

# The Wedding Budget

*Michelle's Bridal*  
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## Who Pays for What?

In years past, tradition held predominately the bride's family responsible for the cost of the wedding. However, modern trends are allowing for much more flexibility in the sharing of expenses.

Today, if the bride's family is unable to provide the traditional portion of the wedding expenses, it is not unusual for the groom's family to assume a larger role in the responsibility of finances.

The following is a summary of the traditional division of financial responsibilities.

### **BRIDE**

- Personal stationery
- Groom's wedding ring
- Wedding gift for groom
- Gifts for attendants
- Attendants' dresses (optional)
- Lodging for out-of-town attendants (optional)
- Bridesmaids' luncheon
- Gift for parents (optional)

### **BRIDE'S FAMILY**

- First engagement party (optional)
- Wedding gift for newlyweds
- Entire reception
- Rental of sanctuary or chapel
- Bride's wedding attire and trousseau
- Parents' wedding attire
- Invitations, accessories, thank-you notes & postage
- Wedding programs
- Engagement and wedding photographs
- D.J./Musicians/Vocalists/Videographer
- Aisle carpets and/or canopy and decorations
- Bridesmaids' bouquets
- Flowers for church & reception
- Flowers for flower girl
- Transportation for bridal party to ceremony/reception
- Security and insurance for gifts

### **BRIDES'S ATTENDANTS**

- Bridal shower
- Bridesmaid's dress, shoes & hosiery
- Lodging

### **GROOM**

- Bride's rings
- Honeymoon
- Transportation to airport
- Wedding gift for bride
- Bridal bouquet and going away corsage
- Boutonnieres for all men in wedding party
- Mothers' corsages
- Gifts for best man, groomsmen and ushers
- Groomsmen's attire (optional)
- Gloves, ties or ascots for men in wedding party
- Lodging for out-of-town attendants (optional)
- Marriage license
- Fee for officiant
- Gift for parents (optional)

### **GROOM'S FAMILY**

- Second engagement party
- Travel expenses and hotel bills
- Groom's personal stationery & thank-you notes
- Groom's wedding attire
- Parents' wedding attire
- Rehearsal dinner
- Wedding gift for the newlyweds
- Shipment of wedding gifts to the newlyweds
- Welcome buffet or cocktail party for out-of-town guests (optional)

### **GROOM'S ATTENDANTS**

- Bachelor party
- Formalwear rental
- Lodging

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The budget for your wedding is one of the first issues you and your fiancé should discuss. Set your priorities based on what is most important to both of you, and spend accordingly.

**TOTAL BUDGET**

**\$**

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### **RINGS**

	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
- Engagement Ring	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Bride's Wedding Ring	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Groom's Wedding Ring	\$ _____	\$ _____

### **RECEPTION**

- Beverage/Bar Corkage Fee	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Cake/Cake Cutting Fee	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Catering/Food/Servers/Tax/Gratuity	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Facility Rental	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Chocolate Fountain	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Rental Items	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Other	\$ _____	\$ _____

### **MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT**

- Ceremony	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Reception	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Other	\$ _____	\$ _____

### **CEREMONY**

- Aisle Runner	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Candles/Candelabra	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Facility Rental	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Officiant	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Marriage License	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Other	\$ _____	\$ _____

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### APPAREL/BRIDE

	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
- Alterations	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Bride's Gown	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Headpiece/Veil	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Jewelry	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Lingerie	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Shoes	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Other	\$ _____	\$ _____

### APPAREL/GROOM

- Groom's Formalwear	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Other	\$ _____	\$ _____

### PHOTOGRAPHER (Packages vary. Ask the photographer what they include from the list below)

- Album	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Candids	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Engagement Portrait	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Formal Wedding Portrait	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Parents' Sets	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Photographer Fee	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Proofs	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Other	\$ _____	\$ _____

### VIDEOGRAPHER

- Wedding Video	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Copies	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Other	\$ _____	\$ _____

### FLOWERS

- Altar/Chuppah	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Attendants' Bouquets	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Boutonnieres/Corsages	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Bride's Bouquet	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Decorations/Balloons	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Pew Markers	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Reception Tables	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Bridal Party	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Other	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Other	\$ _____	\$ _____

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### STATIONERY

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- Invitations/Announcements	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Reception Cards	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Response Cards	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Envelope Seals	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Postage	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Thank-You Notes	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Informal Stationery	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Wedding Programs	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Pew Cards	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Map Cards	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Place Cards	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Shower Invitations	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Other	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Other	\$ _____	\$ _____

### ACCESSORIES

- Cake Knife & Server	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Cake Top	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Favors	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Flower Girl's Basket	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Ring Bearer's Pillow	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Guest Book & Pen	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Toasting Glasses	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Table Wedding Cameras	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Unity Candles	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Personalized Napkins	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Personalized Stir Sticks	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Personalized Matches	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Personalized Bookmarkers	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Personalized Chocolates	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Wedding Bubbles	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Garters	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Scroll Rings	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Table Favors	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Cake Boxes/Bags	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Wedding Albums	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Appreciation Gifts	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Other	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Other	\$ _____	\$ _____

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### TRANSPORTATION

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- Guest Transportation	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Limousine	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Other	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Other	\$ _____	\$ _____

### GIFTS

- Bride's Attendants	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Cake Cutting Attendant	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Child Attendants	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Each Other	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Hosts for Out-of-Town Guests	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Gift Table Attendant	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Groomsmen & Ushers	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Parents	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Pre-wedding Party Hosts	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Soloists/Musicians (friends of Bride/Groom)	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Other	\$ _____	\$ _____

### ADDITIONAL EXPENSES

- Hair and Makeup	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Manicure	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Other	\$ _____	\$ _____

### OPTIONAL EXPENSES

- Attendant Accommodations	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Bridesmaids' Dresses/Shoes	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Flower Girl's Dress	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Groomsmen's Formalwear	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Ring Bearer's Attire	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Bridesmaids' Luncheon	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Wedding Coordinator	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Other	\$ _____	\$ _____
- Other	\$ _____	\$ _____

### TOTALS

\$ _____	\$ _____
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