

Backyard Wedding Checklist

Checklist · 32 items · 12 sections

Host a beautiful backyard wedding, tents, power, parking, and cleanup all covered.

Open the editable version online:

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

PLANNING FOUNDATIONS

- Assess backyard size and confirm it can accommodate your guest count
HIGH
- Research local permits required for large outdoor gatherings
HIGH
- Check local noise ordinances and event end-time restrictions
HIGH
- Notify neighbors in advance and invite them if possible

TENT AND STRUCTURE

- Rent a large tent or marquee for weather protection
HIGH
- Arrange tent lighting (chandeliers, string lights, uplighting)
HIGH
- Rent a dance floor or wooden platform for outdoor reception area
- Rent wedding arch or ceremony altar structure
HIGH

FURNITURE AND RENTALS

- Rent tables, chairs, and linens in your chosen color scheme
HIGH

FACILITIES

- Rent portable restroom units or luxury restroom trailer
HIGH
- Confirm home plumbing can handle additional guests if using indoor bathrooms

UTILITIES

- Arrange power generator or confirm power source for DJ, lighting, catering

HIGH

- Hire a licensed electrician to check power supply for event loads

LOGISTICS

- Plan parking strategy (street parking, valet, rented lot, or shuttle)

HIGH

- Arrange shuttle service from parking to home if space is limited
- Set up garbage and recycling stations throughout the yard

CATERING

- Book caterer that brings their own equipment, warming trays, and setup

HIGH

- Arrange mobile bar service with licensed bartenders

YARD PREPARATION

- Schedule professional pest control treatment 1 week before wedding

HIGH

- Have lawn mowed, edged, and looking pristine 2 days before

HIGH

- Plant or rent potted flowers and greenery for decoration
- Set up outdoor garden path lighting or luminaries

LAYOUT

- Arrange cocktail hour zone separate from dinner area
- Create clear signage for parking, restrooms, and ceremony area
- Set up kids' play area if families with children are attending

AUDIO/VISUAL

- Set up outdoor sound system and test it before the event

HIGH

- Arrange outdoor lighting for evening hours (spotlights, string lights)

HIGH

CONTINGENCY

- Plan weather contingency if tent is not 100% waterproof

HIGH

- Have indoor backup plan for extreme heat or cold

AFTER EVENT

- Hire a cleanup crew for after the event

HIGH

- Confirm rental pickup times for all hired equipment

HIGH

- Return yard to original condition as quickly as possible