

Men: What They Do

The Groom

The most important part of the groom's pre-marriage obligations is the ring. It's best to buy both the engagement ring and the wedding ring at the same time, either before or after the engagement.

The groom is also responsible for obtaining the license and should plan to do so well in advance for there is often a waiting period.

The groom must also:

- *Compile a guest list of family and friends, making sure there are no duplications with the bride's list.

- *Choose the best man and ushers.

- *Buy a gift for the future bride and the best man and ushers.

- *Pay for the bride's bouquet and boutonniere for himself and the best man.

- *Pay for the corsage for his mother and new mother-in-law.

- *Arrange for transportation to the wedding for the best man and himself, and for transportation after the wedding.

- *Plan and pay for the honeymoon, and expenses involved.

- *Provide the offering for the best man to give to the priest.

- *Get to the church on time.

The Best Man

With all the attention focused on the bride, her attendants, her dress, her showers, her gifts and all the other things, the men in the wedding shouldn't be forgotten.

On the day of the wedding, the busiest person is probably the best man (or, as the bride might say, "second best man"). If he sees to all the things he should, he'll need a checklist somewhat like this.

- *Wake the bridegroom, if it's a daytime wedding.

- *Help calm any jittery nerves of the groom, and offer any aid that seems appropriate.

- *Check the luggage for the honeymoon.

- *Get all clothes for the wedding day together — formal clothes and traveling clothes.

- *Deposit traveling clothes at reception site.

- *If couple is to stay in town following the wedding, take luggage to their room and see that everything is in place; have flowers put in the room; register for the couple; take key to room.

- *If the couple will leave town following the wedding take the luggage to the car (which is safely hidden). After the wedding and reception, take couple to the car.

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