

# Financial Responsibilities



Communication, cooperation and realistic expectations are essential when you draw up your wedding budget. The bride's family has traditionally paid all wedding expenses, but it is now appropriate for both families to share costs.

Today, the bride and groom's families are sharing the financial responsibility. There are also expenses that the bride and groom might assume, further relieving financial pressure. Following is the traditional division of nuptial expenses. However, there are times when practicality must reign, and tradition frequently bows to whatever arrangement works best for the parties involved.

## BRIDE:

- Wedding ring for groom
- Wedding gift for groom
- Gifts for attendants
- Personal stationery
- Lodging for out-of-town attendants
- Physical examination
- Luncheon for bridesmaids

## BRIDE'S FAMILY:

- Reception
- Wedding gift for newlyweds
- Bride's wedding attire
- Invitations, announcements, postage
- Engagement and wedding photographs
- Rental of wedding site
- Organist, soloist and sexton fees
- Aisle carpets and/or canopy, plus any decorating costs
- Bridesmaids' bouquets
- Flowers for reception
- Transportation for bridal party to ceremony and reception
- Security and insurance for gifts (optional)

## GROOM:

- Wedding ring for bride
- Wedding gift for bride
- Marriage license
- Gifts for attendants
- Bridal bouquet and going-away corsage
- Boutonnieres for all men in wedding party
- Mothers' corsages
- Physical examination
- Gloves, ties, or ascots for attendants
- Lodging for out-of-town attendants
- Fee for clergy or judge
- Honeymoon
- Bachelor's dinner (optional: may be assumed by best man and ushers)

## GROOM'S FAMILY:

- Wedding gift for newlyweds
- Rehearsal dinner (optional)
- Their own travel & clothing expenses

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*From this day forward,  
You shall not walk alone.  
My heart will be your shelter,  
And my arms will be your home.  
- Marianne Williamson*