



Your Jewish Fusion Weddingtm

Get Started Guide

DESIGN YOUR NON-TRADITIONAL WEDDING

By Yehudit Steinberg M.Ed.





Incorporate culture and faith

You're Engaged! Mazel Tov!

Now What? Where Do You Begin?

Hi I'm Yehudit Steinberg, the founder of Jewish Interfaith Wedding Network[an online community for couples and families] & Global Fusion Weddings, a program produced by Think Grow Love Media. Since 2003, I've helped hundreds of couples from different backgrounds, cultures and faiths successfully plan their fusion style weddings.

Over the years, we've learned a lot about what's truly important to couples like you. Family after family have thanked us for making their day better than they expected it could ever be!

One thing in common throughout all these hundreds of weddings, is the great desire to create a wedding that is inclusive, makes everyone feel comfortable and at the same time, stays true to the couples desires. Most of them didn't have a clue how to navigate this extra element of merging two or more backgrounds together in an inclusive, meaningful and totally fun experience. Now you can get the benefit of our years of experience.

There are a few important first steps that many couples miss because it's one of the big challenges in planning their wedding and there's just not a lot of up to date information online and off.

This is why we created this 5 STEPS TO PLANNING A GLOBAL FUSION WEDDING. It's our intention to get this information to you from the start so that you have a successful wedding planning experience. 5 steps & tips showing you where to start first and why.

xoxo

Yehudit Steinberg



5 Steps to Get Started

Who Knew? Don't get caught by surprise!

When planning a wedding with two (or more) cultures & faiths, a few extra steps in the beginning are really important to do before you book your location or any vendor.

Deciding your priorities & style upfront helps set you on the right path for successful wedding experience for you and your guests.

Step 1: Mazel Tov & Celebrate

Have fun and be creative!

- Uncork champagne, dine at favorite place
- Take parents to dinner & share the news.
- Share on social media.. be creative!
- Throw a party: Research Jewish engagement traditions & decide what you want to add to festivities
- Don't forget self-care 'me time'.



Step 2: What's Important To You?

One Size Does Not Fit All

- Be inspired! Explore the overall look & feel you want
- Consider both backgrounds, heritage, culture & faith. Familiarize yourselves with families' customs & traditions.
- List top heritage elements you want to incorporate.
- What's your wedding desire? List top 3 wedding elements most important to you.



Step 3: Family Meet & Greet

Get everyone on board from the start

- You & your fiancé each create a list of 3 top priorities & talk it over.
- Now it's time to meet with your families to get their input.
- Review your information & decide how to include them into your vision and style.

Step 4: Fusion Wedding Budgets

Allow For Extra Costs To Add Experience

- In addition to a general budget, decide on rituals, ceremonies & special cultural & traditional touches to include
- Create a budget tracker. Add specialty items & estimated cost.
- Having 2 ceremonies or weddings, Whose officiating? Special cake, ketubah, chuppah? Most planner budgets are not accurate in this area! Make a list & get actual estimates.

Step 5: Create Your Overall Vision

Draft Your Personalized Game Plan

- Successful planning starts with the end goal in mind. Draft a one page overall look & feel. include people, traditions. Be specific.
- Come up with 5-7 adjectives that describe wedding look and feel.
- Get organized with binder, G Drive etc
- Create both Pinterest & old school mood boards for inspiration .



Ceremony Design

107 Pins

Follow



Get Started Planning

Your Jewish Fusion Wedding

Draft your DIY action plan.

We've provided 2 pages for notes as you brainstorm 5 steps . Consider this time to brainstorm and get started with a written game plan designed for success.

Step 1: How are you going to celebrate your engagement? Jot down a couple ideas.

Step 2: Decide what's most important to you, have a brainstorm session. Make a list.

Step 3: Set a date and time to meet with your families to talk details. List your top 3 items most important to you both.



Step 4: Create a list ritual objects, officiant and other extra cultural and religious items. Research actual costs to include in budget.

Step 5: Draft an overall vision action plan. Write a couple sentences below describing your overall look and feel of your wedding, including top important elements

Next Step: Pick a couple dates and list them below. Check them carefully for holidays, auspicious wedding times, etc.



Bonus: Planning Tips

Tip 1: Nurture yourself

Take Time To Enjoy!

Savor the time before everyone knows. Take time to enjoy each other's family traditions. There's plenty of time later to dive into wedding planning.



Tip 2: It's a family affair!

Modernize without offending grandma

For some Jewish families, tradition still matters. Be prepared to compromise & pick your battles carefully. Explore ceremony & officiant options with family before booking anything.



Bonus: Planning Tips

Tip 3: Many ways to say "I Do"!

Explore ceremony options before choosing location

Gone are the days when you have to convert to marry someone Jewish. today, way more options. Research style option for you. Most important, decide before booking any venue and vendors.



Tip 4: Cultural weddings have extra costs

Make a list. Get real estimates.

When it comes to Jewish weddings, most budget estimators offer misleading pricing. Ritual items add additional ceremony & officiant costs, reception dinner & dancing. Make sure you cost out all ritual costs before finalizing your budget. Add custom touches, entertainment, performers, extra dress changes.

Think
grow
Love™



Time To Make It Happen

Pick A Date.

Now that you have a general idea for your style of wedding and what ceremony and officiant style you are choosing, it's time to move forward and set a date. Be flexible. Confer with family, important guests or officiant, astrologist, important holidays.

Many cultures have auspicious times to get married. In Jewish tradition there are some major holidays like Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, the holiest days of the year. In some traditions astrologers are called and date, month and year for wedding is very important in Chinese culture. You want to make sure and check with your families to make sure.

Let the planning begin!

Now that you've picked a date, you'll want to go location shopping. If you plan on hiring a full wedding planner, it's time to look for one. They can help you get everything in order and help with venue/location selection.

Save the Dates.

Warning! Do not send out save the dates until you have a confirmed date for your wedding location and a signed contract.



Your Jewish Fusion Weddingtm

design your wedding experience

Pricelist

DESIGN & OFFICANT (\$1995)

- Experience Design Package
- Rabbi Gershon officiant
- Ceremony Onsite Coordination
- Travel Expenses additional

DESIGN EXPERIENCE (\$997)

- 1-1 Visioning Session
- Create Overall Wedding Experience
- Ceremony Design and Script
- Infuse Cultural and Spiritual Special Moments throughout the wedding

CEREMONY DESIGN (\$650)

- Ceremony Design and Script
- Find The Right Officiant
- Incorporate Personal and Cultural Traditions into your ceremony
- Wedding Day Timeline

FIND YOUR OFFICANT (\$297)

- Find 3 Officiants/Book Appointment
- Design Workshop Series
- Find Your Officiant Guidebook
- Video: Choosing The Right Officiant

WORKSHOP SERIES (\$197)

- Jewish Wedding Planning 101
- Interfaith & MixedCulture Weddings
- Design Your Wedding Ceremony
- Coordinate Your Wedding

We can create custom services package for you, to ensure that you will get precisely the right fit for you. Book a time to discuss your vision and services you are wanting help with and we'll work with you on the pricing

[Chat with Yehudit](#)

Start with a 20 minute complimentary phone or Zoom virtual meeting