each charge different rates depending on the season, day, and time. Experience our charm: [Take our virtual tour](#) or [visit our photo gallery](#).

These four steps should keep you on a blissful path all the way to the time you're sending thank you notes to your happy guests!