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Wedding Planning on the Web

By Joel Walsh

Planning a wedding? Whether you're a wedding planning pro or a do-it-yourself bride, I know one thing you don't: you aren't using the web enough.

The web has become the dominant way to shop for electronics, travel, cars, housing, even education. But you can just as easily use the web to find caterers, event halls, dressmakers, DJs, photographers, videographers—even a wedding planner if you decide to take a break from doing it all yourself.

Here's how the web helps you plan a wedding:

- * Local search. No, you don't have to sort through vendors from here to Timbuktu. Local search technology now makes finding someone downtown as easy as finding someone anywhere. If you use Google, you only have to enter a place name along with your keyword to get a list of local businesses. Try "wedding planner fargo" (without the quotes) and see for yourself.
- * Real people. The people you are buying from online aren't "virtual." They're as real as the people you'd meet in person. In fact, especially with local business, the website is just a first contact. You can always call them up or arrange to meet in person.
- * Dedicated wedding information websites. There are now websites solely devoted not just to planning a wedding, but to catering, wedding cakes, even dying shoes for weddings. These same websites often have directories of wedding vendors arranged by location.
- * Message boards and customer reviews. You wouldn't buy a book on Amazon without reading a review a customer had left. Now you don't have to buy decorations that way, either.

Web Wedding Planning Alternatives

The web has a lot of advantages over most other ways of discovering and evaluating wedding vendors. Just look at what your other options are:

Wedding Planning on the Web

- * Recommendations from friends and colleagues. How much do your friends and colleagues really know about wedding planning? Very often, one person's idea of wedding elegance is any sane person's idea of bad, bad taste. Just look at anyone's wedding pictures. You can't trust this decision to your friends. This is your big day. It deserves a little research.
- * Bridal fairs. If the vendors at bridal fairs were so great, why would they be trawling for business? Do you want an in-demand wedding vendor, or one who has to set up a booth and hand out free samples?
- * Yellow pages. I remember the time my mother used the Yellow Pages to find a contractor to install some new doors. During the holiday season, the draft would blow out the candles in the window if they weren't electric. Anyone can get in the yellow pages—and believe me, anyone does.

Web Wedding Planning Advantages

- * Selection. No offline source will ever have as many options, whether it's songs for the wedding reception or fabrics for the gowns.
- * Ready information. As soon as you see an option you'd like to consider, you can find out all you'd ever like to know as easily as copying and pasting into Google.
- * It's All in Writing. By their very nature, websites put a lot of information in writing. The written policies regarding shipping, warranties (if any), returns, and service will almost always be easy to access. (Hint: look for links to policies at the bottom of each web page.) The fact that everything is written down gives the vendor much less wiggle room to change the terms of the deal. Almost as good as the paper trail is the photograph trail—at least when it comes to merchandise. Save any relevant images along with the text.
- * Better Business Bureau's Convenient BBBOnline. On the web, it's easy to check for Better Business Bureau membership. The site should have the BBBOnline logo displayed prominently on the order page. Click on the logo to be taken to the BBB.org profile for that business. The BBB page should say that business is a member in good standing. With the BBBOnline, the Bureau's ecommerce program, you can dispute a sale without having to go to the local Bureau where the store is headquartered.

In short, the web makes it much easier to get a perfect wedding.

About the author: Joel Walsh is a freelance writer. Check out this website for wedding planning information and to find wedding vendors:

<http://www.bridalocity.com>

?%20planning%20weddings

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Wedding Planning Are Your Steps To Heaven

By Paul Thomas

Wedding planning, do you actually need it? Before you stand in front of the minister, there are thousands of things to get done. There are to be made decisions concerning wedding favors, wedding rings, wedding invitations and wedding accessories. And what about your honeymoon? Where should you travel to? Before anything else you must start out with getting your wedding invitations send I good time before the wedding takes place. You can find information about wedding invitations online, both concerning layout and wording.

You got to think planning. Try a search on the internet for wedding planning. You can find information in abundance. Anything you need is to find: wedding flowers, wedding music, wedding photographers, etc.

You need to make a very detailed wedding plan because if the right things are not done on the right moment you will get sidetracked and loose control. Get the wedding process down on paper step by step and stay on top of the situation. With a plan in your hand you can relax and even enjoy the preparation for your grand wedding day.

If you own a bridal notebook you can keep track of your process from start to finish. Begin your wedding planning several months before the actual wedding to make sure you got time to correct any mistakes that can happen. The first important step is to get those wedding invitations send. Always think ahead. For example: if you have ordered your wedding invitations at some shop, it can take longer to receive them than you think.

If you are forced to make wedding planning on a budget, and need to save money on your shopping. You might consider making your own wedding invitations, maybe even make the wedding flowers yourself, and cut back on expectation to where your wedding party is held. The great thing about doing those things yourself is that your wedding will get a more personal touch, which you can not buy. Great idea if you want a unique and special wedding.

Wedding planning is the most important step to stay on track from start to finish. Do not be nonchalant about the wedding planning issue. Make sure your special day will be perfect.

Thank you for your time.

Find much more wedding information and mostly about wedding planning at

<http://www.wedding-planning-e.com/index.html>

. Check it out!



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