



PRINTABLE

The Newlywed Roadmap

A practical guide from engagement through the first steps of married life.



Use this roadmap as a planning companion. Check off what applies, add your own notes, and confirm legal or financial details with the appropriate professional or agency.

EVERY STEP CREATES YOUR STORY.

Build the Foundation

Begin three to six months before the wedding, or whenever you are ready to plan with greater intention.

Relationship and Shared Vision

- ☐ Schedule premarital coaching and identify the topics you want to strengthen together.
- ☐ Discuss communication habits, conflict repair, and how each of you prefers to receive support.
- ☐ Review debts, savings, credit, spending patterns, and expectations for managing money.
- ☐ Talk through career, family, faith, lifestyle, and location goals.
- ☐ Discuss household responsibilities, parenting expectations, and major family boundaries.
- ☐ Write down three priorities you want your marriage and wedding decisions to reflect.

Wellness During Wedding Planning

- ☐ Choose movement, nutrition, rest, and self-care habits that feel realistic for both of you.
- ☐ Protect time for connection that is not centered on wedding tasks.
- ☐ Identify the people or professionals you can call when stress begins to build.
- ☐ Decide which responsibilities can be delegated instead of carried alone.

Planning as a Team

- ☐ Confirm the overall wedding budget and who has authority to make final decisions.
- ☐ Set a recurring planning check-in and keep one shared list of deadlines.
- ☐ Name your top three wedding priorities before comparing vendors or adding expenses.

NOTES, DATES, AND OUR NEXT ACTION

Prepare for the Ceremony

Use the final one to two months to confirm the legal, personal, and practical details of the day.

Georgia Marriage License

- ☐ Review current requirements with the Probate Court that will issue the license.
- ☐ Confirm identification, document, appointment, and fee requirements directly with that court.
- ☐ Apply within the time frame required for your circumstances and keep the license protected.
- ☐ Bring the original marriage license to the ceremony for the officiant to complete and sign.

Path2Promise package note: For the Legacy and We Promise packages, the assigned officiant returns the completed license to the issuing Probate Court. The Even Better package is for vow renewals and does not require a marriage license.

Ceremony Details

- ☐ Confirm the ceremony outline, vows, readings, rituals, and any special acknowledgments.
- ☐ Verify names, pronunciations, arrival times, rehearsal details, and the primary contact person.
- ☐ Assign responsibility for the rings, license, personal items, and ceremony materials.
- ☐ Share final changes with the officiant and other people who need them.

Final-Week Readiness

- ☐ Confirm vendor balances, transportation, the timeline, and emergency contacts.
- ☐ Confirm the ceremony's weather, accessibility, or backup plan when applicable.
- ☐ Prepare essentials, delegate last-minute questions, and protect time for rest.

ITEMS TO BRING, DATES, AND FINAL NOTES

Begin Married Life

After the celebration, give yourselves room to settle in, organize what matters, and revisit the goals you share.

After the Wedding

- ☐ Confirm that the completed marriage license was returned to the issuing Probate Court, if applicable.
- ☐ Ask the issuing court how and when certified copies may be requested.
- ☐ Organize important contracts, receipts, certificates, photographs, and digital files.
- ☐ Review insurance coverage, beneficiary designations, and emergency contacts.
- ☐ Update personal records only as needed for the choices each of you has made.

Marriage Check-In

- ☐ Set a post-wedding conversation to review your budget, routines, and shared responsibilities.
- ☐ Revisit the goals you discussed before the wedding and choose one near-term priority.
- ☐ Protect regular time for connection, celebration, and honest conversation.

First-Home Readiness

- ☐ Review income, recurring obligations, savings, and credit before setting a home budget.
- ☐ Plan for more than the down payment, including closing, moving, maintenance, and repairs.
- ☐ Compare loan options with qualified lenders and explore current Georgia homebuyer programs.
- ☐ Connect with a Path2Home real estate professional when you are ready to discuss your goals.

OUR PRIORITY AND NOTES FOR THE NEXT 90 DAYS

Explore more resources: Visit the Path2Promise Resources page for the Georgia Marriage License Guide, conversation guide, wellness and home-readiness checklists, and venue worksheet.

Keep learning: Marriage-license requirements vary by county. Homebuyer programs and terms can change. Verify current information before acting.

Sources: georgia.gov/apply-marriage-license | dca.georgia.gov/georgia-dream | consumerfinance.gov/owning-a-home