

Hand this page to your agent and keep the decisions that are actually yours

An agent carries the administrative half of a wedding — budget arithmetic, the vendor pipeline, quote normalisation, guest logistics, follow-up. Everything creative, emotional and financial stays with you. This page is the split, in writing.

\$34,000
Average US wedding cost, 2025 — The Knot's 2026 Real Weddings Study.

\$292
Average cost per guest, up \$8 on 2024 — so model the guest list first.

117
Average guest count — cost per guest falls fast when it drops.

Who owns what

STAGE	YOUR AGENT	YOU
Budget	Cost per guest at 80 / 117 / 150, what remains per category after a 10% buffer, deposits by month.	Pick the number and guest-count scenario you will live with.
Vendors	Shortlist 12–15 per category, send tailored enquiries, chase non-responders on day 3 and day 10.	Approve the wording once; cut the shortlist to four.
Quotes	Normalise every reply into one table — hours, images, second shooter, travel, tax, deposit, cancellation.	Mark the two you would genuinely book.
Guests	Reconcile RSVPs weekly against one canonical list; draft seating as constraints, not opinions.	Send the invitations; make the awkward calls.
Booking	Prepare the contract summary and every deposit reminder.	Sign and pay. Nothing transacts without you.

SET THESE BOUNDARIES BEFORE YOU START

- **It never contacts a guest directly.** Guests hear from you — an agent that emails your aunt is a story you do not want.
- **It never signs, pays or commits.** It prepares and reminds; you transact.
- **It never makes taste decisions** — colours, vows, music and the ceremony are not optimisation problems.
- **It never recommends on vibes.** Every suggestion cites the listing it came from.

Cost figures: The Knot 2026 Real Weddings Study, 10,474 US couples married in 2025. Averages — they vary by city and guest count, so use them to sanity-check a plan, not to set a budget.