

PRESENCE OVER PLANNING

Date Night Ideas

Simple prompts to stay connected while the planning gets busy.

A peaceful pause brings clarity back to planning. Somewhere between the venue tours and the spreadsheet, it's easy to let date night quietly disappear. These aren't elaborate — just twenty-five small, low-pressure ways to remember you're planning a marriage, not just a wedding.

At Home & Unhurried

- ◆ Cook a recipe from the place you got engaged, or hope to honeymoon.
- ◆ Take turns reading your vows-in-progress out loud, just to each other.
- ◆ Build a shared playlist of songs from your relationship, oldest to newest.
- ◆ Have a no-phones dinner and talk about anything except the wedding.
- ◆ Watch your favorite movie from when you first started dating.

Out & Easy on the Budget

- ◆ Revisit your first date spot, or recreate it as closely as you can.
- ◆ Take a slow walk somewhere new to both of you, no destination required.
- ◆ Go to a farmers market and cook whatever looks best that morning.
- ◆ Find a free local event — a concert, a gallery opening, a park festival.
- ◆ Get ice cream or coffee and just people-watch for an hour.

Something New

- ◆ Take a class together neither of you has tried — pottery, dance, a language.
- ◆ Go somewhere you've each been meaning to visit but never made time for.
- ◆ Try a cuisine you've never eaten together before.
- ◆ Plan a mini day-trip within an hour of home.
- ◆ Swap 'planning a surprise' duties — one plans this month, the other plans next.

Meaningful & Reflective

- ◆ Write each other a letter about what you're looking forward to in marriage, and trade them.
- ◆ Talk through what you each want your first year of marriage to feel like.
- ◆ Visit or call the people who introduced you, or who married you off in some way.
- ◆ Look through old photos of your relationship together, from the very beginning.
- ◆ Talk about the kind of home you want to build — not the house, the feeling.

Wedding-Adjacent, But Fun

- ◆ Taste-test cake or menu options as a date, not a task.
- ◆ Try on (or try building) your wedding day playlist together, dancing in the living room.
- ◆ Pick one small wedding decision to make together over a nice dinner, then stop talking about the wedding.
- ◆ Do a 'no-decisions' planning night — just look at inspiration for fun, nothing due.