

# Wedding Color Palette Planning Checklist



Make the palette work in the actual room, on camera, and across every vendor.

1

**FIXED**

Start with the venue, attire, traditions, and finishes that cannot easily change.

2

**FEEL**

Agree on the atmosphere before choosing exact shades.

3

**FUNCTION**

Give each color one clear role instead of using every color everywhere.

4

**TEST**

Compare physical samples in daylight and in the room's evening lighting.

5

**TRANSLATE**

Send every visual vendor one approved palette guide.

**ORDERING GATE**

Do not place color-sensitive orders until the venue, major attire, palette roles, and physical samples have been reviewed together.

# Start with what is already decided

## A. Record the fixed elements

Photograph or note anything that the palette must work beside. Review the actual event spaces, including the rain backup location.

- ☐ Venue walls, flooring, carpet, curtains, and wood tones
- ☐ Chairs, linens, furniture, chandeliers, and fixed room lighting
- ☐ Ceremony backdrop, mandap, stage, or sweetheart-table structure
- ☐ Major outfits, embroidery, jewelry, heirlooms, and accessories
- ☐ Required cultural, ceremonial, religious, or family colors
- ☐ Indoor backup space and seasonal surroundings

FIXED COLORS / FINISHES WE MUST WORK WITH

example: warm beige carpet, brass chandeliers

IMPORTANT ATTIRE / TRADITION NOTES

## B. Agree on the feeling

Each partner chooses three words. Circle or write the final three before discussing exact colors.

- airy
- joyful
- intimate
- regal
- warm
- modern
- vibrant
- romantic
- dramatic

OUR THREE MOOD WORDS

THE ROOM SHOULD NOT FEEL

### DECISION GATE

Move on when both partners agree on the three mood words and the fixed elements are documented with photos or samples.

# Give every color a job

A clear role prevents over-matching and makes vendor decisions faster. Add a plain-language name and, when useful, a reference code.



**ANCHOR**  
Main visual identity - attire, florals, stage

COLOR / SHADE / FINISH

WHERE IT WILL APPEAR



**SUPPORTING**  
Depth and variation - flowers, stationery

COLOR / SHADE / FINISH

WHERE IT WILL APPEAR



**ACCENT**  
Selective contrast - napkins, signs, details

COLOR / SHADE / FINISH

WHERE IT WILL APPEAR



**NEUTRAL / METALLIC**  
Balance and breathing room - linens, chairs, tableware

COLOR / SHADE / FINISH

WHERE IT WILL APPEAR

## Connect events without copying them

Each event can have its own mood. Choose one recurring element to create continuity.

| EVENT               | MOOD + KEY COLORS | SHARED ELEMENT |
|---------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Ceremony            |                   |                |
| Sangeet / pre-event |                   |                |
| Cocktail hour       |                   |                |
| Reception           |                   |                |

## Placement check

- ☐ The anchor color leads; it does not need to appear in every item.
- ☐ The accent is used selectively to create contrast.
- ☐ Attire and cultural colors are included from the beginning.
- ☐ We are coordinating materials, not forcing imperfect exact matches.

# Test the palette in real conditions

## Physical sample kit

Place the real materials together. A color name is not a specification: record the shade, material, texture, and finish.

- ☐ Linen and fabric swatches
- ☐ Invitation paper and print sample
- ☐ Photos or swatches of major outfits
- ☐ Florist-approved color references
- ☐ Metal and rental-item finishes
- ☐ Manufacturer color cards
- ☐ Cake / signage finish references
- ☐ Lighting demonstration or test photos

### VIEW TOGETHER IN

- ☐ Natural daylight
- ☐ Warm indoor light
- ☐ Venue evening conditions
- ☐ Indoor backup space

## Lighting and photography questions

- ☐ Which room lights remain on during dinner, formalities, and dancing?
- ☐ Can the lighting scenes change as the reception progresses?
- ☐ Will colored light fall on faces, the cake, stage, or head table?
- ☐ Does a warm neutral scene support the decor better than a matched saturated color?
- ☐ Have the photographer and videographer reviewed the intended lighting?
- ☐ Are there fixed venue lights or restrictions that cannot be changed?

### LIGHTING PLAN FOR DINNER / FORMALITIES

### LIGHTING PLAN FOR DANCING

## Flower and substitution plan

- ☐ Florist confirmed likely availability and natural shade variation.
- ☐ Acceptable substitutions are documented before ordering.
- ☐ One person is authorized to approve last-minute changes.

# Approve once. Share one guide.

## One-page vendor guide includes

- ☐ Visual swatches with plain-language color names
- ☐ Anchor, supporting, accent, and neutral / metallic labels
- ☐ Reference codes when useful, plus material and finish descriptions
- ☐ Important attire, ceremony, and cultural colors
- ☐ Separate ceremony, reception, and multi-event notes
- ☐ Colors and finishes to avoid
- ☐ Approved substitutions and the name of the decision-maker
- ☐ A revision date so vendors know they have the latest version

## Send the same approved version to

- ☐ Planner
- ☐ Venue
- ☐ Decorator
- ☐ Florist
- ☐ Stationer
- ☐ Rental team
- ☐ Cake designer
- ☐ Lighting team
- ☐ Photographer
- ☐ Videographer
- ☐ DJ / entertainment
- ☐ Family decision-maker

## Final approval checklist

- ☐ Works with fixed venue features
- ☐ Respects cultural and family priorities
- ☐ Events connect without looking identical
- ☐ Flower variation and substitutions were discussed
- ☐ Lighting supports faces and decor
- ☐ One person can approve changes
- ☐ Complements major outfits and ceremony elements
- ☐ Each color has a clear role
- ☐ Physical samples were compared
- ☐ Works in daytime and evening light
- ☐ Every visual vendor has the same guide
- ☐ Still feels personal without a trend label

FINAL PALETTE APPROVED BY

APPROVAL DATE / VERSION

PERSON AUTHORIZED TO APPROVE CHANGES

LAST NOTES BEFORE ORDERING

## Ready to create the room atmosphere?

Discuss reception lighting and entertainment with DJ Binoop at [binoop.com](http://binoop.com)