

A man and a woman are standing together in formal wedding attire. The man is on the left, wearing a dark suit and a black shirt. The woman is on the right, wearing a long, white, strapless gown with a high slit and white heels. They are holding hands and looking towards the right. The background is a brick wall covered in dense green ivy with some yellowing leaves. The text 'GABRIELLA MARIE' is in a white, bold, sans-serif font, and 'photography' is in a white, cursive font below it. A white horizontal line is positioned below the text.

GABRIELLA MARIE
photography

HOW TO CUT WEDDING COSTS,
NOT GUESTS

| WEDDINGS ARE EXPENSIVE

EVEN WITH THE SMALLEST, MOST INTIMATE WEDDINGS, THERE ARE LOTS OF EXPENSES TO CONSIDER.

And you're in a pickle because on one hand, you don't want to spend a crap ton of money on one day. But on the other hand, this is your WEDDING DAY ... a once in a lifetime shindig that, if you're anything like me, you've been dreaming about since middle school. (No shame!)

In addition to my love for of photography, I'm super passionate about financial responsibility. (#nerdalert) So as an industry "insider", I decided to help all you future brides/grooms with tips & tricks on little things to save on without sacrificing important parts of your big day!!



Before we dive into all those budgeting tips, there are a few things you should know about me:

- I love the color yellow and everything sunshine
- I LOVE flying, especially at sunrise (see what I mean about sunshine?)
- I tend to squeal when I get excited (including in text form)
- I am suuuuch a hopeful romantic
- I love Jesus a whole lot!

And one more thing — **I'M HERE FOR YOU.**
Now let's get this money saving party started!!!

| BUDGETING TIPS

THINGS TO SKIP OR SKIMP ON TO SAVE

PARTY FAVORS

- Many party favors end up getting left behind

WEDDING CAKE

- Order a small cake just for cutting
- Do a donut tower or cupcake pile for your guests

HALF-OPEN BAR

- Have an open bar during cocktail hour
- Scale back to just beer & wine for the reception

DIY CENTERPIECES

- Make your own centerpieces instead of floral arrangements
- Go thrifting for unique vases then visit Michael's for spray paint & fillers (I'm a fan of faux pampas grass!)
- BONUS: Throw a centerpiece-making party with your friends!

POSTCARD SAVE-THE-DATES

- Saves paper, money & time

SHOES

- Wear shoes you already own (they're already broken in!)
- Your dress will most likely cover your shoes

BOUTONNIERES

- Use felt flowers, faux flowers, succulents, faux pampas grass, nautical rope, etc.

| BUDGETING TIPS CONT'D.

THINGS TO INVEST IN

PHOTOGRAPHY

- I know, I know, the photographer saying photos are important, BUUUUT hear me out:

The flowers will die
The food will be eaten & the alcohol consumed
The dress/suit/shoes will be tucked away
The guests will go home

...

but the photos will last a lifetime.

WEDDING COORDINATOR

- The last thing you want to be on your wedding day is STRESSED ... and wedding days can be stressful!
- A day-of coordinator will take all the heavy lifting off your plate and allow you to waltz through your day like the queen/king that you are

HAIR & MAKEUP

- You will have an insane amount of photos taken of you on your wedding day by your photographer as well as your guests
- This is ONE DAY to go all out on hair & makeup

DJ/BAND

- Your DJ/band can either make or break your reception
- If having a bomb party is important to you, make sure your DJ/band can play music you like AND guide the reception!



I hope you found at least one tip you can apply to your own wedding!! I'm cheering you on, friend :)

For more tips like these, feel free to visit [the blog on my website](#)!! I have posts on there like [5 Questions to Ask Your Photographer Before Booking](#), [Top Garden Engagement Locations](#), [Top Garden Wedding Venues near Philadelphia](#), and more!!

XOXO, GABRIELLA