

sharing the costs

The most useful approach for a bride and groom to take with their families is to be communicative, realistic and courteous. Weddings are expensive and there are times when tradition should bow to practicality. Below is the customary division of expenses.

bride's family

- Invitations, announcements and postage
- Bride's wedding attire and trousseau
- Cost of the ceremony, including rental of sanctuary, chapel or other facility, organist, soloist and sexton fees, aisle carpets, flowers and any additional decorating costs
- Bridesmaids' bouquets
- Cost of the reception, including food, wedding cake, beverages, flowers, decorations, music, rental equipment and gratuities for bartenders and waiters
- Engagement and wedding photographs
- Transportation
- Wedding gift for the newlyweds
- Wedding consultant
- Any welcome parties for out-of-town guests

bride

- Groom's ring
- Gift for the groom
- Gifts for her attendants
- Lodging for her out-of-town attendants (optional)
- Bridesmaids' luncheon
- Gift for parents

groom's family

- Their own wedding attire
- Wedding gift for the newlyweds
- Rehearsal dinner
- Their travel expenses and hotel bills
- Shipment of wedding gifts to the bridal couple's new home

groom

- Bride's engagement and wedding rings
- Gift for the bride
- Marriage license
- Fee for officiant
- Gifts for best man, groomsmen and ushers
- Bridal bouquet and going-away corsage
- Boutonnieres for all men in wedding party
- Mothers' and grandmothers' corsages
- Lodging for his out-of-town attendants (optional)
- Honeymoon
- Bachelors' dinner (optional)
- Gift for parents

attendants & ushers

- Their wedding attire selected by the bride
- Travel expenses and lodging
- Parties for the bride and groom
- Wedding gift for the couple

notes
