



ELOPEMENT PLANNING *checklist*

GETTING STARTED

- ❑ Choose your location! Probably the most important part of the entire planning process. This can be a meaningful location, dream destination, or just plain beautiful spot where you'll say "I do."
- ❑ Set a budget for your elopement plans
- ❑ Set a date (or general date range)
- ❑ Decide who will do the majority of the planning:
 - A full planner?
 - A day-of coordinator?
 - DIY? (PS. you're never totally alone with this option! I help all of my couples with planning along the way).
- ❑ Set up a Honeyfund, in lieu of a traditional gift registry
- ❑ Hire your photographer (hey there!)
- ❑ Shop for elopement attire. (Gowns can take 4+ months to arrive! Or, purchase off-the-rack)
- ❑ Research legal requirements for marriage at your destination, i.e. permits for land use
- ❑ Do an engagement session
- ❑ Book accommodations for your entire trip
- ❑ Make travel arrangements to and from your elopement destination
- ❑ Make day-of travel arrangements
- ❑ Confirm your travel documents, shots, etc are up to date (i.e. passports if needed)
- ❑ Decide on your guest list, if anyone will be joining you on the big day

NEXT STEPS

- ❑ Book any honeymoon plans, accommodations and travel arrangements
- ❑ Choose your witnesses (depending on how many are required in your location)
- ❑ Book all other vendors, i.e...
 - Celebrant/officiant
 - Day-of coordinator
 - Hair/makeup artist
 - Florist
 - Videographer
 - Cake/dessert baker
 - Private chef
 - Musicians
- ❑ Purchase wedding rings
- ❑ Purchase remaining wedding attire (i.e. accessories, undergarments, shoes, suit, etc.)
- ❑ Purchase miscellaneous meaningful items for the elopement, such as custom vow books
- ❑ Purchase a wedding present to exchange with your fiancé on the day-of

THE FINAL DETAILS

- ❑ Get your marriage license! Typically done 1-2 months in advance, depending on your location's legal requirements.
- ❑ Purchase any hair and/or makeup supplies
- ❑ Do a styling trial run, or have your trial run with your hair & makeup artist
- ❑ Confirm plans / bookings with all vendors
- ❑ Select wedding music (I often have couples send me a Spotify playlist to play from a bluetooth speaker, if desired)
- ❑ Start writing your own vows
- ❑ Confirm travel plans with your witnesses
- ❑ Schedule any final fittings for gown, etc.
- ❑ Make reservations for any post-ceremony celebrations! i.e. dinner at your fav restaurant
- ❑ Create a timeline for the day-of (your photographer will help you with this!)
- ❑ Make arrangements for a pet sitter, etc.

THE BIG DAY & AFTER

- ❑ Enjoy this adventure together!
Live in the moment and bask in the celebration on your big day
- ❑ Announce that you eloped!
There are many cool elopement announcements on Etsy, etc.
- ❑ Plan a reception to celebrate with friends & family at a later date
- ❑ Send thank you notes for any & all wedding gifts
- ❑ If you're changing your name, use a kit like [NewlyNamed.com](https://www.newlynamed.com) to make the process easier

