

ABOUT WEDDING DÉCOR AND RENTALS

Knowledge shared from the [Preferred Vendor Directory](#)

Renting décor and equipment for your wedding ceremony and reception allows you to create a fantasy of total extravagance without spending like a celebrity. Even brides working with full-service wedding venues may find themselves renting supplies – sometimes because they don't like what their venues have to offer, and sometimes because those venues can't accommodate certain color or style choices. You may be surprised at the variety of ceremony and reception supplies you can rent, which can include giant tents with walls and windows, fine bone china service, full-size parquet dance floors, designer chairs, linens in every color and fabric imaginable, and more.

Partnering with a décor and equipment rental company to fashion the wedding you're envisioning opens up a world of options. With rentals, you can say your vows in your very own backyard, the park where you and your fiancé had your first picnic, or in a chic alternative venue like a museum or library. If you're marrying at a venue that's accustomed to hosting weddings, you can have linens that match your wedding colors exactly, real silver at your place settings, and custom lighting instead of the standard table settings and lights. But don't assume that rentals are always upscale – most event rental companies can also provide the basics.

Choosing which company will provide the décor and equipment for your ceremony and reception is first and foremost a matter of knowing where you'll be marrying and roughly how many people will attend. These are the details that will help you determine whether you will need a tent (and how big of one), portable bathrooms, meal prep and bar equipment, tables and chairs, and other necessary items. Your needs will depend on factors including, but not limited to, whether your ceremony and reception venues are indoors or outdoors, whether there is a kitchen, whether there are linens and tableware available, and how often the venues host events.

Rental contracts are some of the least complicated wedding vendor contracts because they are to a large extent lists of rental items and prices. However, you should take the time to truly understand a rental company's pricing scheme, policies regarding drop-offs and returns (e.g., do rental items need to be cleaned and repackaged), cancellation fees, usage rules (e.g., no cooking under tents, no candles on tables), liability policies, and all information pertaining to damages, either to the equipment itself or the venue due to faulty equipment.

Regardless of who you hire to provide your décor and equipment rentals, think about the ambiance you want to create – are you dreaming of a lavish, romantic wedding or something elegant, yet casual? A formal affair in the greenhouse of an arboretum will require rentals quite different from those you might want at wedding taking place in a hip, urban art gallery.

Price shouldn't be the only factor when you're choosing a rental center. Definitely ask prospective companies for their pricing catalogs, but remember to consider the quality of the equipment, the reliability of the company, and their willingness to give you a list of satisfied customers.