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A Practical Wedding Planner: A Step-by-Step Guide To Creating The Wedding You Want With The Budget You've Got (without Losing Your Mind In The Process)



Synopsis

You just got engaged! Or you've been engaged for a while but are finally sitting down to plan this party. Or maybe you haven't made anything exactly official yet, but you know you want to spend your lives together. Whichever it is, when you're ready to take a deep breath and start planning, this is the book you want—need—to have. Meg Keene has put together the (practical) companion to *A Practical Wedding*: smart, clear focused guidance—with a hefty dose of reassurance—to help you plan your big day. From figuring out what you really want—as opposed to what everyone else thinks you should want—to help you keep an eye on the ceremony itself and the vows (a.k.a. why you're throwing this party in the first place), Meg helps you cover all the essentials: Setting a budget—and sticking to it Choosing a venue: traditional, non-traditional, and everything in between Hiring good vendors, keeping your friends, and why DIY doesn't always save money Catering, rentals, and everything else Pinterest forgot to tell you Wedding décor: a realist's guide Creating and writing a ceremony Getting everyone to show up...and have a good time With checklists (such as flowers, food, final venue walk-through) and key spreadsheets (guest list and seating chart, budget, venue search, and more), Meg helps you plan a wedding that will leave you feeling joyful, not emotionally exhausted and broke.

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Customer Reviews

To be completely honest with you, I had my doubts about this new book when it was out for pre-order. I thought, "What could possibly be covered now?" • Between the 2011 guidebook, the website's oft-updated front page and growing archives, and downloadable spreadsheets

available online, I wondered if it was going to be a redundant piece of fluff. I bought my copy to see if it was worth suggesting to my couples (I'm a wedding photographer), or warn them not to waste their money. So for me to read it, cover to cover, and have my skepticism blown away actually speaks really highly of this book. It's useful! It's smart! It's handy! See, the first book, *A Practical Wedding: Creative Ideas for Planning a Beautiful, Affordable, and Meaningful Celebration*, gets you into the *headspace* of planning a wedding. For many of us, our wedding is the first wedding that we've ever had to plan. Figuring out how to approach wedding planning, then feeling right about our decisions, is what the original APW book is all about. This companion book, *A Practical Wedding Planner* (APWP), coaxes you into actually taking action. Meg starts by asking you to think of your wedding's "thesis" not colors or theme, but the takeaway that you want your guests to feel after the wedding is over. (Best dance party? Amazing spiritual experience? Warm, casual vibe?) Then build your wedding around that thesis. While the planner, at around 9½" x 7" (notably bigger than the novel-sized 2011 guidebook), isn't quite large enough to feel like it's an essential replacement of a wedding-planning binder, it feels more like a notebook and has wide margins so you can scribble all in it (there are some dedicated spots for you to fill in your plans, but for the most part, the book tracks out to-do's).

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