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The Bride was Carefree

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The bride was carefree

by Dorothy Will

Technical Journalism junior

IF YOU'RE to be a bride soon, here's a schedule to serve as a guide as you make your wedding plans.

At least 10 weeks before, you should decide upon the date, time, place and type of wedding (formal or informal). Confirm plans with your clergyman and reserve the church. Engage club, hotel or caterer for the reception. Try to fit your plans to a budget.

Eight weeks before, your work and fun begins as plans become more definite. You and your husband-to-be may start preparing your guest lists. It's time, too, to shop for your wedding gown and trousseau. Bridal consultants will be willing to tell you about the latest styles. Decide on the number of attendants and invite them now. Be sure you have enough ushers to take care of the crowd at the church.

Six weeks before is not too soon to complete the guest list. List guests in alphabetical order and indicate the type of invitation each is to receive. When you order your invitations, ask that the envelopes be sent immediately so that you can start addressing them. Also make plans for your reception. Decide on music, floral decorations, candid photographer and menu, and order your wedding cake.

The month before

Four weeks before, mail your invitations. Have the final fitting of your wedding gown, and arrange for a formal photograph. Settle church details such as the number of seats to reserve for special guests and whether or not you want ribbons, a canopy and a carpet for the aisle. Decide on floral decorations. If the decorations you choose are elaborate, give the florist more than 4 weeks to arrange for the proper flowers. Look into parking facilities. Do you need extra cars?

Two weeks before, check to see that everything you've already planned is being carried out according to schedule. See about your bouquet, your attendants' bouquets, corsages for mothers and a gift for the groom. Record wedding gifts and start acknowledging them as they come in.

Just 1 week left, and you'll have your bridesmaids' luncheon. Schedule a rehearsal and make sure everyone understands the procedure of the wedding ceremony. Give the ushers special seating instructions. Your clergyman will be able to help you with spacing, pace and many other details. But most important of all this week is getting plenty of rest. It's a sure way for you to look your best when the long-planned-for moment comes, and you walk down the aisle.

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