



Supergroom How-to's

Traditionally brides get all the attention and grooms sit on the sidelines. Soon to be husbands can start the marriage off on the right foot by participating in the wedding planning.

Typically brides already know what they want for their wedding, stemming from childhood dreams. While the bride may have a clearer picture of what she wants than the groom, it doesn't have to be a one-man operation. If he's not the most aesthetically minded guy, it's okay to leave flowers, wedding favors and decorations to the bride. However, there are plenty of tasks that the groom can handle and some are specific to the groom. Here's a quick list of responsibilities that will score some points with the bride:

- Choose best man and groomsmen
- Help select attire for men in the bridal party
- Have groomsmen measured for tuxedos early
- Hire a photographer and/or videographer
- Mail out save-the-dates and/or invitations
- Arrange transportation to the ceremony for father of the bride and bridal party
- Arrange transportation for entire wedding party to the reception.
- Arrange accommodations for out-of-town guests
- Purchase gift for the groomsmen gifts
- Plan the rehearsal dinner
- Prepare a toast for the rehearsal dinner

They are fairly painless ways to arrange major parts of the wedding experience and avoid putting all the pressure on the bride. As the groom, it's important to handle these responsibilities early to avoid mishaps. Clearly communicate with the bride on the progress and completion of these tasks. Keeping her in the loop will assure her that these responsibilities are progressing and paving the way to a successful wedding day.

Major decisions like budget, wedding size, whether it will be a religious ceremony or figuring out a date and location are things that should be decided together. Sit down together and talk these things through to see what each has in mind. When decisions have been made, this is the time for the groom to make bookings and allow the bride to handle the pretties.

As a groom, there's a multitude of tasks to check off the list. However, if the groom only had one job throughout the entire process, it would be this: no matter how crazy things get, never forget that he and the bride love each other and that the hectic preparation period is just one stop on the road to a life together as one. Getting involved in the marriage from day one is a great sign of things to come and is sure to make the bride glad she picked him!

Stoneleigh Event Consultant Meredith Thomas is available for additional planning services on a fee basis. Meredith has many years of experience planning special events and will work with you to create the wedding of your dreams. Contact Meredith at mthomas@stoneleighgolf.com to learn more.