

Australian Wedding Checklist

Checklist · 45 items · 10 sections

Plan your Australian wedding from BDM registration to the reception, all legal steps included.

Open the editable version online:

<https://genechecklist.com/checklist/australian-wedding-checklist>

12+ MONTHS BEFORE

- Set your total wedding budget
HIGH
- Choose your wedding date
HIGH
- Consider Australian seasons: December to March is hot summer, June to August is cooler
- Book your wedding venue: popular venues in AU book 12-18 months ahead
HIGH
- Book a registered marriage celebrant (most Australian weddings use a civil celebrant)
HIGH
- Confirm your chosen celebrant is registered with the Attorney-General's Department
HIGH
- Create your guest list
HIGH

9-12 MONTHS BEFORE

- Begin wedding dress or suit shopping
HIGH
- Book photographer and videographer
HIGH
- Book caterer or confirm venue catering
HIGH
- Book live band or DJ for reception
HIGH
- Book honeymoon: consider Great Barrier Reef, Whitsundays, Bali, Fiji or Europe
HIGH
- Purchase wedding insurance (recommended for Australian weddings)
HIGH

- Choose wedding party: bridesmaids, groomsmen, flower girl, page boy

HIGH

- Set up a wedding website and gift registry (Myer, David Jones, or cash fund)

AT LEAST 1 MONTH BEFORE

- Complete Notice of Intended Marriage (NOIM) with your celebrant: must be at least 1 month before wedding, no more than 18 months before

HIGH

- Provide celebrant with required identity documents (birth certificate, passport, or citizenship papers)

HIGH

- If previously married, provide divorce certificate or death certificate to celebrant

HIGH

6-9 MONTHS BEFORE

- Send save-the-dates (6-9 months before)

HIGH

- Book florist

HIGH

- Order wedding cake

HIGH

- Book hair and makeup artists

HIGH

- Order bridesmaid dresses and groomsmen attire

HIGH

- Book wedding transport (Kombi van, vintage car, or limousine)

4-6 MONTHS BEFORE

- Plan hens night / bucks night

- Send formal wedding invitations (4-6 months before)

HIGH

- Arrange evening-only invitations if applicable

- Purchase wedding rings

HIGH

- Plan ceremony vows with celebrant: personalised vows are popular in Australia

HIGH

- Plan ceremony readings and order of service

2-4 MONTHS BEFORE

- Finalise RSVPs and confirm headcount with caterer
HIGH
- Create seating plan
HIGH
- Plan speeches: traditionally father of bride, groom, best man

1-2 MONTHS BEFORE

- Confirm all vendor details and share final timeline
HIGH
- Final dress / suit fitting
HIGH

WEEK OF

- Attend rehearsal with celebrant and wedding party
HIGH
- Prepare cash tip envelopes for vendors

WEDDING DAY

- Sign the Marriage Register at the ceremony in front of two witnesses and celebrant
HIGH

AFTER WEDDING

- Celebrant will register your marriage with the Births, Deaths and Marriages (BDM) registry of your state/territory
HIGH
- Apply for official Marriage Certificate from your state's BDM registry (usually available 2-6 weeks after)
HIGH
- Update driver's licence (Service NSW, VicRoads, Transport WA, TMR QLD etc.)
HIGH
- Update passport (if changing name)
HIGH
- Update Medicare card, Centrelink, and ATO records
HIGH
- Update superannuation beneficiary nominations
HIGH

Send handwritten thank-you cards to all guests and vendors

HIGH