

- House ✓
- Auto ✓
- Health ✓
- Pets ✓
- Services ✓

## Tips for Hiring a Chef for Your Wedding



**When it comes to choosing a chef to cater a wedding reception, look for a well-seasoned professional.**

Planning a wedding and reception? That likely means you'll be hiring someone to provide food for your guests. There are a variety of options for this, most obviously caterers, but another option includes hiring a chef.

### Caterer vs. chef

Catering services do use chefs and are a good choice for large receptions and a long list of guests. But if you're planning a smaller, more intimate event, a personal chef may be the perfect choice. Such a professional will come to the location to prepare and serve food on site, whereas a caterer generally prepares the food elsewhere and brings it to the reception.

### Related Article



#### How Much Does a Wedding Planner Cost?

From full-service planning to a single consultation, learn how much it costs to hire a wedding planner.

### Hiring timeline

Plan to book a chef at least nine to 12 months ahead for large events. If it will be at a private home with a small guest list, six months ahead should be sufficient.

### Plan a consultation

Plan to talk to several chefs before making your choice. Also, plan to sample food. This will help you confirm the chef's skill, as well as make choices for the event. Ask ahead if you'll need to pay for food samples, as customs vary.

### Related Article



#### What Does it Cost to Rent a Wedding Dress?

Get the gown of your dreams on a budget by renting a wedding dress instead of buying one.

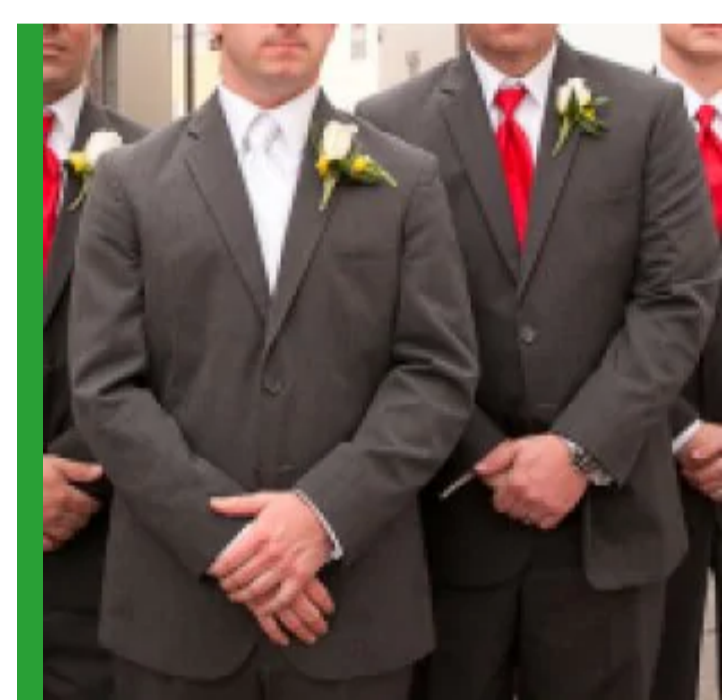
### Choose style of service

Some couples prefer the traditional method of having guests served. Others like the wider variety and food choices available in a buffet-style meal. The type of service and the food prepared will affect the cost.

### How much will it cost?

Typical costs start around \$25 per person for a basic wedding reception meal, such as a buffet-style table set up with multiple simple dishes, and doesn't include bar drinks. This rate also doesn't include the cost for renting a reception venue.

### Related Article



#### How Much Does Tuxedo Rental Cost?

From baptisms and proms to weddings and black-tie events, opportunities often arise to don a tux.

To provide hors d'oeuvres, a full bar, dinner and dessert, expect to pay \$100 or more per guest. The rate can vary considerably, depending on the reception site. A simple rented hall is less expensive than a reception and dinner at a five-star resort or country club.

**Editor's note:** This is an updated version of an article originally published on April 18, 2013.

March 25, 2016

By Abbey Ketiing, Angie's List contributor

## Post New Comment

Name

Subject

Type your comments here.

All comments are subject to review and approval prior to posting.

Save Preview