



Welcome to Pop Parties! Thank you for taking the time to read our blog post on realistic wedding budgeting! Now, it's your turn to establish your realistic wedding budget with just a few easy steps. All you need is this PDF, a calculator, and an open mind!

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**STEP ONE:** Talk to family about what they are able to contribute to your wedding day financially and set your "target" budget.

$$\boxed{\phantom{000000}} + \boxed{\phantom{000000}} + \boxed{\phantom{000000}} = \boxed{\phantom{000000}}$$

family one                  family two                  the couple                  TARGET BUDGET

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**STEP TWO:** Determine your guest count for the event

# of guests

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**STEP THREE:** Let's work backwards by taking your target budget and dividing it by your guest count to achieve your overall cost per person for the wedding.

$$\boxed{\phantom{000000}} / \boxed{\phantom{000000}} = \boxed{\phantom{000000}}$$

target budget                  # of guests                  average cost per person

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**STEP FOUR:** Identify which tier you fall into based on the average per person spend by referring to our blog post [HERE](#). Remember, there is no right or wrong, just setting expectations early!

Tier for Wedding Spend

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#### QUICK TIPS

- Hire desired tiered vendors for priority items.
- Hire lower tiered vendors for unimportant items.
- It's more than OK to mix tiers!



**STEP FIVE:** Define your Fixed Cost Items by choosing a level of service for each vendor from the tier you wish to, or are able to spend at. Add them all up to calculate your total fixed costs.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc}
 \boxed{\phantom{00000}} & + & \boxed{\phantom{00000}} & + & \boxed{\phantom{00000}} & + & \boxed{\phantom{00000}} & + & \boxed{\phantom{00000}} & + \\
 \text{photographer} & & \text{videographer} & & \text{dress/attire} & & \text{church} & & \text{entertainment} & \\
 & & & & & & & & & \\
 & & \boxed{\phantom{00000}} & = & \boxed{\phantom{00000}} & & \text{TOTAL FIXED COSTS} & & & \\
 & & \text{venue} & & & & & & & 
 \end{array}$$


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**STEP SIX:** Define your Per Person Item Costs based on your expectation level (TIER) and multiply it by the number of guests are expecting. USE THE ORANGE BOX ON OUR SPREADSHEETS FOR THIS

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \boxed{\phantom{00000}} & \times & \boxed{\phantom{00000}} & = & \boxed{\phantom{00000}} \\
 \text{tier price per person} & & \text{\# of guests} & & \text{TOTAL PER PERSON COSTS}
 \end{array}$$


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**STEP SEVEN:** Define your total realistic wedding investment with the following formula:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \boxed{\phantom{00000}} & + & \boxed{\phantom{00000}} & = & \boxed{\phantom{00000}} \\
 \text{total fixed costs} & & \text{total per person costs} & & \text{REALISTIC WEDDING INVESTMENT}
 \end{array}$$


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**BONUS POINTS:** Set your Expectations by defining your top three priorities.

Adjust your guest count, adjust your budget, or adjust your expectations. Be realistic with yourself about what you can afford, and what you truly need for the big day!

1.
  2.
  3.
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Confused? Overwhelmed? Reach out to us! We love to help clients like you understand the full wedding planning process, with no obligation! And, even if we may not be the right planner for you - we certainly know wonderful planners from all over the country who may be a good fit in your city, so don't be shy! XO, Molly and the Pop Parties Team. [email: info@popparties.com](mailto:info@popparties.com)