

Who pays for what ?

The single most likely cause of stress in wedding preparations is often money. Most weddings run over budget. Decide on how much you can afford and stick to it!

Here is a checklist of elements of the wedding day, along with an indication of who traditionally pays.
Please note: This list is strictly traditional and much of this etiquette is outdated and irrelevant to how modern weddings are budgeted but it should serve as an indication of strict traditions only.

B=bride BF=bride's family G=groom

Attire...

Wedding dress, veil, shoes, lingerie, jewellery **BF**
Bridesmaids' dresses, pageboy outfits and accessories **BF**
Something old, new, borrowed and blue **B**
Groom's outfit **G**
Best man's outfit **G** or best man
Ushers' outfits **G** or ushers
Groom's going-away outfit **G**
Bride's going-away outfit **B**

Bridal Beauty...

Hairdressing and make-up **B**

Transportation...

To ceremony: bride, bride's father, bridesmaids and bride's mother **BF**
Ceremony to reception (bride and groom) **BF**
Decorations (ribbons) for wedding transportation **BF**
To ceremony: groom and best man **G**
From reception: bride and groom **G**

Photography...

Photography or videoing **BF**

Flowers...

Church **BF**
Reception **BF**
Bride's and bridesmaids' bouquets **BF** or **G**
Buttonholes **BF** or **G**

Ceremony...

Civil/religious ceremony fees **G**
Church, plus extras (bells, organist, choir) **G**
Register office or other venue fees **G**

Reception...

Venue hire and decorations **BF**
Toastmaster **BF**
Wedding cake **BF**
Catering **BF**
Favours **BF**
Drinks **BF**
Entertainment **BF**

Honeymoon...

Passports and visas **G**
Travel and accommodation **G**
Bride's clothing **B**
Groom's clothing **G**
Spending money **G**
Travel insurance and inoculations **G**

Stationery...

Invitations and postage **BF**
Order of Service **BF**
Menus and place name cards **BF**
Seating plan chart **BF**

Presents...

Bride's engagement and wedding rings **G**
Groom's wedding ring **B**
Presents for bridesmaids, ushers and best man **G**
Presents for bride and groom's parents **B** and **G**

Other...

Engagement party **BF**
Wedding planner fees **BF**
Wedding insurance **BF**
Press announcements for engagement **BF**
Press announcements for wedding **G**
Wedding night hotel **G**
Overnight accommodation for close family **BF**
Stag and Hen parties: the cost is usually shared among those who attend

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