



**FLUTTER FETTI'S**  
*Ultimate Wedding Guide*



# FLUTTER FETTI'S

## *Ultimate Wedding Guide*

Congratulations - you're getting married! Whether you're having a traditional wedding, saying "I Do" while barefoot on the beach, or getting hitched by Elvis at The Little White Chapel in Vegas, your wedding day is a cause for MAJOR celebration!

You've said "Yes" and announced your engagement, so let the planning begin! Flutter FETTI's Ultimate Wedding Guide has everything you need to create the most magical and memorable day. From start to finish, you'll find exactly what you need so that planning for the big day as easy as saying "I Do"!

### **Getting Started - The Bridal Registry**

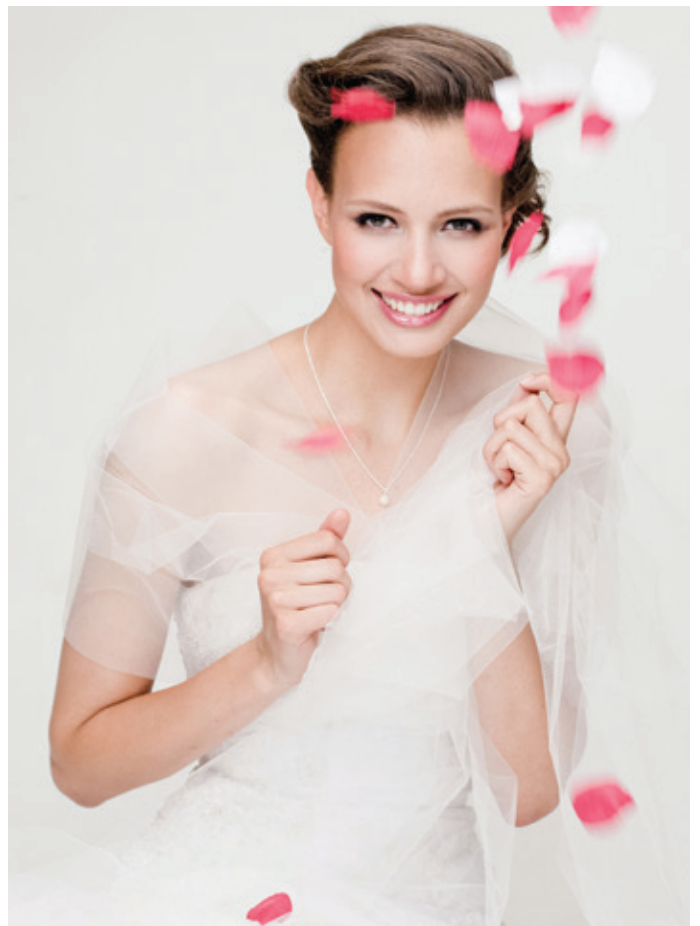
One of the most important questions to ask yourself as you're building your bridal registry is, "Will we actually use this?" While it's tempting to register for a banana slicer or portable ice maker, will it just collect dust on the top shelf in your kitchen?

### **Building Your Registry**

Plan on making multiple trips to create and finalize your registry. It's important to take your time and not feel rushed. Once you've announced your engagement, decide on where you'll register and get started right away.

### **In-Store or Online?**

Many couples opt to register at multiple stores. Your local department store offers the best of both worlds where wedding guests can visit the actual storefront for in-store selection or access your registry on the store's website and shop from the comfort of home. In addition to the typical department store registry, couples have registered at home improvement stores, specialized boutique shops, and travel agencies.





Have everything your heart desires? In lieu of gifts, encourage guests to make a donation in your name to the cause(s) you care most about. Your wedding day is the perfect opportunity to give back to a greater good.

## Send a Note of Thanks

With all of the wedding happenings, it can be easy to lose track of who sent what gift. Avoid confusion by keeping a list of the gifts given, who the gift was from, when you received it, and when you send the thank you note. This will make sure no one is overlooked. When writing your thank you notes, be sure to mention the actual gift. For example, "We're looking forward to toasting to our happily ever after with our beautiful champagne glasses."

## Wedding Budgets and Contracts

Step 1 of your wedding planning is to analyze your budget and determine exactly where your funds are coming from. This will help you as you move forward with purchases, rentals, and contracts. Setting a limit at the start helps avoid an uncontrollable wedding bill. Flutter FETTI has created a handy Wedding Budget planner. (View the planner on the following page).

## The Wedding Venue

Selecting your wedding venue is one of the biggest decisions you'll make as an engaged couple. Take some time to discuss your dream location. What fits your personalities and how do you both envision the big day? An estate in the country, a tropical destination, or a contemporary hotel in the city...the choice is yours.

## Booking the Venue

When possible, decide on your venue as far in advance as possible. Popular wedding venues and certain months (especially in the Spring and Summer) tend to get booked up quickly during peak times. Once you've found "the one", a good rule of thumb is to book your desired wedding venue at least one year before your wedding date.

## Selecting Your Caterer

The food and drink for your wedding celebration tends to be a top expense of your budget. Keep in mind that caterers can vary considerably in their pricing, types of meals, and range of services they offer.

Speak with your caterer on your menu preference. What fits with your venue, theme, and budget? Options include a formal sit-down dinner, buffet, or even a family style reception. Discuss any special dietary needs or restrictions to ensure the caterer can accommodate your guests. Can they prepare vegetarian, gluten free, kosher, or children's meals for your guests?

Don't hesitate to request a menu tasting, customer references, and photos of prior events from the caterers you are interviewing.

Two of our wedding industry experts share important budgeting and contract advice:

### Denise Fouracre of The Wedding Zone

*"Get everything in writing. Communicate any concerns via email, not verbally. Before committing to a supplier research them online via google i.e. Facebook reviews. Be open and honest with your suppliers and you will find that they are more open with you in return."*

### Jamie Comiskey

*"The earlier you contact a planner, the better off you will be. A good event / wedding planner can suggest ideas at the onset, that you may not have even considered. They may also be able to save you valuable time and money, through their experience and established contacts."*



# FLUTTER FETTI'S

## Wedding Budget Guide

EXPENSES	BUDGETED AMOUNT	VENDOR ESTIMATE
<i>Attire &amp; Accessories</i>		
Bride accessories		
Groom accessories		
Tuxedo		
Veil		
Wedding dress		
Wedding dress Preservation		
Miscellaneous		
<i>Beauty, health &amp; Spa</i>		
Diet, weight loss, gym		
Facial		
Hair removal		
Make-up service		
Manicure and Pedicure		
Massage		
Teeth Whitening		
Miscellaneous		
<i>Entertainment</i>		
Band, DJ, entertainment		
Ceremony musicians		
Cocktail Hour musicians		
Dance lessons		
Miscellaneous		
<i>Flowers &amp; Decorations</i>		
Boutonnieres, Corsages		
Bridal Bouquet		
Bridesmaid Bouquets		
Ceremony Decorations		
Ceremony Arrangements		
Flower Girl Flowers		
Flower petals		
Reception Decorations		
Reception Flowers		
Reception Centerpieces		
Miscellaneous		
<i>Gifts &amp; Favors</i>		
Gifts for Attendants		
Gifts for Parents		
Gifts for the Bride		
Gifts for the Groom		
Wedding favors		

EXPENSES	BUDGETED AMOUNT	VENDOR ESTIMATE
<i>Invitations &amp; Stationary</i>		
Ceremony Programs		
Guest Book		
Invitations & Reply Cards		
Postage		
Reception Menus		
Save the date Cards		
Table or Place Cards		
Thank you Cards		
<i>Jewelry</i>		
Earrings, Necklace, etc		
Engagement Ring		
Wedding Band for the Bride		
Wedding Band for the Groom		
<i>Photography &amp; Videography</i>		
Photographer		
Videographer		
Miscellaneous		
<i>Planning</i>		
Binder, Books, Magazines		
Day-of Coordinator		
Wedding Fairs & Events		
Wedding Planner		
<i>Transportation</i>		
Limo Rental		
Travel for Guests		
Miscellaneous		
<i>Venue &amp; Catering</i>		
Ceremony Accessories		
Ceremony Location		
Ceremony Officiator		
Reception Accessories		
Reception Bar Service		
Reception Food Service		
Reception Location		
Reception Rentals		
Rehearsal Dinner		
Tips		
Wedding Cake/ Dessert		
Wedding Night Hotel Room		
Miscellaneous		

## Wedding Stationery

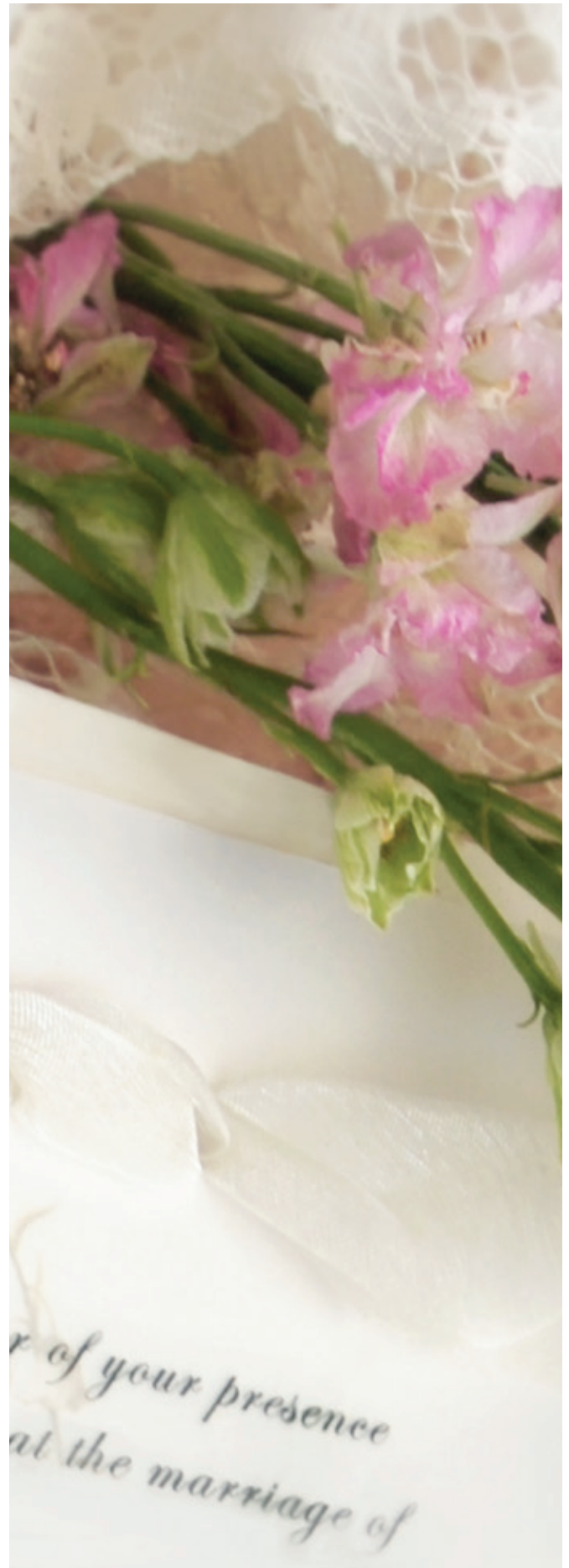
Your wedding invitation is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to selecting wedding stationery. An outstanding way to save time and money is to select your stationary style and color scheme for all of your correspondence and bundle it together. Printed stationary items include:

1. Save the Date Cards
2. Wedding Invitations and Envelopes
3. Reply Cards and Envelopes
4. Other Enclosures (Directions/Maps, Accommodation Info, etc.)
5. Marriage Announcements
6. Ceremony Programs
7. Place Cards for the Reception
8. Printed Cocktail Napkins or Number Cards for Reception Tables
9. Gift Bag or Wedding Favor Tags
10. Note Cards
11. Thank You Cards
12. Address Change Announcements

## Mailing the Invitations

Invitations vary by shape, size, and weight. Don't take a chance and guesstimate the postage you will need for each invitation. Fill one invitation with all of the necessary en-closures and have your local post office weigh the invite to determine the actual postage necessary.

After you have your postage amount and have addressed and stuffed all of your invitations, bring your sealed invites to the post office to have them hand cancelled. Your postmaster will hand stamp each invitation so that your beautiful invitations are not run through the mail machines and potentially crinkled or crushed.





## Wedding Flowers

Floral designers play a critical part in your wedding day by creating the look and mood for everything from your ceremony to reception. Interview several floral designers so you can select a team for your wedding that understands your vision and can deliver exactly what's promised.

Before meeting with floral designers, you should have your ceremony and venue reserved as well as your color scheme set. This will help you and the designer plan what floral accompaniments are needed to create the look of your dreams. Bring a list of your favorite flowers and a few pictures of arrangements you like to your meeting. Sometimes it's tough to put into words what you're imagining, so visuals such as pages from magazines, printed from the web, or photos from other weddings are an excellent starting point. Here's a sample list of flowers used throughout the wedding day:

### Wedding Ceremony

1. Bridal bouquet and flowers for hair
2. Maid of honor and bridesmaid's bouquets
3. Flower girl headpiece and petals to toss
4. Groom's boutonniere
5. Best Man and groomsmen's boutonnieres
6. Mother of the bride and Mother of the groom corsages
7. Father of the bride and Father of the groom boutonnieres
8. Grandmothers corsages
9. Grandfathers boutonnieres
10. Altar, chuppah, pew or chair decorations

### Wedding Reception

1. Entryway arrangements
2. Table centerpieces
3. Buffet or bar arrangements
4. Cake embellishments

From boutonnieres and bouquets to your table centerpieces, these sensational blooms are bride favorites!

### Top 10 Wedding Flowers

1. Lily of the Valley
2. Hydrangeas
3. Roses
4. Peonies
5. Ranunculus
6. Tulips
7. Sweet Peas
8. Gardenia
9. Stephanotis
10. Calla Lilly

### Pro Tip from Beverly Mayer

"Budget! But know where you want to spend those extra dollars. If flowers are your thing, talk to your florist about in season/off season flowers and try to be flexible. And don't be afraid to ask vendors if they throw anything in for free or for referrals."



## Wedding Reception Centerpieces

The design of your wedding reception tables should reflect you as a couple. Whether you choose a whimsical or sophisticated feel, the centerpiece is one of the first things your guests will notice once seated at their table. Flutter FETTI has a product that will make your centerpieces unforgettable. Our Wireless Table Top Confetti Launcher Centerpieces will be the focal point of each wedding reception table. These compact launchers are perfect as they can be hidden out of sight in your flower arrangement centerpieces. No one will be expecting a burst of confetti and guests will be surprised and "WOWED" as our battery-operated launcher sets off the fun!

## Wedding Music

It's essential to select the right music and entertainment features for your wedding and reception. Wedding Nightmare #245 is an empty dance floor and uninterested guests.

### First Dance

The first dance is a moment that will be cherished forever. Wedding guests watch with delight as the newlyweds take to the floor for the first time. Choose a first dance song that speaks sweetly from the heart.

### Chart Topper Party Songs

Add current chart toppers to your reception playlist and you're sure to have a packed dance floor.

### Classic Party Songs

Take a trip down memory lane and go "old school" with some classic party songs that will delight all of your guests. Everyone knows the words and moves and loves to be a part of the party action.

### Last Dance

As the evening comes to a close, finish it with the perfect refrain. The perfect last dance song will end your celebration on a high note.

## Additional Musical Must-Haves

Depending on your wedding and reception arrangement, there are some additional songs to plan for:

1. Ceremony Processional
2. Ceremony Recessional
3. Cocktail Hour
4. Reception Entrance
5. Mother-Son Dance
6. Cake Cutting
7. Bouquet Toss

## Wendy Zoffer of Princeton Music Connection speaks about atmosphere.

"Live music sets the mood! Live Bands, Classical, or Jazz set the mood, adding elegance & sophistication to your ceremony and reception."



## Fun Wedding Reception Ideas and Games

Goodbye boring wedding receptions! No more worries about guests sitting silently as they wait for dinner or their favorite song. Here are some fabulously fun wedding reception ideas to break the ice and get the party started.

### Name that Tune

Want to get the newlyweds to kiss? The old tradition was for guests to tap their champagne glasses with flatware as an audible request for the bride and groom to kiss. A fun and new alternative is to have guests sing for it! Each table can come up with a song that contains the word “kiss” or “love” in it. Then the guests stand up at the table and serenade the couple with a few song lines.

### Garden Games

Outdoor wedding receptions are the perfect venue to invite your guests to “Come Play with Us”. During the al fresco cocktail reception, guests can get to know each other through a friendly lawn game or two. “Life-sized” jenga and chess, along with bocce ball, corn hole, and croquet create an entertaining and easy going atmosphere.

### Avis Brangan of Simple Seaside Ceremonies reminds to be prepared.

“If you are having an outdoor ceremony or reception, don’t forget to pack several tubes of an itch relief like AfterBite for insect bites and stings.”

### Crossword Puzzle

Keep guests entertained as they work together to complete a Wedding Crossword Puzzle filled with fun facts on the married couple. Examples include, “Bride’s middle name”, “Groom’s alma mater”, and “Honeymoon destination”. Crossword puzzles can be printed on the back of the dinner menu or separately. Don’t forget the pencils!





## The Wedding Cake

The wedding cake is the confectionary focal point at your reception. When meeting with your cake decorator, bring photos of cakes that match your style to set a distinct example of what you're dreaming of for the big day. Wedding cake creators will have training and experience working with wedding cakes and a portfolio for you to peruse. Schedule a time to do a cake tasting and discuss pricing and the contract. We recommend ordering your cake six to eight months prior to your wedding. As with any business, check references to make sure the customers were satisfied.

### The Classic Wedding Cake

A traditional wedding cake blends perfectly with weddings that have a classic feel. White tiered cakes with fondant flowers and delicate details such as lace and ruffle piping are stunning.

### Groom Cakes

The Groom's Cake goes hand in hand with the classic wedding cake. Traditionally designed by the bride as a gift to her husband-to-be, this cake reflects the groom's personality, hobbies, and interests. Brides have presented everything from football and travel themed cakes to musical masterpieces in the shape of electric guitars. Incorporate favorite flavors and fillings for something truly customized and delicious!

## Creative Wedding Cake Alternatives

Searching for a modern alternative to the traditional wedding cake? Couples are thinking outside of the (cake) box for creative yet tasty options that reflect their personalities.

### Donut Cakes

This deep fried tower of deliciousness is a popular pick for an unconventional wedding cake. Customize the icing, fillings, colors, and flavors of the donuts to match your wedding locale. Donut cakes are easy to do on your own, but if you want a more sophisticated feel, many bakeries will come up with a unique and elegant presentation.

### Cupcake Towers

Cupcakes are a fun and fashionable alternative to the traditional tiered cake. These treats are an excellent choice for themed weddings because of easy and individual personalization. If you have a friend or family member who is a great baker, enlist their help in pulling off a cupcake tower to save money.

### Macaroon Towers

With literally hundreds of flavor and filling options, these French meringue-based confections are a tres chic choice. Treat your guests to a double helping by giving out macaroon favor boxes!



## The Guestbook

Whether you choose a traditional guestbook with leather, silk, or linen binding or a brilliantly original alternative, your guestbook provides you with rich memories of the happy day for years to come. It also honors your guests by providing them with a chance to participate in a lasting memento of the occasion.

### *Here are a few alternatives to the conventional guestbook:*

#### Message in a Bottle

Could anything be more romantic than a message in a bottle? You'll need a good-sized (preferably hand-blown) glass bottle and a wooden or metal stand that holds it in a horizontal position. Provide guests with some old-fashioned writing paper and a fountain pen to write their names and wishes for the couple on. They can then carefully tear the "message" out and pop it in the bottle – a beautiful memento for years to come!

#### Painted Plate

This is a great option if you've decided to have an intimate, inner-circle-only wedding. With fewer guests, filling a whole guestbook is not an option. Choose a commemorative plate (you can customize your very own plate at a local pottery shop). Then equip guests with a sharp-tipped permanent pen to sign their names around the rim or across the center. Voila – you have an instant classic – something you can hang on a wall, display in a cabinet, place on the mantel over the fireplace or anywhere that takes your fancy!

#### Personalized & Signed Frame

What could be a better memento of your special day than a framed picture signed by everyone that was there to share the experience with you? Have guests sign the picture frame mat for your "guest book". Reading the messages and seeing the names will bring back all that was special on your wedding day.

#### Large "Alphabet Style" Letter

A great choice if you have lots of guests. You can choose the first letter of your last name, another letter, or even a number that has significance for you and your partner. Again, you'll need a permanent marker. Test first on a small inconspicuous area to

ensure that the surface is easy to write on and will not smudge, tear, or blot. The finished object can be hung on a wall, stood on a shelf or lit up with a strategically-placed spotlight – the choice is yours!

#### Wishing Stones

For this, a trip to a local stream will be needed. Choose enough smooth, flat stones to allow for all of your guests, plus a few more just in case! Don't have a stream nearby? Stop by your local craft supply store for vase filler stones. Your wedding guests will love this creative way to leave their thoughtful wishes on something permanent and naturally beautiful. You can display your wishing stones in a beautiful ceramic bowl, a rustic woven basket, a vintage crate, or a large romantic glass vase. Ultra-fine tip permanent markers, or fine tip metallic paint markers are ideal for signature stones.





## Wedding Favors

Wedding favors should reflect the personality of the bride and groom. There are a multitude of creative, clever, or classic favor options to add that special touch.

### Carol Delli Carpini at La Bella Baskets & Gifts shares valuable advice on wedding favors.

"A wonderful way for your wedding party and parents of the bride & groom to cherish and remember the fun and love you've shared with them on your wedding day is to give them a keepsake personalized gift just for them!"

### Love Grows

From wildflowers to herb mixes, plantable seed papers are a unique and charming wedding favor. Send your guests home with these biodegradable eco-friendly papers embedded with a mixture of seeds. Plantable seed papers come in a variety of creative styles including modern day "matchbooks"; heart, star and flower shapes; and 3D shapes.

### Shades of Love

Whether you're planning an outdoor wedding or just want some fun and funky accessories for those candid photos, sunglasses are an awesome favor your guests will love! Add your personal touch by choosing a color that coordinates with your wedding theme. You can also personalize sunglasses with your names and wedding date.

### Cheers to the Happy Couple

Nothing says celebrate like champagne (or sparkling grape juice)! Your guests will absolutely love mini champagne bottles as their wedding favor. Print up and attach cards that say, "Pop, Fizz, Drink", "Drink Me", or a simple "Thank You".





## The Wedding Exit

It's the grand finale after a one of the most important days of your life and now it's time to head off to your honeymoon destination. Bye bye boring rice... do it in style with an amazingly memorable Wedding Exit! Flutter FETTI is the authority on creating that "WOW" effect on your wedding day. Height is never an issue! We have a variety of products that can be used in venues with ceilings as low as 9 feet to outdoor venues with no ceiling limit. Bring us your ideas for your brilliant Wedding Exit and the Flutter FETTI Team will work to make your dreams a reality.

### Your Limo is Waiting

One of our bridal customers set up 3 Inch Continuous Flow Confetti Gerb Launchers with white Tissue Corkscrew Confetti behind their limousine. As they exited the reception, the sky was filled with beautiful floating, flying, and fluttering confetti. It was the perfect backdrop for a dramatic exit!

## Fantastic Send Off by Family & Friends

After you've danced the last dance and your goodbyes have been said, your family and friends can send you off in style with our 6" Flutter Flicker Confetti Launchers for low ceiling send offs or our 14" Flutter FETTI Confetti Sticks for higher ceilings or outdoors. Whether you choose all white for an elegant effect or coordinate our FETTI with your wedding color scheme, your guests will love showering you with confetti as you head out the door!

## The Big Bang Effect

Want to end the evening with a bang? Our Quarter Turn Handheld Co2 Confetti Launcher is the answer! The Quarter Turn is a hand held launcher that's oh so easy to use and totally versatile (you can position the launcher wherever you'd like). The Quarter Turn can be used in venues with ceiling heights of 16 feet and up. Our Tissue Streamers shoot 25' to 30', our Metallic Streamers shoot 45' to 50', and our famous Flutter Fetti shoots 25' to 30'.



## Always Follow Your Heart

Your wedding day is a momentous event. Planning and preparation can be stressful at times. It's important to remember that this is YOUR day.

The Flutter FETTI Team is here to help make your wedding spectacular and stress-free! Visit our Wedding Confetti page and contact one of our talented Confettiologists! Your wedding is a reflection of you and your style. Create memories that will last forever!

***Looking for more wedding planning advice? Here are additional tips from industry experts.***

### Wedding Budgets and Contracts

#### Edward Reitler of Crafty Eddy

"Save money by purchasing unfinished letters (e.g. cake toppers) and numbers (e.g. reception table numbers) and decorating them yourself."

#### Amu Dearth of CSEP

"Trust your vendors! When you hire professional and experienced vendors, you are getting years of experience and knowledge that a "friend" may not be able to offer. Professionals do this every weekend and have experience first-hand with the challenges and successes during weddings. If they offer you advice, trust that they know what they are talking about."

#### Rhonda Bardsley of Social Planning, Inc.

"Always have a plan B. You have picked THE place...all the invitations have been sent, all the suppliers are lined up. What happens when there is an unexpected disaster at the venue? What if the weather doesn't cooperate? Having a plan B gives you peace of mind."

#### @SixpenceEventsNM

"If you are struggling with your budget take a gander at your menu or your guest list; or how about both!"

#### @NHWedPlanner

"Have the awkward money talk w/ your partner & parents BEFORE you start wedding planning. It's important to know your limits."

#### Faye P of Events Your Way

"Research & Gut Instinct! Always research your vendors and select one who has a good portfolio AND great reviews. Go with your gut; if you don't like the person you are hiring, chances are you won't enjoy working with them!"

### Wedding Flowers

#### Heather Marlow of Nature's Gifts Jewellery shares a creative option that will last a lifetime.

"To have your wedding bouquet and cake floral decorations made with real gemstones. This way you can have a lasting memory as the gemstones can be made into jewellery after your special day. You can create heirlooms for the future for yourself and your guests. Or you can leave the bouquet as a wonderful decoration for your home that will last forever and not fade."



## Wedding Linens

### Amu Dearth of CSEP

"We highly suggest you begin the process of planning and selecting your linen colors six months prior to your wedding date to assure rental inventory availability. They can be delivered direct to your door, neatly pressed, and ready to put on the table."

## Wedding Entertainment

### Seasoned magician, Dennis Blanchard of Eventful Magic shares a unique entertainment option.

"Guests at the reception will appreciate the extra fun of having a strolling / table-side magician for that period of waiting for the bride and groom - or cocktail hour. As an inexpensive add-on, it's a perfect ice-breaker and gets people talking and laughing. It's not something that planners consider usually, but it is really perfect for the start of the reception. Or how about the rehearsal dinner?"

### Jimmy Maxwell of Wedding Music Pros knows how important it is to keep your guests smiling the entire night.

"Live band music can energize the crowd and get people more excited for dancing. A good wedding band can change the tempo of songs so as to accommodate fancy dance moves or a groom who is less than sure on the dance floor. If you'd like, a good wedding band can help complete your wedding theme. For example, a 1950s-themed wedding and a rock n' roll band, an Italian wedding with a Louis Prima tribute or fairytale wedding with an orchestra."

### Lynn Osband reveals a fantastic tip for traditional dances such as the Hora.

"For the Hora dance at a Jewish wedding, get a chair with arms! Brides and Grooms, you will want to hold onto the arms of the chair, not the bottom of the seat when lifted. You could slip off and pictures of your scared face with your ankles grasping the leg of the chair doesn't look good! Borrow the thin Samsonite style office chairs. Your lifters will thank you!"





## Wedding Words of Wisdom

### Heather Thornton

"At the end of the day, sit down with yourself and really think about everything you're planning. Make sure it's everything you both really want because when all is said and done, it is your big day. And when you look back on that special day, you will be so incredibly happy that you took those few moments to center yourself."

### Meredith Arthur at The Bell Tower on 34th

"Always remember to stay true to yourself. Throughout the planning process you will get the opinions and advice of everyone around you, wanted or not. While it is important to respect those opinions, the best thing you can do is remember what the day is really about and stay true to who you are as a couple. Don't be afraid to tell people no or stick up for yourself. At the end of the day you want to be able to reflect on the day with your husband and know that it was a true celebration of your love and future together, and not sweat all the small stuff."

## Wedding Gown Care

**Sally Conant, Association of Wedding Gown Specialists, [info@weddinggownspecialists.com](mailto:info@weddinggownspecialists.com) reminds us to properly clean and store your bridal gown.**

"Remember to include gown care in your spending plan and look for a Specialist you can trust to give your very special gown the care it deserves."





*Do you work in the event  
or wedding industry?*

Call Flutter FETTI at  
1 (877) 321-1999 or visit  
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