

VENUE & WEDDING VENDOR GUIDE

TIPS AND RESOURCES
FOR CHOOSING YOUR VENUE AND
BOOKING WEDDING VENDORS

PART 2 OF OUR FREE
PLANNING GUIDE

[WWW.THE
530BRIDE.COM](http://WWW.THE530BRIDE.COM)

FOR BOOKING YOUR VENDORS

1. Set a Budget

Do your homework with your fiancé and set a ballpark budget in advance.

Set your budget and the number of guests first so that you don't fall in love with a venue or vendors that are out of your price range or can't accommodate the size of your group.

While you don't have to necessarily interview your vendors, it is good to have a few questions in mind so that you make sure to discuss the specifics of what they offer.

Tip: A full service wedding planner can help with the vendor selection and narrow down the options based on your needs.

2. Match or No Match?

Selecting a vendor is not just about cost. Although your budget is a real number and we strive to keep you within this budget, price shopping is not the way to go when finding vendors for your wedding. You will be spending a significant amount of time with your photographer for example so you want to make sure you vibe well! It's perfectly okay to have consults with vendors before booking. Just be up front with them if you still have some time before you are ready to book, or let them know once you have decided to go in another direction.

3. Compare Proposals

Now that you have met with potential vendors, you are ready to move into the proposal stage where you can review their services, package offerings etc. This is where you can decide between the packages that fit your needs best, and clarify on any areas that you have questions about. If you aren't sure what is included in a "Day of Package" or a Hair and Make-up package this is the time to request more details.

3. Get it in Writing

Before signing a contract, make sure that you have discussed the vendor's services or venue's amenities in detail. Along with the contract you should also receive either an itemized quote or a detailed write up of the services you should expect to receive.

For example, if you know that you want orchids, garden roses and hydrangea in your centerpieces, then all of that should be listed. Although this might sound slightly over-the-top, this information will safeguard you in the event of a dispute or in case the items you requested aren't available during that time because of unforeseen issues.

Tip: When reviewing the contract, look out for any hidden costs (wording such as "additional costs may be incurred" and "plus the cost of setup and delivery" are dead giveaways). Ask for clarification if anything is unclear. You'll also need to know their policy on late fees in case the ceremony or reception runs later than you expected (Brides.com)

4. Deposits & Payments

Make sure to have a clear understanding of the deposit/retainer amount (holds your date and usually non-refundable) as well as when the payments or full balance is due. If the total cost is tied to your guest count, discuss what date you need to have the headcount finalized - for example what happens if the number is less than originally planned?

5. What to Expect

Chat with your vendors about what happens next, what to expect, how often they will be in contact etc. This helps everyone stay on the same page. Keep their contact information handy for easy reference.

Venue Stats

While event halls typically only do one day rentals (12 hour to 15 hours), private venues often offer three day rentals allowing you a day for set-up/rehearsal, wedding day and then a day for clean-up or post-wedding send off etc.

Tip: Double check which day you would be able to have your rehearsal



- The cost of a wedding venue can vary greatly as each has different amenities, the average range in Butte County for example is \$1900-\$4200
- Most wedding venues will require event insurance, with \$1 MIL coverage (don't worry this should only cost around \$160-\$180)
- Be prepared to put a security/cleaning deposit down and in some cases an additional deposit to reserve your date. The security deposit will be returned after the event if there are no damages or items left uncleaned (read your contract terms)

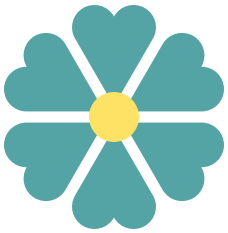
Compare on-site amenities such as a commercial kitchen vs. a prep kitchen which may dictate what type of food service or catering costs to expect. If your potential venue provides tables and chairs, ask to see them! Double check the quantity included and the sizes/style. If the tables aren't the standard size (60 inch rounds which seat 8 guests per table) or you dislike their chairs you may end up paying for additional rentals



Tip: Before signing a contract, ask whether the venue permits you to use an outside caterer, and what their policy is on bringing in and serving alcoholic beverages. Many venues have strict food and drink policies that can have a major impact on your budget and plans.



As you start finding ideas and inspiration for your wedding florals make sure to schedule a sit-down with a local florist is who is familiar with your wedding venue. Bring your inspiration photos and go over what you specifically like about each bouquet, arrangement etc. Then discuss your budget and must-haves so that you understand what is in season, and what to expect.



Read up on what's in season, what to ask your florist, and get the scoop on floral budgets/pricing:

How much do wedding flowers cost? Cutting cost is a difficult job for any bride when it comes to her wedding. But where do you save money when everything seems important? Smaller cake? Less expensive dress? No DJ? They all seem necessary! And let's not forget, how do you divvy up a portion of your wedding budget for flowers?

[Read More](#)

What's in season? Choosing wedding flowers that fit your style and petals that match your color palette isn't always easy—especially if you don't know a dahlia from a daisy. Here's everything you need to know about the most popular wedding flowers (cost, season, meanings, and color choices), plus hundreds of photos of each bloom in bouquets, centerpieces, and boutonnieres from real weddings. [Read More on TheKnot.com](#)

A Florist's guide to wedding flowers: Selecting flowers, a focal point of wedding décor, can seem foreign and costly to many brides. Read [More on Realsimple.com](#)



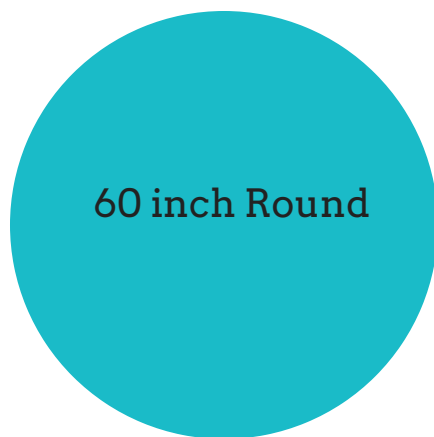
Tip: Choose ceremony florals that can be reused such as becoming centerpieces or moved over placed throughout the venue

DECOR & RENTAL RESOURCES



48 inch Round

Seats 6 or
Perfect for a Sweetheart
Table



60 inch Round

Seats 8
comfortably



8ft Banquet

Seats 8
comfortably

Linen Sizes

Table Size

30" Cocktail (42" height)

48" Round (seats 6)

60" Round (seats 8)

72" Round (seats 10)

8' Banquet (seats 8)

Mid Length

60" Round 90"

90" Round

90" Round 108"
Round 72" x 72"

108" Round

60" x 120"

Floor Length

Round 108" Round

108" Round

120" Round

132" Round

90" x 156"



Thinking Backyard Bash?

THESE LINKS ARE FOR YOU!

Tip: Ask your wedding planner for recommendations on full service caterers who can not only provide the food, but handle the rentals, staff the set-up and man the bar. Often you will save on delivery fees and simplify your event because their staff will work together fluidly

Backyard Wedding Checklist

<https://venuelust.com/post/backyard-wedding-checklist/>

Wedding Alcohol Calculator

<http://www.thealcoholcalculator.com/>

Throw a budget-friendly backyard wedding bash

<http://www.bridalguide.com/planning/wedding-budget/budget-friendly-backyard-wedding>

At Home Wedding Reception Tips

<https://www.theknot.com/content/home-wedding-reception-secrets>

If you are considering a backyard wedding but would like a second opinion, give us a call!

*Happy
Planning!*



THE 530 BRIDE

We help couples plan their wedding without going crazy in the process, it doesn't have to be scary or stressful we promise! Our team works together to create an individualized and personable experience for our clients while coordinating and planning beautiful weddings that guests will really enjoy being a part of.

MORE
QUESTIONS?

(530) 988-8344

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