COVID-19

> **HELPING BUSINESS GET BACK TO WORK**

NSW GOVERNMENT

COVID-19 Safety Plan

Effective 1 July 2020

Wedding ceremonies and receptions

We've developed this guidance to help you create and maintain a safe environment for you and your guests when planning a wedding.

There are some requirements that should be complied with, including the number of people who can attend. This will change with time, for up-to-date information visit **nsw.gov.au**

> GUIDANCE

Consider the actions you will put in place to keep people safe

CONSIDERATIONS	ACTIONS
Wellbeing of attendees	
Ensure your guests are aware they should only attend if they are feeling well and do not have any respiratory or COVID-19 symptoms.	
Consider sending out messages as the event draws closer to remind your guests it's important they don't attend if they are feeling unwell, and encourage them to get tested.	
If a guest has symptoms and asks if they should attend your wedding, encourage them to see their GP or attend a local COVID clinic.	
Think about ways your guests can be involved through a video broadcast or live stream, if they can't attend due to illness or travel restrictions, or are a vulnerable person and wish to avoid gatherings. If you are hiring a venue for the ceremony or reception, talk to the event planner or facility about any available options to stream the event.	
If you have guests who are at high-risk of developing COVID-19 complications such as elderly people or people with conditions affecting their immunity, consider discussing the option of attending the ceremony only, which is lower risk than the reception.	
If you will serve alcohol at your wedding, consider ways to encourage responsible use, such as limiting bar tabs or drink packages.	

CONSIDERATIONS	ACTIONS
Physical distancing	
Capacity must not exceed one guest per 4 square metres for a wedding service (excluding the couple, the people involved in conducting the service and the photographer and the videographer).	
Singing (particularly group singing) and wind instruments can spread COVID-19 if a performer is infected. If these are involved in the ceremony or reception ensure there are protections in place for guests, including at least 3 metres distance from performers.	
If you want to have dancing at the wedding, ensure this is restricted to only the wedding couple and the wedding party. Make sure to choose a venue that has a dancefloor area with enough space. Think about strategies to avoid crowding on the dancefloor and other areas such as avoiding or modifying rituals like throwing the bouquet or the Hora. Ensure people do not take alcoholic drinks onto the dancefloor. *(An earlier version of this guidance indicated that dancing for all guests was permitted at weddings. This was printed in error, and applies only to the wedding couple and wedding party.)*	
Consider seating guests from the same household next to each other, to make it easier to fit everyone safely together.	
Consider having photos taken before the ceremony (rather than in between the ceremony and reception) to decrease the amount of time between each.	
Hygiene and cleaning	
Consider alternatives to physical gifts or wishing wells, such as online gift registries, direct delivery or electronic funds transfer.	
Think about how other hygiene risks could be minimised, such as not sharing food or cigarettes/e-cigarettes and making sure people can remember which glassware is theirs.	
If you would like a guest book, consider asking guests to bring their own pen, or have a plan to clean any shared pens and the area around the book in-between guests signing. Consider alternatives like a digital guestbook that can be filled in from home.	
Record keeping	
Keep a record of guests who attend, including a mobile number or email address. Make sure you also keep a record of additional attendees such as photographers. Keep this list for 28 days after the event. If there is a guest at your wedding who gets diagnosed with COVID-19, public health will ask that you provide this record to assist with contact tracing.	