Wedding Planning
An Essential Guide!

by Wayne Goodman



Let the Wedding Planning Begin!

Planning a wedding can be exciting, overwhelming, great fun and occasionally enough to make you want to throw your wedding planner out of the window!

There are decisions to make, suppliers to book and seemingly a thousand little details to think about, but don't forget to enjoy the process.

There is something incredibly exciting about watching all those individual ideas gradually come together to create YOUR wedding day.

Think about:

- What you want your wedding to look like, but more importantly, think about how you want it to feel.
- What sort of atmosphere do you want to create?
- What experience do you want your guests to have?

One of my biggest pieces of advice is to make use of the knowledge and experience of your wedding suppliers.

Ask questions, pick their brains and don't be afraid to ask for suggestions.

Between them, they will have experienced hundreds, if not thousands, of weddings and may well come up with an idea that you hadn't even considered.

Remember, you're not just booking their services, you're also gaining access to their experience!

I've included a handy Wedding Planning Checklist to help you stay organised, keep track of your progress and hopefully avoid those last-minute moments of, "Oh no, we forgot about that!"

You can download it here:

https://www.waynegoodman.co.uk/Wed-checklist

Choosing Your Wedding Venue.
From grand stately homes and beautiful country estates to rustic barns, village halls and even tipis, there are so many fantastic options when it comes to choosing your wedding venue.

Don't just think about how stunning the venue looks in the photographs. Think about how your day will flow, how your guests will interact and how the venue will work with everything you have planned.

Over the years, I've had the pleasure of performing at some incredible wedding venues, each with its own personality, charm and character.

Here are a few venues that I regularly work at and are well worth exploring as you begin your wedding planning journey.

The Riverside Hotel.
Lanwades Hall.
Swynford Manor.
Hockwold Hall.
The White Hart, Gt Yeldham.



My Recommended Wedding Suppliers

Over the years, I've had the pleasure of working alongside some fantastic wedding professionals.

You can check out my dream team and my favourite suppliers here

https://www.waynegoodman.co.uk/wayne-recommends

When it comes to wedding planning, there is so much more to think about than simply booking a venue, choosing a dress and ordering a cake.

1. The Wedding Essentials
- Setting a realistic wedding budget
- Choosing your wedding date
- Creating your guest list
- Choosing your wedding venue
- Legal requirements and registering your marriage
- Wedding insurance
- Understanding supplier contracts, deposits and cancellation policies

2. Choosing Your Wedding Suppliers
- Photographers and videographers
- Magicians and wedding entertainment
- Wedding hosts and toastmasters
- DJs, live bands and musicians
- Florists and venue stylists
- Wedding cake makers
- Caterers
- Hair and make-up artists
- Wedding transport
- Photo booths and caricaturists

3. Planning the Wedding Day

- Creating a realistic wedding day timeline
- The arrival of your guests
- The wedding ceremony
- The drinks reception
- Group photographs
- The wedding breakfast
- The speeches
- The room turnaround
- The arrival of evening guests
- Cutting the cake and the first dance

4. Looking After Your Guests

- Keeping guests entertained during quieter periods
- Breaking the ice between guests
- Entertaining children
- Catering for elderly guests
- Accessibility and additional needs
- Dietary requirements
- Accommodation and transport
- Seating plans and table arrangements

5. Wedding Speeches

- Who traditionally gives a speech?
- What should each speech include?
- How to overcome nerves
- Writing and preparing your speech
- When to have the speeches
- How long should a speech be?
- What NOT to say in a wedding speech!

6. Getting Value for Money
- Understanding the difference between price and value
- Questions to ask your wedding suppliers
- Recognising professionalism
- Reading reviews and testimonials
- Where to save and where to invest
- Hidden costs and unexpected expenses

7. Things Couples Often Forget
- Having a wet-weather plan
- Allowing extra time throughout the day
- Providing meals for suppliers where agreed
- Checking microphone availability for speeches
- Providing somewhere quiet for guests
- Arranging someone to collect gifts and cards
- Checking when suppliers need access to the venue
- Making time to actually enjoy your own wedding!

8. Wedding Planning Resources
- Downloadable wedding planning checklist
- Wedding budget planner
- Wedding day timeline template
- Guest list planner
- Supplier contact sheet
- Wedding speech planner
- Recommended wedding suppliers