

SWEET BEGINNINGS

2607 McBain Avenue
Vancouver, BC V6L 2C7
Contact: Elana Lancit
Phone: 604-738-9552

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CHAMPAGNE ELEGANCE: BEER BUDGET

(Vancouver, BC)---Yes, it's possible to have an elegant wedding and still save on costs. Sweet Beginnings' Founder and President Elana Lancit offers several suggestions for trimming costs without sacrificing style. Saving money in some areas gives you more to spend on others:

1. Get married during the week (Monday through Thursday). Some venues and vendors give discounts for weekday events.
2. Have a lunch reception instead of an evening dinner reception.
3. If you're having a dinner reception, close the bar and serve only wine.
4. Make your own invitations. It's inexpensive, but also adds a personal touch for invited guests.
5. Don't rent a limousine. Have a friend drive you.
6. Buy shoes that you can wear again.
7. Use plenty of candles at a dinner reception to create a warm, romantic and elegant atmosphere.
8. Limit your guest numbers. Invite 50 guests instead of 150.
9. If there is a wedding before or after yours, consider the possibility of sharing the cost of decorating and flowers.

10. Have your wedding during the off-season, when demand is less and savings are increased.

11. Close the bar 30 minutes before your event ends without making an announcement.

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