



PLAN FOR TRADITIONAL HONOUR TABLE

Remember that you can have two honour tables or create a variation

1. Bride's mother 2. Groom's father
3. Celebrant's partner 4. Bride's father
5. Celebrant 6. Groom's sister
7. Groom's mother 8. Bride's brother
9. Grandfather 10. Godmother/aunt
11. Godfather/uncle 12. Grandmother



- Make sure guests who don't know anyone are seated at your friendliest table, with people who will put them at ease.
- It's traditional to seat couples near one another, but use your best judgment. Seating men and women alternately can sometimes encourage a more constant flow of conversation during the event.
- Where possible, try not to place elderly guests in a draughty area, or too near the speakers, but ensure they're close enough to the bridal table to hear speeches.
- Keep divorced couples and guests known for not getting along across the room from each other. If the bride's or groom's parents have divorced or aren't on good terms, you could choose to seat them on two separate honour tables at an equal distance from the head table to help keep the peace.
- Open seating, which allows guests to choose where they wish to sit, is always an option. But if you prefer a seating plan, encourage guests to change tables after the meal to allow for varied conversation.
- Why not seat your single friends on the same table? You never know, there might just be another wedding as a result.

seating *plan*

Create the perfect social mix, and take the angst out of who sits where, with *Bride to Be's* guide to pain-free guest placement

Getting started

It's best to visit your chosen venue and meet with the manager to discuss the number and sizes of tables possible. Getting a feel for the layout and ambience is equally important. Keep in mind that the space will include the head table, guest tables, dance floor, entertainment and other features, such as large floral displays and gift tables.

The seating rules

Seating guests is a daunting task and where you choose to sit family and friends sets the mood for your reception. If you're having a cocktail party, you still need some seating options and should carefully place "drink resting" tables so the crowd flows well within the space. When allocating seats, it's a good idea to place your really close family members and friends nearest to the bridal table. With a detailed guest list and reception floor plan on hand, you can then determine which guests should be seated together – and those that are probably better off being kept at a distance!

Reception tips & tricks

• While it's the safest option to sit guests with people they already know well, putting life-long friends with a few new ones can help spice up everyone's experience.

ONLINE SEATING HELP

Stressed about who sits where? The easy-to-use wedding planning program at marziplanner.com.au features an interactive floor planning tool that allows you to click and drag tables and decorations into a virtual floor plan of your reception venue – then link it to your entire guest list to place everyone perfectly.

and so on...
bridesmaid
groomsman
maid of honour
groom
bride
best man
bridesmaid
groomsman
and so on...

head table

TRADITIONAL SEATING AT HEAD TABLE