



The Best Man

Much emphasis is placed on the Maid of Honor, but interestingly enough the selection and role of the Best Man is most critical for the groom. The Best Man is not only one of the facilitators of the day's event as it relates to the groom, but he is best suited to deal with the contingencies of the day, Wedding and Reception transportation, obstacles, forgotten items, unexpected guests (such as angry ex-girlfriends). The Best Man should be a formidable character who is reliable and resourceful. Beginning with the bachelor party, till the moment the groom and his bride drive off to their honeymoon, the Best Man assists with the grooms every step and need. His mission falls into four categories:

1. To see that the groom makes it successfully to the alter
2. To assist in any unforeseen reception problems
3. To ensure the groom maintains himself enough to not make a fool of himself
4. To see to that the groom and bride successfully make it on their way to their honeymoon (and all final details are taken care of)

The Best Man Checklist

Before the Wedding

1. Arrange for the bachelors dinner and/or party
2. Select a gift for the groom
3. Act as a liaison for the groom's friends and family
4. Confirm honeymoon travel arrangements (if need be)
5. Provide transportation for the groom to get to the ceremony and from the ceremony to the reception
6. Assist with any gifts or acknowledgments for Wedding Party
7. Pick up tux, shoes and rings for the Groom
8. Make sure all groomsmen have been measured and picked up their tux

Before Leaving to the Wedding Ceremony

1. Help the groom dress, tux, shoes, black socks, cufflinks, tie, vest, handkerchief
2. Insure that the groom and car are packed for the honeymoon
3. Gas in the groom's car and/or the honeymoon car, travel tickets, passports, ID, etc,
4. Groom has Money/ Travelers Checks for Honeymoon
5. Wedding Ring
6. Reception Speech (make 2 copies)
7. Car Keys
8. Checkbook or credit card for any needed payments (all final payments should be made prior to the wedding)



Before Walking Down the Aisle and After the Ceremony

1. Ensure that the groom
 - a. Uses the restroom, pant's fly is up, Shoes are tied
 - b. Face and hair are in order, nothing in his teeth
 - c. If vows are written, that they are on him
 - d. Fear and second thoughts are calmed and put to rest
6. Hold the Wedding ring until it's time for the rings during the ceremony
7. Sign the Marriage license if you are the witness
8. Pays the clergy fee (should be done prior to the wedding but double check it's been done)

During and After the Reception

If required, you should arrive early and stay after the bride and groom depart. You may be requested to pay the vendors on the bride and grooms behalf and to help ensure that the reception facility or restaurant is left in good order. Whatever arrangements you make with the groom, be sure to review them with the couple at least a few days before the wedding. If they hired a Wedding Coordinator a lot of the above is taken care of by them.

1. Speech to the groom and bride
2. Offer the first toast
3. Dance with the bride and her attendants
4. Monitor that the wedding party does not get drunk

The Best Man's Panic Kit for the Groom

Here are some helpful items that the Best Man should have with him. If you are super pragmatic, you may want to purchase these items in advance and go over the list with the groom a few days before the big day. Throw them in a zip up bag and have them handy. A Wedding Coordinator will come with all of these items.

Aspirin, Tylenol, Antacid
Hair comb or brush
Hair gel or hairspray
Small towel, paper towels or Kleenex
Extra toothbrush and toothpaste, mouthwash
Deodorant
Black magic marker
Lint roller
Cufflinks
Have an extra copy of your Reception Speech

In conclusion, **You** have been selected to be the Best Man, the one who will help make the wedding day especially easy and trouble free. You have been selected because you are resourceful, energetic, and diplomatic. A friend with those skills can find solutions to problems without offending or creating new ones