

The following is a schedule and guideline to help you prepare for and plan. This list was adapted from Martha Stewart's guide and includes helpful solutions for the perfect Berkshire County wedding.

- 6+ months**
- Consider the type of event that you want and set budget
This is an important step. Really consider how you want to be spending your wedding day. Try not to create a wedding that meets others' expectations, but will really suit the style and wishes of you and your partner.
 - Compile guest list and organize addresses
 - Finalize wedding date
Make sure you keep expected weather conditions in mind for each season.
 - Reserve ceremony and reception sites
 - Choose attendants - *consider asking them in creative ways!*
 - Order dress and accessories, including veil and shoes
 - Book officiant

- Book caterer
- Order wedding cake
- Book florist
- Book music for ceremony and reception
Choosing the style of music is an important decision and one that will help to deliver the type of party you want.
- Book Sundae Graphic Design + Photography
We offer high quality and creative photography and stationery
- Plan and book honeymoon
- Send save-the-date cards

- 4-6 months**
- Reserve rental equipment, such as tables, chairs, and tents
 - Arrange transportation for the wedding day
 - Discuss your invitations/programs, table cards with Kari
 - Register for gifts
Consider local registries like One Mercantile
 - Purchase wedding rings
Take a look at the gallery of McTeigue & McClelland

- Purchase or reserve groom's attire
- Choose attendant's attire
- Choose favors and party gifts.
Talk to Kari about adding personalized labels for guests to take home
- Book a room for the wedding party
- Reserve accommodations for out-of-town guests
Consider Hotel on North, Pittsfield or The Barrington, Great Barrington

- 2-3 months**
- Discuss menu with caterer
 - Discuss service with officiant
 - Choose readings and readers for ceremony
 - Schedule rehearsal and rehearsal dinner

- Try out makeup and hairstyle. Repeat if necessary
If you aren't happy with your style - try again. Don't feel silly about it.
- Mail invitations
- Write thank-you notes as gifts arrive

- 1-2 months**
- Buy guest book or speak to Kari about creative ways for guests to sign leave their well-wishes.
 - Print programs
 - Prepare all necessary state-required materials including license, blood-work, & name-change documents
 - Purchase wedding gifts
Consider any special occasions of guests to recognize at their seats

- 2 weeks**
- Have final dress fitting - don't forget your shoes
Try breaking your shoes in at home with some dance practice
 - Finalize seating plan and create escort cards
 - Notify caterer of guest count
 - Write toasts for rehearsal dinner and wedding reception
 - Create guest accommodation welcome kits/cards

- 1 Day**
- Confirm transportation arrangements
 - Prepare tips and payment envelopes
 - Ensure all attendees understand their responsibilities
(Corsages, escorts, etc)
 - Attend and enjoy your rehearsal and dinner
 - Enjoy time with your friends and family

Planning Tips

- Create a binder/sketchbook/notebook for your planning to keep everything organized.

If you are the type of person that enjoys planning, there is no doubt that many of your wedding thinking will happen during work hours. Consider disguising a work-related magazine or book with wedding materials.

- The internet is filled with really creative ideas for every portion of your wedding. Try Pinterest. *If you aren't the type to enjoy that, let Kari know. She happens to love planning, and is happy to help you along the way.*

- Day of**
- I can't say it enough; ENJOY
Let go of the planning stage. Soak in every moment and allow the day to be what it has become. Remember what the true reason of the party is and be present in the moment. There's no wrong way to enjoy your wedding.