

Partners in Perfection

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The bridesmaids' dresses are fashioned from the highest quality silk, specially ordered from Japan. The flowers in the bride's bouquet are some of the most extraordinary



Australia has to offer. Regal white horses pull the gilded carriage, which houses the bride and groom in all their glory. And the band? A 25-piece orchestra that wows guests late into the evening.

This is the kind of wedding no mere mortal could coordinate. An event of this magnitude requires the expertise of a wedding consultant—someone who can turn your ultimate wedding fantasy into a magnificent reality.

Historically Speaking

Years ago it was assumed that only the wealthy could afford a wedding planner. The planner typically was an organizational pro who would assist the mother of the bride as she planned the wedding with little or no input from her betrothed daughter. The idea was that the bride should be surprised, on the day of her wedding,

at all the details her mother and the planner had arranged.

At Ease

In addition to acting as money managers, accountants and designers, wedding planners also fill the roles of stress reliever and personal assistant by scheduling and managing meetings with vendors and planning partners such as decorators and floral designers.

“A wedding planner helps ease stress and tension, and saves time and money,” says Haley Doyle of planning firm En Vogue Events. “Instead of the bride driving all over town to talk with 30 photographers and not liking a single one, a good planner can fit the needs and budget of their bride with vendors that are more compatible, so it is less time consuming. For some brides, we play the go-between for families with politics.” Consultants also provide much-needed support when things don't go quite as planned.

Smart Choice

Finally, find someone who is passionate about her role as a wedding coordinator, because that passion will be evident in the quality of her work. Doyle says her favorite part of being a wedding coordinator is when the bride's father approaches her at the end of the night, and says something along these lines: “When my daughter and wife first told me they hired a wedding coordinator, I asked, “Why?” But after seeing how smoothly everything went tonight, and the amount of compliments we received and the fact that my wife was able to enjoy the day and not run around, you have made yourself priceless.” The planner adds, “We love watching our bride's vision come to life through our work.”