

# 51 Ways to Save Money and Still Have a Chic and Fabulous Wedding

Planning a wedding can be one of the most exciting times in a couple's life. But it can also be one of the most expensive. The average cost of a wedding in the United States is now over \$30,000.



## 51 Ways to Save Money and Still Have a Chic and Fabulous Wedding! by Laura Pepper

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

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If you're on a tight budget, don't despair. There are plenty of ways to save money on your wedding without sacrificing style. Here are 51 tips to help you get started:

### 1. Set a realistic budget

The first step to saving money on your wedding is to set a realistic budget. This will help you stay on track and avoid overspending. Once you know

how much you have to spend, you can start making informed decisions about where to allocate your funds.

## **2. Choose a less expensive venue**

The venue is one of the biggest expenses associated with a wedding. If you're on a tight budget, consider choosing a less expensive venue, such as a park, a community center, or even your own backyard.

## **3. Get married during the off-season**

If you're flexible with your wedding date, you can save money by getting married during the off-season. This is typically the time of year when venues and vendors are offering discounts.

## **4. Keep your guest list small**

The number of guests you invite will have a big impact on the cost of your wedding. If you're on a tight budget, keep your guest list small. This will save you money on food, drinks, and venue rental.

## **5. Choose a simple wedding dress**

The wedding dress is another big expense associated with a wedding. If you're on a tight budget, choose a simple wedding dress. You can find beautiful and affordable wedding dresses at department stores, online retailers, and consignment shops.

## **6. Rent a tuxedo instead of buying one**

If you're not planning on wearing your tuxedo again, consider renting one instead of buying one. This will save you a significant amount of money.

## **7. Get creative with your flowers**

Flowers can be a beautiful and expensive addition to your wedding. If you're on a tight budget, get creative with your flowers. You can use wildflowers, seasonal flowers, or even artificial flowers.

## **8. Make your own centerpieces**

Centerpieces can add a touch of elegance to your wedding reception. If you're on a tight budget, make your own centerpieces. You can use simple materials like candles, flowers, and greenery.

## **9. Serve a buffet-style dinner**

A buffet-style dinner is a great way to save money on your wedding reception. It's less expensive than a sit-down dinner, and it allows your guests to choose the foods they want.

## **10. Limit the bar**

The bar is another big expense associated with a wedding reception. If you're on a tight budget, limit the bar to beer, wine, and soda. You can also charge a small fee for mixed drinks.

## **11. Hire a part-time photographer**

A photographer is a must-have for any wedding. But if you're on a tight budget, hire a part-time photographer. They will charge less than a full-time photographer, and they can still capture all the important moments of your wedding day.

## **12. Hire a DJ instead of a live band**

A live band is a great way to get your guests dancing, but they can be expensive. If you're on a tight budget, hire a DJ instead. They will charge less than a live band, and they can still keep the party going all night long.

### **13. Send out electronic invitations**

Paper invitations can be expensive. If you're on a tight budget, send out electronic invitations. They are less expensive than paper invitations, and they are more environmentally friendly.

### **14. Set up a wedding website**

A wedding website is a great way to keep your guests informed about your wedding plans. It's also a great way to save money on postage. You can use your wedding website to share information about your venue, accommodations, and registry.

### **15. Ask friends and family for help**

Friends and family can be a great source of help when you're planning a wedding. They can help you with everything from decorating the venue to setting up the food.

### **16. Take advantage of discounts**

Many vendors offer discounts for weddings. Be sure to ask about discounts when you're booking your venue, photographer, florist, and other vendors.

### **17. Negotiate with vendors**

Don't be afraid to negotiate with vendors. You may be able to get a lower price if you're willing to book multiple services with them.

## 18. Buy used items

You can find great deals on used wedding items at consignment shops and online retailers. This is a great way to save money on everything from your wedding dress to your centerpieces.

## 19. DIY some of your wedding details

There are many wedding details that you can DIY, such as your invitations, centerpieces, and favors. This is a great way to save money and add a personal touch to your wedding.

## 20. Borrow items from friends and family

Friends and family may be willing to lend you items for your wedding, such as vases, candles, and serving dishes. This is a great way to save money and get the items you need for your wedding.

## 21. Rent instead of buying

You can rent a variety of items for your wedding, such as linens, chairs, and tables. This is a great way to save money and get the items



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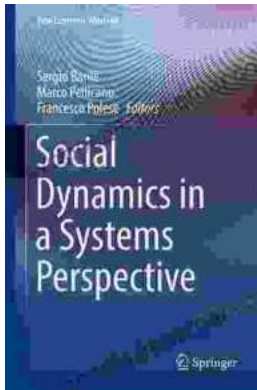
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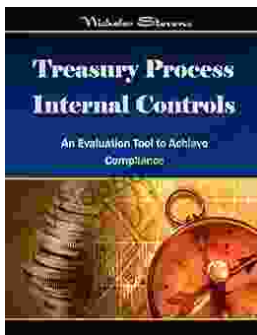
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