

The Wedding Plan

Down the Aisle in 10 Simple Steps



Welcome to The "Down The Aisle in 10 Simple Steps" Guide

You're about to discover the same planning system I've spent 20 years perfecting through hundreds of real weddings.

This isn't another wedding checklist you'll forget about or advice you'll find on Pinterest.

It's the proven step-by-step process I use with my own clients to help them avoid expensive mistakes, stay organized, make confident decisions, and enjoy planning their wedding.

If you're ready to stop feeling overwhelmed and start planning with clarity, you're in the right place.

I'm so excited to share this guide with you.

Let's get you down the aisle—in 10 simple steps.

Happy Planning!

Sandy

"Stay calm, be organized and make conscious decisions."

Down the Aisle in 10 Simple Steps

This is your roadmap

- [ ] **Master Your Wedding Budget**
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- [ ] **Lock it Down: Your Wedding Date and Venue, Sealed and Signed**
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The Wedding Plan with Sandy Stringer



How to start your wedding planning journey?

You need a to do list.

Some of your wedding to dos are connected. If you don't know how many guests you are going to invite, then you can't start looking for a wedding venue because you may not have enough space.
You need to be aware of expenses and when you don't have an overview of what things will cost, you can quickly run into a dead end street where you can't cancel already reserved services or venues and you end up stuck spending more money than you have available.
Create a budget, make a guest list, set a date.
Do your research, hire your wedding professionals wisely. Read the reviews, compare pricing information, ask what is included and what not, speak to them, meet them and follow your instincts.
Be happy with your wedding attire. Once you purchased your outfit, stop looking, new trends come out all the time, be confident in your decisions.
Celebrate the people around that uplift you. They will be the ones to cheer you on from the sidelines, keep the excitement going and take over some tasks to keep you grounded.
Timing is everything. Make memories, make your day flow and listen to the professionals. They have your best interest at heart.
Keep your guests informed, send date savers, make a website, send invitations and check off your to dos as you plan your wedding.

"The magic is in the details, take them seriously, create a vision, do you!"



Stay on the right path.

You will need more than one to do list.

Be informed when you finalize your wedding venue selection.
Is it easy to get there?
Do you have a back up plan in case it rains and the ceremony is planned for the outdoors?
Are hotels close by for your out of town guests?
Is spring the best month for you to get married? Would it make sense to have your wedding on a Friday or even Thursday, to save money?

Make decisions that are right for you.

Most couples can't hire all of the professional services without thinking about costs. But you can identify what is most important for you on your wedding day.

What are your top 3 experiences?

Do you care most about your photos? The video?
Your Dress? The food? The band?
the flowers? The Venue?
Once you have identified your top 3, it will help you to stay within budget or choose less expensive options when it comes to deciding on invitations, flowers, rentals, your cake and all of the other elements of your big day.

Be organized. Make lists.

Your wedding will include a lot of details, start a google doc and note decision dates, payment dates, contact information and other necessary details all in one place. Come back to this page many times to update your information. You will be glad to have all available information easily accessible.

"Wedding Planning is not rocket-science but it does need your undivided attention"



Master Your Wedding Budget

Here are your key takeaways:

- Guest count = biggest budget driver
- Food, drinks, and rentals grow with your guest list
- Lock in your top 3 priorities
- Focus spending on what matters most
- Invest smartly, save creatively
- Spend on lasting experiences
- Start early & stay flexible
- Research costs upfront, and adjust as you go.



Your Wedding Guest List without the Drama

Here are your key takeaways:

- Start your guest list early, considering your venue's capacity and budget, and keep a small buffer for last-minute changes.
- Be clear and kind about plus-ones and family additions—include your parents in the planning to avoid drama.
- Decide if children will be invited and plan activities to keep them entertained.
- Collect full contact info (mailing addresses, emails, phone numbers) early—don't rely on just social media handles!



Lock it Down: Your Wedding Venue and Date, Sealed and Signed

Here are your key takeaways:

- Choose a wedding date that works well with your schedules, guests' availability, and seasonal weather—plus always have a backup plan for unexpected changes.
- Pick a venue that fits your budget, offers the essentials you need, and provides clear info on what's included versus what's extra.
- Consider guest comfort and logistics—think accessibility, accommodations, parking, and any special discounts to make the day easier and more enjoyable for everyone.



Gather Your Squad

Here are your key takeaways:

- Make it memorable: Plan a heartfelt way to ask your bridal party—whether a special dinner, personalized gifts, or a nostalgic get-together
- Set clear expectations: Communicate details about attire, contributions (hair, makeup, parties), and how involved you want them to be
- Embrace the journey: Remember, bridal parties bring fun, support, and sometimes surprises—be flexible and enjoy the moments together!



Dress the Part and Seal the Sparkle

Here are your key takeaways:

- Start Early & Budget Wisely: Order your dress and wedding bands at least 6 months in advance, and don't forget to include time and money for alterations, accessories, and possible delays.

- Stay True to Your Style (but Be Open!): Know what you like, but trust the pros to guide you. Try on different styles and enjoy the experience—this is your time to shine.

- Prioritize Comfort & Practicality: Think shoes that work with your venue, dresses that fit your day, and rings that reflect your everyday style. It's about looking and feeling your best—without the stress.



Crafting a Wedding Vision that is Uniquely You

Here are your key takeaways:

- Design with Intention: Choose meaningful elements that reflect your style, not Pinterest perfection—focus on what feels true to you
- Details Matter (But Don't Overdo It): From florals and lighting to menus and cake toppers, keep your look cohesive, fun, and within budget
- Inspiration Over Imitation: Use Pinterest and Instagram for ideas, not pressure—your wedding should feel personal, not like someone else's styled shoot



Your Wedding Crew: Who You need and How to Choose Them

Here are your key takeaways:

- Trust Your Gut & Ask Questions: If something feels off, it probably is. Ask about pricing, backup plans, and exactly what's included before you book.
- Do Your Research & Compare Wisely: Read reviews, check websites, and make sure you're comparing services apples-to-apples—not just by price.
- Choose Vendors Who Feel Right for You: This is your dream team! Pick pros who make you feel seen, heard, and supported every step of the way.



It's Getting Real: Time to Tell Your Guests

Here are your key takeaways:

- Send save-the-dates early—as soon as your date and venue are set, especially for traveling guests.
- Mail invitations on time—3 months before if no save-the-dates, or 6–8 weeks after save-the-dates. Set RSVP deadlines 3–4 weeks before the wedding.
- Include all essential info—dress code, accommodations, event schedule, transportation, plus-one and kids policies, and direct guests to your wedding website for extras.



Map Out Your Stress-Free Wedding Day

Here are your key takeaways:

- Plan your photo sessions thoughtfully — consider doing portraits before the ceremony and including sunset shots— to maximize time with guests and capture beautiful memories.
- Communicate your entire timeline clearly with all vendors, confirming arrival times, hours booked, and responsibilities for setup and breakdown.
- Assign someone to manage post-event details like taking home gifts and décor to ensure nothing is left behind and your day ends smoothly.



Stay Organized and Stress-Free

Here are your key takeaways:

- Set yourself monthly goals and check them off your to do list
- Include your support team and delegate tasks
- Keep yourself on track with payments to vendors
- Communicate your expectations to all involved
- Make selections that are right for you
- Don't let stress get to you, take breaks
- Do your research to make confident decisions
- Prepare final payments and tips in advance
- Give yourself space to enjoy your wedding weekend.



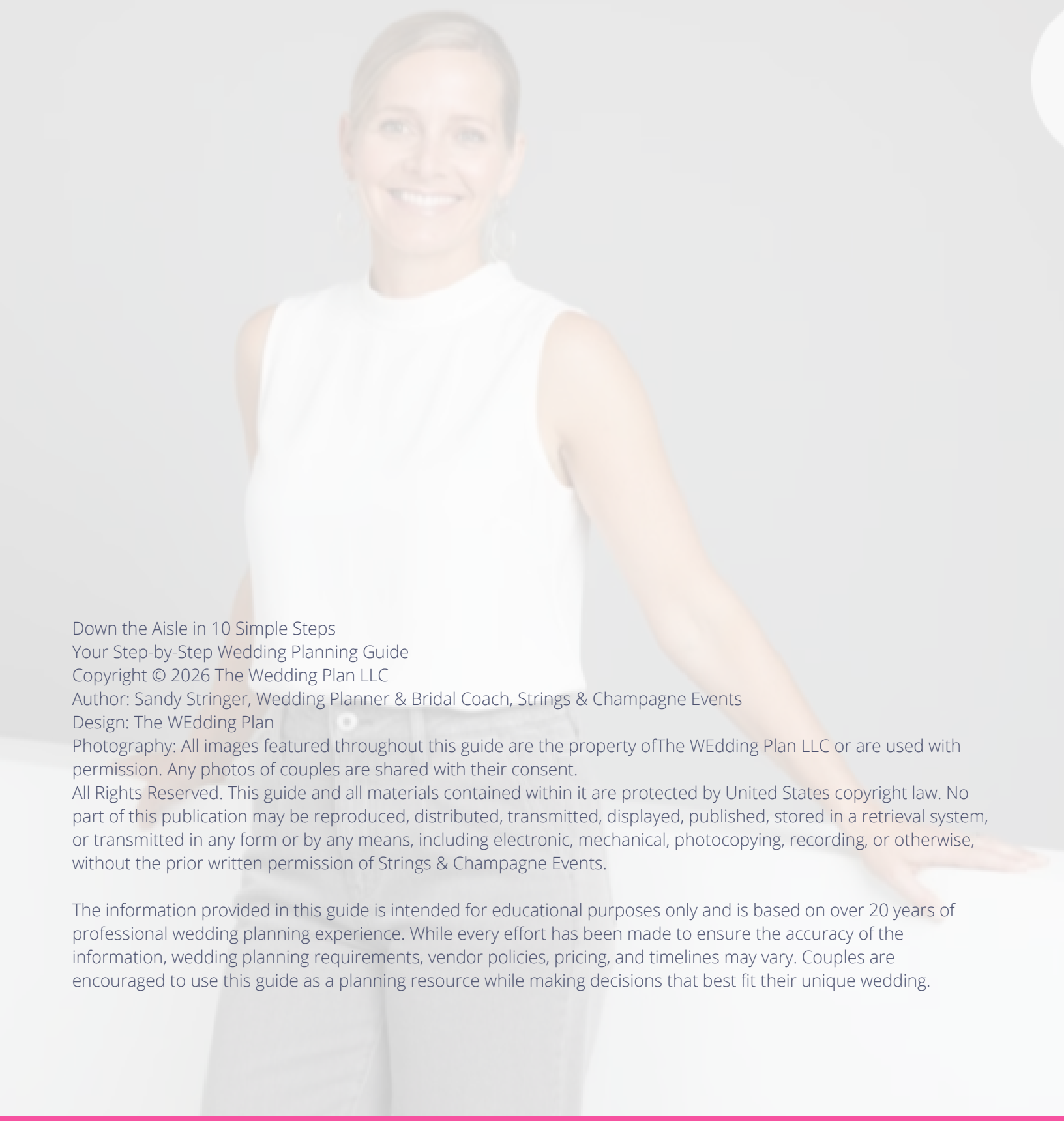
Ready to Plan Your Wedding with Confidence?

CLICK HERE

Join hundreds of couples who have benefited from professional wedding planning advice and learn the exact framework that has helped create successful weddings for more than two decades.

Happy Planning!

Sandy



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Your Step-by-Step Wedding Planning Guide
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Design: The WEdding Plan
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The information provided in this guide is intended for educational purposes only and is based on over 20 years of professional wedding planning experience. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information, wedding planning requirements, vendor policies, pricing, and timelines may vary. Couples are encouraged to use this guide as a planning resource while making decisions that best fit their unique wedding.