



# THE COMPLETE WEDDING GROOMING CHECKLIST

*For grooms, groomsmen & the morning that sets the tone.*

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*Our wedding morning was perfect. The team was calm, professional, and the groomsmen looked incredible. Worth every penny and then some.*

THOMAS & ALICIA F. · STAMFORD, CT · VERIFIED GOOGLE

★★★★★

## 8-Week Groom Skincare *Prep Timeline*

### 8 WEEKS OUT

- Start a simple daily routine  
*Cleanser, moisturizer, SPF. Pick three products and stick to them — consistent beats complicated.*
- Identify your problem areas  
*Razor bumps? Dry patches? Oily skin? Know what you're working with before you try to fix it.*
- Book Doorbell Barbers now  
*Lock in your wedding morning. Fall dates fill by spring — this is not a last-minute booking.*

### 6 WEEKS OUT

- Schedule your trial haircut  
*Get the cut you want for the wedding. See how it grows out over two weeks before committing.*
- Start exfoliating twice a week  
*Removes dead skin and prevents ingrown hairs. Use a gentle face scrub — not aggressive.*
- Make your beard decision  
*Beard, clean-shaven, or stubble. Commit now so it grows to exactly the length you want.*

### 4 WEEKS OUT

- Get your second trial cut  
*Refine the shape. Tell your barber exactly what you want reproduced on wedding day.*
- Do a hydration check  
*Skin looking dull or flaky? Drink more water. Cut back on alcohol and sodium this month.*
- Address nail grooming  
*Clean, trimmed nails. Ring exchange photos are closer than you think — hands are in every shot.*

### 2 WEEKS OUT

- Get your final pre-wedding haircut  
*Cut 10 to 14 days before. Gives the hair time to settle naturally — not too fresh, not grown out.*
- Stop introducing new products  
*No new serums, creams, or treatments. Skin reactions two weeks before the wedding are brutal.*
- Test your fragrance  
*Confirm your cologne works in the actual venue environment before the day itself.*

### 1 WEEK OUT

- Reconfirm your Doorbell booking  
*Confirm time, venue address, and full party size. We'll confirm everything back in writing.*
- Light trim only if needed  
*If hair grew too fast, a light cleanup is fine. Not a full cut — just a tidy edges pass.*
- Forward groomsmen their prep list  
*Send them the groomsmen page of this guide. No surprises on the morning of the wedding.*

### WEDDING MORNING

- Shower but skip shaving  
*If Doorbell is doing your hot towel shave, arrive with 12-hour stubble — not freshly shaved.*
- No hair products before we arrive  
*Clean dry hair is easiest to work with. Product in the hair limits what we can do.*  
doorbellbarbers.com · (800) 887-4524 · bookings@doorbellbarbers.com
- Relax — we bring the bourbon and cigars  
*Doorbell Barbers handles it all. The bourbon, the cigars, the toast. You just show up and be the groom.*

# Top 10 Ways to Look Your Best *on Your Wedding Day*

At Doorbell Barbers, we've spent over a decade preparing grooms for the most photographed day of their lives.

**01****Find (and Tailor) the Right Suit**

6 MONTHS BEFORE

A well-fitted, tailored suit makes the difference between wearing clothes and owning the room. Start shopping early so you have time for alterations — it's the single most impactful style move you can make.

**02****Get in Shape — Realistically**

6 MONTHS BEFORE

If you want to tone up, add a fitness routine now. Sustainable changes only — no crash diets. You want to feel confident and energized when you hit the aisle, not depleted.

**03****Brighten That Smile**

3 MONTHS BEFORE

You'll be smiling in every photo. Professional whitening or quality strips — start now. Results take weeks to develop fully. Don't leave this to the week before.

**04****Level Up Your Skincare**

3 MONTHS BEFORE

Book a professional facial or establish a daily routine with exfoliation and moisturizer. Healthy skin gives you that fresh, vibrant look cameras love. See our 8-week timeline on page 1.

**05****Shape the Brows and Groom the Details**

1 MONTH BEFORE

Sculpt the eyebrows, tidy ear and nose hair, check the nails. Ring exchange photos are closer than you think. Sharp brows subtly transform your face in ways you won't notice until you see the pictures.

**06****Shine Your Shoes**

1 MONTH BEFORE

Don't overlook footwear. A professional shoe shine or a good home polish gives you that clean, intentional finish from head to toe. Photographers shoot low. Scuffed shoes show up every time.

**07****Book a Relaxing Massage**

1-2 WEEKS BEFORE

Treat yourself to a deep tissue or relaxation massage before the big day. It helps with stress, posture, and circulation — you'll stand taller and feel lighter. One of the most underrated groom moves.

**08****Hydrate, Hydrate, Hydrate**

WEDDING WEEK

Dehydration shows on camera before you feel it. A dry, tired face can't smile the same way a hydrated one does — and you will be smiling all day. Drink more water than you think you need starting 3 days out. **IMPORTANT:** Skip the open bar at the rehearsal dinner. One night of restraint means a world of difference in your wedding morning photos.

**09****Avoid Heavy Drinking the Night Before**

NIGHT BEFORE

Skip the booze or keep it very light. You want to look bright-eyed and feel great, not bloated or puffy. Save the big celebration for the reception — that's exactly what it's there for.

**10****Clean Up the Back of Your Neck**

WEDDING MORNING

Most grooms focus only on the front, but the back of your neck gets major attention in ceremony photos. Book a last-minute cleanup to sharpen the lines and ensure you look flawless from every angle.

“Christian was a non-negotiable. All the guys looked amazing in photos. Calm, detail-oriented, incredibly service-driven.”

# The Modern Groom's Checklist: 30 Things You're Responsible For

Long gone are the days of "just show up in a tux." Today's groom is a co-planner, experience curator, and legend in the making.

## ■ Wedding Planning Responsibilities

- 01  **Propose.**  
*Make it count — she'll tell that story forever.*
- 02  **Set a budget together.**  
*Do this before any vendor conversations.*
- 03  **Start the guest list.**  
*Family, friends, who not to invite — start those convos early.*
- 04  **Visit venues together.**  
*Show up with questions. Look at logistics, not just the room.*
- 05  **Book your vendors.**  
*Help research and interview them. Don't ghost your planner.*
- 06  **Handle the bar and signature drinks.**  
*Own this one — guests will remember it.*
- 07  **Secure accommodations for out-of-town guests.**  
*Room blocks go fast. Book early.*
- 08  **Coordinate the guys' suits or tux rentals.**  
*Own the timeline for this — no one else will.*
- 09  **Choose groomsmen gifts.**  
*A flask isn't enough anymore. Make it personal.*
- 10  **Help design the wedding website.**  
*Link it. Proof it. Own it. Guests use it constantly.*

## 👉 Personal Touches That Matter

- 11  **Write your vows. And mean them.**  
*All vows are not it. She knows. Write something real.*
- 12  **Write a letter to your bride.**  
*Delivered on the wedding morning. This tradition is exploding.*
- 13  **Write a letter or toast for your groomsmen.**  
*Doorbell Barbers can help write and deliver this.*
- 14  **Make a morning-of playlist.**  
*Good vibes only. Sinatra. Something with weight.*
- 15  **Create your getting-ready schedule.**  
*Shave, haircut, bourbon, repeat. Plan the morning.*

## ■ Grooming and Appearance

- 16  **Book your wedding haircut and trial cut.**  
*Trial 6 weeks out. Final cut 10–14 days before.*
- 17  **Start a skincare routine.**  
*See the 8-week prep timeline earlier in this guide.*
- 18  **Tidy up your beard or go clean-shaven.**  
*Commit now. Last-minute beard changes never photograph well.*
- 19  **Get a manicure.**  
*Hands are photographed during the ring exchange. Plan accordingly.*
- 20  **Pack your day-of emergency kit.**  
*Deodorant, cologne, mints, safety pins, Advil.*

## ■ Groomsmen Coordination

## The Night-Before *Grooming Checklist*

### THE EVENING BEFORE THE WEDDING

- Shower and shampoo thoroughly  
*Clean hair and skin gives the barber the best surface to work with morning-of.*
- Moisturize your face and neck  
*Well-hydrated skin shaves cleaner and holds product better. Do both sides of the neck.*
- Trim nose and ear hair  
*Under a bright light. Do this tonight — not in a rush tomorrow morning.*
- Clean up eyebrows lightly  
*Light cleanup only. No dramatic changes the night before a big day.*
- Lay out your full grooming kit  
*Razor, brush, products, cologne. Everything accessible for the barber when they arrive.*
- Set the suite up for morning  
*Clear space for the barber. Know where your bourbon is.*
- Get to bed at a reasonable hour  
*Sleep is the best skincare product. Dark circles are hard to photograph around.*

### PRO TIP FROM DOORBELL BARBERS

Don't shave the night before if we're doing your hot towel shave in the morning. We need 12-hour stubble — it gives us the cleanest, closest result possible.

## What to Tell Your *Groomsmen*

### FORWARD THIS LIST TO THEM BEFORE WEDDING WEEK

- Get a haircut 7 to 10 days before  
*Not the week of. Hair needs time to settle after a cut before it photographs best.*
- Shower morning-of before arriving  
*Clean, dry hair with no product in it. Barbers work better on a clean canvas.*
- Bring a reference photo  
*A picture of the style you want. Don't assume the barber will read your mind.*
- Arrive on schedule — not late  
*One late groomsmen compresses everyone else's time. Respect the block.*
- Go easy on cologne  
*Neutral scent for the suite. The groom's fragrance leads — don't compete.*
- Eat before you come  
*Long morning on an empty stomach ends badly. Grab breakfast first.*
- Silence your phone during your cut  
*Be present. These are photos you'll look at for 40 years.*

### WHAT COUPLES SAY

*I actually fell asleep on the table. Getting a deep professional massage on the morning of your wedding should be the gold standard for every groom.*

Alex & E. · Verified Google Review

★★★★★

*Doorbell Barbers made the morning feel effortless. The energy shifted the moment they walked in. Worth every penny.*

Ashley & J. · Verified Google Review

★★★★★

## Morning-Of Schedule Template

Based on a 4.5-hour groom suite block. Adjust times to your ceremony.

### 4.5-HOUR BLOCK — T = CEREMONY TIME

- T – 4:30**     **Barbers arrive**  
Setup complete, kit unpacked, bourbon on ice, suite ready.
- T – 4:15**     **Groom in chair first**  
Cut, beard shaping, hot towel shave. Approximately 45 minutes.
- T – 3:25**     **Groomsmen 1 & 2**  
Simultaneous cuts if two barbers are booked. ~30 min each.
- T – 2:50**     **Groomsmen 3 & 4**  
Rotating through. Bourbon poured for those waiting.
- T – 2:15**     **Groomsmen 5 & 6**  
Final cuts. Getting-ready photos begin naturally here.
- T – 1:30**     **Touch-ups & finishing**  
Edges cleaned, product applied, final looks confirmed for everyone.
- T – 1:00**     **THE DOORBELL TOAST**  
Everyone suited. Glasses raised. Custom send-off delivered.
- T – 0:45**     **Photographer time**  
Getting-ready portraits. Everyone looks exactly right.
- T – 0:15**     **Barbers clear out**  
Suite is yours. You are completely ready.

## Avoiding Razor Burn *in Photos*

- Shave with the grain first
- Use a fresh, sharp blade
- Hot towel prep before shaving
- Pre-shave oil on the neck
- Cold water rinse immediately after
- Alcohol-free aftershave balm only
- No touching your face after shaving
- Or let Doorbell Barbers handle it entirely

## Questions to Ask *Any Wedding Barber*

- Are you licensed and insured for on-location work?  
*Required in most states. Non-negotiable. Ask before booking.*
- How many weddings have you done?  
*10+ weddings is a solid baseline. Ask for specific examples.*
- Can you handle the full party within our time block?  
*Know how many barbers are coming and how long each service takes.*
- Do you bring all your own equipment?  
*Chair, tools, products — they should need absolutely nothing from you.*
- What is included versus what costs extra?  
*Travel fees, setup time, bourbon — confirm everything upfront in writing.*
- Do you offer a custom toast?  
*Doorbell Barbers does. Most barbers don't. Ask directly.*

## Doorbell Barbers *Recommended Products*

*These are the products we use and trust in the suite. No fluff, no filler — just what actually works on wedding day.*

### SHAVE PRODUCTS

- + **Proraso**  
*Shaving cream — rich lather, eucalyptus base*
- + **Thayers Witch Hazel**  
*Alcohol-free toner — calms skin post-shave*
- + **New York Biology**  
*Mud mask — deep pore cleansing pre-wedding*
- + **Truefitt & Hill**  
*Pre-shave oil & aftershave — our partner brand*
- + **Le Labo**  
*Essential oils — used in suite aromatherapy*
- + **Aesop**  
*Hydrating facial cream — intense moisture, no shine*
- + **The Ordinary**  
*Vitamin C serum — brightens and evens skin tone*
- + **Dermal**  
*Collagen sheet masks — morning-of instant hydration*
- + **Persona / Feather / Shark**  
*Blades — sharp, precise, barber-grade*

### HAIR PRODUCTS

- + **Malin + Goetz**  
*Pomade — medium hold, natural finish*
- + **American Crew Fiber**  
*Pomade — strong hold, matte texture*
- + **Reuzel Fiber**  
*Pomade — flexible hold, easy to work with*
- + **Oribe Superfine**  
*Hair spray — light hold, no crunch, photo-ready*
- + **Sexy Hair**  
*Firm hold spray — long-lasting all-day control*
- + **Hanz de Fuko**  
*Gravity paste — strong hold, workable all day*
- + **Le Labo**  
*Beard oil — softens and conditions beard hair*
- + **Reuzel**  
*Sea salt spray — texture and volume, effortless*
- + **Aesop**  
*Polishing cream — shine and control for fine hair*

### NOTE FROM DOORBELL BARBERS

We bring our full product kit to every wedding suite. Products available through your barber or directly from each brand. Ask us at your booking consultation.

Book your wedding morning → [doorbellbarbers.com/booknow](https://doorbellbarbers.com/booknow)

# Ready to book the real thing?

*We bring the cuts, shaves, bourbon, cigars, and the toast.  
Available throughout CT, NY, NJ, MA, RI, PA, VT, NH, ME & FL.*

**BOOK NOW → [DOORBELLBARBERS.COM/BOOKNOW](https://doorbellbarbers.com/booknow)**

[doorbellbarbers.com/booknow](https://doorbellbarbers.com/booknow)

**108**

FIVE-STAR REVIEWS

**5.0**

GOOGLE RATING

**10+**

YEARS OF WEDDINGS

**78+**

MARKETS SERVED



*I actually fell asleep on the table. Getting a deep professional massage on the morning of your wedding should be the gold standard for every groom.*

Alex & E. · Verified Google Review

★★★★★

## DOORBELL BARBERS

*The original mobile wedding barber · Est. 2015*

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