

Etiquette Tips

You have finally found that special person with whom you want to spend the rest of your life. Next, you just have to muster up the courage to pop the question. Perhaps it's not courage that's lacking, but you come up short in the creative department. After all, the details that surround the proposal are just as important as the proposal itself. Once you are confident that you have the perfect setting, and the courage, you ask, and they say yes. Now it's time to plan for the celebration, and the union, of two hearts and two lives becoming one. There are so many things to think about, and once you start to ask questions, and begin to educate yourself, you may become overwhelmed with all the details of your special event. Be encouraged! Take it a step at a time, and you can enjoy your celebration, knowing that it signifies a beautiful start of your new life, shared by family and friends. I have listed some tips to get you started.

First Things First

Announcing the Engagement

Once the proposal has been accepted, it's time to share this special news with family and friends. Remember, starting on the right foot is essential for building healthy long term relationships with family and friends.

What's Next?

Lots of planning, preparation, time and energy. Though this is the day you have been dreaming of, remember, others share it as well. Although you can't make everyone happy, take into consideration wishes and requests of those who are closest that love and care for you. Marriage is about giving 100%, so now is as good of a time to learn this principle. Your goal is to make it down the aisle without turning in-laws into outlaws. Yes, it's your wedding, and you will have the final say, however, consideration and respect goes along way.

Communication!

Communication is essential in planning a wedding. More than likely everyone will not agree on everything, however, agree to disagree respectfully. Some things just aren't that important. A little bit of compromise is beneficial for all involved. Discuss ahead of time financial responsibilities. At one time, guidelines were set in concrete, and though there are certain designated financial responsibilities, today, there are so many more options and expenses. Remember, just because someone is taking on most of the financial responsibility, does not mean they have the most say. On the other hand, be gracious of requests on the behalf of those who are investing. Three words to keep in mind. Communication, Respect and Compromise.

Use Your Resources

Refer to The Toledo Wedding guide to familiarize yourself with the appropriate time frame to get things done. From setting a wedding date, to sending thank you cards, there is much to do. Use resources to help in the planning of your celebration.

The Wedding Party

Be considerate of cost. Weddings are expensive, and those who agree to be in your wedding may be on a very tight budget. Communicate with those who are in your wedding party. Don't allow your wedding party to feel like they're just filling a pair of shoes for the day. Again, there are designated responsibilities from who hosts the bridal shower to who makes the toast. Hurt feelings can stem from unfulfilled responsibilities, or grande expectations as well.

Rehearsal and Dinner

The Rehearsal dinner should include everyone who is participating in the ceremony. Also, including immediate family who has traveled along distance to attend is considerate.