



# Bridal Show

ONE STOP SHOP

A bridal show can be the one stop shopping experience you need to plan your entire wedding if you go prepared and are ready to get the job done. Here are a few tips on how to get the most out of your local bridal shows.

**Dress for the Occasion.** Remember to wear comfortable shoes. There is no doubt that you will be doing a lot of walking.

**Fashion Forward.** Bring a notepad with you to jot down any dresses you like during the fashion shows that will surely take place while you're there. Jot down the names of the bridal shop so that you can visit their booth after the fashion show.

**Take notes.** Often the day can pass in a blur unless you take copious notes about which vendors you like and want to revisit or schedule an appointment with. Make note of any bands or Dj you hear performing if you like what they are playing.

**Get Ready to Win.** Often times, the exhibitors will have drawing boxes available for you to enter to win prizes.

**Sign up for a Wedding Email account.** When you go to bridal shows many vendors will ask for your contact information. These vendors will then use that to notify you of any deals and specials that they may run. But not all vendors are good about updating their lists of contacts. So you may get stuck with getting these emails long after you're married. One way around this is to sign up with an email that you use with only planning your wedding. Many sites like MyBrideMail.com offer free accounts to brides, but once you are married, you can cancel it.

**Label, Label, Label.** To avoid having to write your name, address, phone number and wedding date 50 times, it is a good idea to have some address labels made up with all your contact information, including your phone number and email. Most local print shops can do address labels quickly and inexpensively.

**Find a sitter.** It's going to be a long day for the little tyke, so save yourself some heartache and find a sitter for any kids. If a bunch of you go in together on a single sitter, not only could your kid have a playdate with their friends, but it will be cheaper for all of you.

**Research.** Many show sites post who is going to be at the upcoming show. If you still need a cake, use the show as a free tasting. If you want to hear a band play before you hire them, head over to their booth. If you research ahead of the show, you can also get a feel for what vendors you want to look for, and have a more organized and efficient game plan.

**Enjoy it.** Remember just because you can get your shopping done in a single day at a single show, doesn't mean you should. There are likely more shows in your area at another time, or make sure you pick up a show program so that you can look up the contact information that you need.

The important thing to remember is that the show is there to assist you in every aspect of planning your wedding. When you take advantage of a bridal show, you can plan major parts of your wedding in just a few hours.

