

shannon gail

Shannon Gail Weddings and Events
Chicago
ShannonGail.com



compare your wedding priorities

The first thing I always advise my brides is to make sure you and your fiancé are on the same page. How? Have him jot down his top three wedding priorities. Do the same, and compare! Who knows—he may envision exchanging vows on a cliff in Colorado! It's important to see the big picture and know what's a priority to each of you.

keep other wedding parties simple

Engagement parties are becoming popular because of the time gap between when a couple gets engaged and when they actually get married. But my advice would be to keep things simple and less extravagant. Plan on hosting just one or two events in addition to the wedding. You don't really need four expensive sit-down parties with the same guests. Instead, do something fun and simple, like hosting a party at a downtown pizza joint. Be creative with the types of wedding parties you're planning and explore the city's different catering options.

consider the city's obstacles

While many may find Chicago's bustling energy appealing, others may consider it a nuisance. To work with the city rather than against it, plan ahead for every aspect of your wedding, from reserving hotel space to exiting the ceremony on your wedding day, and enjoy what the city has to offer!

choose a go-to person

Even the most laid-back bride can have anxiety attacks on her wedding day. So whether it's your wedding planner, sister or a friend, pick a go-to person for everyone to contact with last-minute questions or emergencies. After all, your wedding day is about enjoying the little moments—not about putting out fires or playing telephone operator.

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CLOCKWISE FROM TOP For a whimsical vibe, use paper lanterns to light up the dance floor; clustered sugar flowers give a simple cake texture and depth; ditch the matchy-matchy look and let your bridesmaids pick their own style of dress in a shade of your favorite jewel tone; bring a rustic feel to the aisle with natural ceremony décor.

