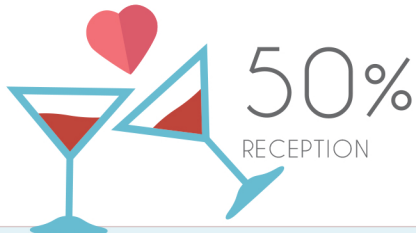


CASH CONTROL

Your Budget \$ _____

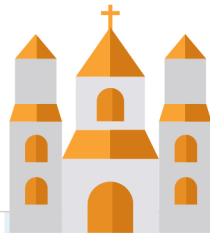
If the two of you are paying for your own wedding (which more and more couples are), you might want to head to your marriage counseling classes before you tackle this one. Setting a budget is easy, sticking to it is another matter altogether. Even if your families are going to assist with paying for your big day, you should be respectful of everyone's budgetary limits.

Here is a list of the most common items you will need to pay for and a suggested percentage for each category. This is a flexible list and you may decide to spend more on one thing and less on another based on what is most important to you for your big day.



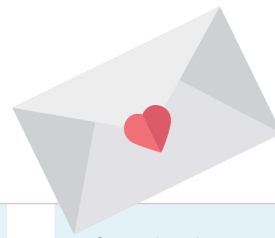
50%
RECEPTION

Venue fees, rentals (tables, chairs, linens, tents, dancefloors), catering, bar, cake, decorations, lighting, band/DJ



10%
CEREMONY

Site fee, officiant fee, bridal bouquet, bridesmaids bouquets, boutonnieres, corsages, other floral/decoration (altar arrangements, candelabra, unity candle, pew markers, aisle runner), musicians.



2%
STATIONERY

Save-the-date cards, invitations and reply cards, programs, thank you notes, postage.



12%
ATTIRE

Gown (don't forget alterations), veil, bridal accessories, hair and makeup, groom's tux, groom's accessories (cuff links, studs, shoes, etc.), rings



1%
TRANSPORTATION

Limo/for bride and groom, limo/for bridal party, transportation for out of town guests, (Most limos only carry about 8 people and most stretch Hummers only carry 10 to 12). If you have a large party, you may want to consider a party bus or running a shuttle. There are economical options for both. Be sure to read the transportation service's contract VERY closely because they are sticklers for overtime and you will be charged.



10%
PHOTOGRAPHY



1%
PLANNER



1%
OTHER

Welcome gifts for out of town guests, favors for reception guests, bridal party gifts.

FEELING NERVOUS OR HAVING STICKER SHOCK?

Changing your perspective can help. If you consider what you spend on a night out for dinner, drinks and entertainment, your per person cost is either about the same or a little lower. And remember, YOU are in control of your spending and the easiest place to save money is to be ruthless with your guest list!