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Weddings ON BUDGET

**YOUR
INSIGHT INTO
WEDDINGS ON BUDGET**

ONBB WEDDINGS RESALE
COMMUNITY LEADS THE INDUSTRY IN
KNOWLEDGE AND TRUST WITH
WEDDINGS ON BUDGET.



*"For some reason there
is a stigma around
being on a budget, well
there shouldn't be!"*

HEIDI MELTON

OWNER/FOUNDER - ONBB WEDDINGS



A letter from Heidi Melton

— THE FOUNDER OF ONBB WEDDINGS

Hello deary!
I hope you are well. I wanted to write you a personal note to simply say congratulations! Being engaged is some of the happiest times in ones' life and I hope you are making the best of them!

Before we dive into some of the ways you can start sticking to your wedding budget I wanted to provide some insight on weddings. The wedding day is for you and your partner to join as one unit. Keep this in mind as you continue throughout this journey. The planning process can be overwhelming, shocking, and sometimes even a little bit scary, but if you remember the why you'll be happier in the end.

Now, the reason you have downloaded this guide and are here to read through some of these great tips, is to help you stay on budget throughout the planning, execution, and of course after the wedding day. If you remember these next steps it'll make this process a little easier without stifling your creativity or style.

As you begin to read through the six D's to budgeting feel free to take notes, jot down thoughts, and keep your ideas flowing as you remember these aren't meant to steer you from bringing your dream wedding to a reality, but here to assist you throughout the decision-making process.

Someone once told me that a goal is just a wish without a plan. So let's set some wedding goals today, set a plan, and stick to it!

If you ever have any questions, feel free to reach out to me on Instagram @weddingsonbudgetpodcast or Facebook @weddingsonbudgetpodcast as I am here to assist you in gaining the knowledge you need or the resources necessary to plan your wedding day without exceeding your wedding budget!

Let's get started - Weddings On Budget Guide!

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Don't let deadlines freak you out. Let them give you confidence in your planning and of course your budget.



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WEDDING GOALS

TOTAL WEDDING BUDGET: _____

I heard someone tell me once that a goal is just a wish without a plan. So let's set a plan in place to reach our wedding budget goals. The next steps will be asking you to rank the following categories - 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important. Do not attribute any category the same value. This is going to help you set micro-budgets to each of the items needed for your wedding day based on these categories.

by Heidi Melton

1 DESTINATION

On a scale from 1 to 6 how important is the venue to you for your wedding day_____

Notes:

2 DESIGN

On a scale from 1 to 6 how important is the look/feel of your wedding to you_____

Notes:

3 DELIGHTS (CATERING)

On a scale from 1 to 6 how important is the food/drink to you for your wedding day_____

Notes:

4 DRESS

On a scale from 1 to 6 how important is the dress to you for your wedding day_____

Notes:

5 DECOR

On a scale from 1 to 6 how important is the decoration/centerpieces to you for your wedding day_____

Notes:

6 DETAILS

On a scale from 1 to 6 how important is the small details to you for your wedding day_____

Notes:





destination



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”

**NO MATTER THE
LOCATION, AT
THE END,
YOU'RE
MARRIED, AND
THAT'S WHAT
MATTERS.**

“

HEIDI MELTON

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION.

There are so many ways to save on your choice of venue, but the number one - memorable!

Does the venue already have a memorable aesthetic?
Does the venue already have tables, chairs, linens, china, glassware, silverware, etc.?
Is the venue the look and feel you want, plus giving you the ability to not add much to it to make it WOW!?

These are the questions you need to ask and keep in mind when finding the right venue.

O

design

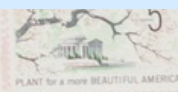
MR. AND MRS. GRANT WILBUR
request the pleasure of your company

PLEASURE

WITH REGRET



Regret to Follow



Henry E. Jessica
384 Lovebird Lane
Plano, Texas 76132



”

**YOU DON'T
HAVE TO
SACRIFICE
YOUR STYLE
BECAUSE OF
BUDGET**

“

HEIDI MELTON



A MOOD BOARD

WHY THIS IS CRITICAL

Don't let this be something that only planners or designers are using. Create your own mood board! (find a mood board template using Canva on the ONBB Weddings website under resources)

The mood board is extremely critical for a lot of reasons, but to keep things brief, this is like your design road map. You will use this to keep you on the right path to make decisions.

If there is something you love in the store and think you want to buy it for the wedding... instead of the impulse buy, swipe open your phone to your saved mood board and see if it's on target with your overall vision for the day.

REFLECT BACK

It's important to consistently look back on the mood board, not only to remind yourself of the initial decisions you made, but also to keep your excitement up! This is a marathon, not a sprint.

delights



PHOTO BY RAKOTEET PHOTOGRAPHY

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**FOOD IS MORE
THAN JUST
FUEL, IT'S
SOMETHING
TO DELIGHT IN
AND ENJOY.**

“

HEIDI MELTON

The Food

Having a background in wedding and event catering, I can understand why this element is so crucial for the wedding day. Here are some of my insider tips and tricks on how to work with your caterer for the best menu for your dollar.

1. Review their packages and menus first - this will help you get a clear understanding of what they have to offer and what potential substitutions you can make.
2. See if your bar package is consecutive hours or if it can be broken up throughout the event. For example, can you close the bar down for dinner and open it back up for dancing?
3. See if the caterer will allow you to host the beer and wine, but have the liquor (or mixed drinks) for a cash bar option. This allows your guests the option to purchase cocktails without breaking the budget.



dresses



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”

**WE CAN
DANCE THE
NIGHT AWAY,
LOOKING OUR
BEST, AND NOT
SPEND EVERY
LAST PENNY
DOING IT.**

“

HEIDI MELTON

PHOTO BY RAKOTEET PHOTOGRAPHY

The Dress

FINDING "THE ONE"

Let's be real here, we are all wanting "the moment" where we try a wedding dress on and realize that it's the one, that's the dress we're walking down the aisle in. I agree, you should have that moment too! But that dress doesn't have to go outside your budget.

The first step as we discussed earlier was breaking the budget down by importance, then by category. Giving each part of your wedding a very specific figure that you need to stay within so that your overall budget is maintained. So right now, take a moment and reflect back on that figure, what did you set for your wedding dress? Was it \$100? \$500? \$2500? \$10,000? Whatever YOUR figure is, let's start evaluating the resources to not only maintain that goal, but also experience "the moment."

"If you find a dress you love and it's for the right price, why wouldn't you buy it online!?"



1. ONBB Wedding resale app

This will be the first and last time I talk about the app in this guide. If you haven't checked out the app yet, you must! There are hundreds of designer wedding dresses for you to shop through right from your iPhone. After the wedding day, you can resell your dress making back some of the money you spent.

2. Research the boutiques

Each city has a popular wedding boutique where most brides will go to find their wedding dress, but is it the right fit for you? Do your homework. Take a look at their website first. Do their brands reach the budget range you want to stay in at the same time meeting your style expectations? Feel free to call their shop and ask them what their average dress price is. Don't be afraid to ask these questions before you arrive onsite for your appointment.

3. Don't be afraid of online

Time and time again I am reading in online forums and Facebook groups, ladies asking if buying online was a terrible experience for wedding dress shopping. Guess what!? The majority of the feedback always is... It's not!! Wedding dress shopping online is going to be a similar experience to most of your other online shopping. Read the reviews, take your measurements, and ask questions. If you find a dress you love and it's for the right price, why wouldn't you buy it online!?



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Decor & Details



PHOTO BY: NATHANIEL EDMUNDS PHOTOGRAPHY

”

***IT'S THE
LITTLE THINGS
THAT MAKE
SOMETHING
GO FROM
GREAT TO
EXCEPTIONAL!***

“

PHOTO BY RAKOTEET PHOTOGRAPHY

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Decoration is that art of creating the design style for your wedding day! This is where you bring in professional vendors such as a florist and/or decorator to help you capture your design. If you are creating these decorations on your own, be sure to check out [TheBudgetSavvyBride](#) and [ONBB Weddings](#) for great DIY tutorials for your wedding day!

DECOR



PHOTOS BY RAKOTEET PHOTOGRAPHY



DETAILS

WHAT ARE THE DETAILS?

Details are the little features or the bits and bobs of your event that make things stand out. For example, perhaps you add drink tags to champagne flutes for your escort OR maybe you add little figurines to your grooms mens' boutonnieres that make them extra special for the day? This is where you can make your event #extra

Stay on budget by creating details that are going to be unique and special to you and your partner. Don't add extras for extras sake. Only add them in very specific areas that will be noticed by you and your guests.

A woman with curly brown hair is sitting at a table, smiling as she looks at her smartphone. In front of her is a white coffee cup with a yellow and green design, and an open spiral-bound notebook. The background is a bright, out-of-focus indoor space with large windows.

Deadlines

”

**DEADLINES
AREN'T THERE
TO MAKE LIFE
STRESSFUL
THEY'RE THERE
TO MAKE LIFE
STRESS FREE**

“

LIFE CHECK



PHOTO BY RAKOTEET PHOTOGRAPHY

CONFRONTING YOUR OWN SCHEDULE FIRST

When it comes to your wedding, you'll find quickly that your schedule will start filling up fast. With work, family, friends, events around the wedding day, planning the wedding and then the actual wedding you'll start losing your mind quick! You need to confront your schedule first and then go from there with deadlines.

Each of the categories we discussed in the worksheet you'll find will each come with their own set of deadlines, deposits, and more. Create a project sheet for yourself that works with your schedule instead of against it. Something that works great for projects and syncs with your Google calendar is Asana! It's free and mobile!

FINDING THE RIGHT SYSTEM TO GET SH*T DONE

Whether you use a physical planner, create your own binder, or use an online system such as Asana - you need to get things written down.

Deadlines aren't just the only things you will need to remember when you begin working out your budget. You'll want to keep track of the costs of each vendor, how much you spend on the random purchases you make while at Michael's with your gals. It's important to keep track of it all.

I am a huge fan of Asana because of so many reasons, but the biggest ones are:

1. Setting notifications/reminders for deadlines
2. Making notes in project boards
3. Adding photos/videos are fast & easy

Check out Asana and see if it's right for you.

PLANNER



SOCIAL

let's get



I hope this guide has helped you with the initial steps to setting your wedding budget. Want more free guides, helpful tools, and free stuff? Join our newsletter! Head over to onbbweddings.com and be sure to sign up for our newsletter.

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