



The Gingham Grasshopper

Fine jewelry for babies and children

Let the little children come
to me, and do not hinder them,
for of such is the
kingdom of God.
Mark 10:14



Christening Planner

6 - 8 weeks in advance

- ☐ Contact the church. Make appointment with the priest or minister to set a date for the christening and discuss how the ceremony will be done. Also, go over any paperwork you may need for the christening.
- ☐ Prerequisites. You'll need to find out if there are any requirements you will need to meet for the church to perform the ceremony.
- ☐ Choose Godparents. Take some time to choose your child's godparents. Traditionally, a child has one male and one female godparent. The godparents will need to be at both the christening ceremony and the after party so make sure they will be available to be there.
- ☐ Reserve party venue. Decide where you want to have the after party. If you are using a popular location or public park, you will need to reserve it early.
- ☐ Contact caterers. If you will be using caterers, contact them in advance.
- ☐ Photographer. If you will be using a professional photographer, you will need to contact them to reserve their services. You can also use a willing friend or family member if you choose.

You may find it helpful to keep everything in a small notebook. Everything will then be in one place and if you need to check back for information, you will know where to find it.

4 weeks in advance

- ☐ Invitations. Pick out your invitations. If you are making your own invitations - start early. Make a picture of your baby part of the invitation; your guests will be sure to keep that adorable picture in sight. Once done, send the invitations so you will get on your guests' calendars early. Be sure to include RSVP information so you will have a head count. Also be sure to make clear where the party will be and the time.
- ☐ Guest list. Decide on the guest list for the ceremony.
- ☐ Christening Outfit. Start looking early for a christening gown or outfit in case you need to wait for shipping or special details such as monogramming. Consider the time of year when choosing an outfit; make sure your baby will be warm enough or cool enough to be comfortable. If your family uses a traditional 'family' gown, then be sure to check it ahead of time in case repairs or cleaning will be necessary.
- ☐ Accessories. Find the accessories you will need for the christening outfit. If the weather or church will be cool, a christening blanket, bonnet, and socks. Be sure to order your christening bracelet or other items early, too.
- ☐ Order the cake. Pick out and order the christening cake and any other items you plan to have made for you.
- ☐ Menu. Finalize your menu with caterers, or finalize your own menu plans. To keep costs down you may choose to have some items made for you while making some yourself. If there will be a number of young children present be sure to plan suitable items they will appreciate.
- ☐ Order the flowers. If you will be using flowers then order them. Sometimes a church may require this.
- ☐ Decorations. Decide what decorations you will want to use and purchase or make them.



3 weeks in advance

- ☐ Your outfit. Pick out your own outfit and accessories. It will be a busy day so be sure to choose comfortable shoes! If you have other children in the family, select what they will wear.
- ☐ Reconfirm ceremony. Reconfirm the christening arrangements with the priest or church office and make sure you have all the necessary paperwork.
2 weeks in advance
- ☐ Reconfirm venue. If you are renting a venue for the party, reconfirm your reservations are for the correct date and time.
- ☐ Finalize the guest head count.

1 week in advance

- ☐ Cake. Reconfirm the date for picking up your cake or having it delivered to your venue. If picking it up, make arrangements to get it to your party location. Check that you have other menu items you will need. Make sure you have all the plates, cups, napkins, etc. that you will need.
- ☐ Reconfirm the photographer.
- ☐ Outfits. Check that you have the christening outfit and all accessories. Blankets, bib, socks, jewelry, etc. If the gown needs pressed you can do it now. If you don't plan for your baby to wear the gown the entire time, pack a change of clothes, too. Check that your own outfit is ready and those of other family members.
- ☐ Extras. Make sure you have all the little extras you may need for the ceremony. Do you need a christening candle, booklet for the church, bottles for the Holy water.

The day before

- ☐ Have all your little extras, paperwork, etc. in one place and ready to go.
- ☐ Be sure your camera is charged and working correctly and a storage card if you need one.

After the christening

- ☐ Write thank you notes to those who attended or gave gifts.
- ☐ Gown preservation. Obtain a chemical-free cotton preservation bag for the christening gown to keep as a family heirloom. The chemicals in vinyl bags available at most retailers will discolor fabric over the years.

Enjoy your special event with your baby and family!
Please be sure to see the beautiful Christening jewelry and gifts at
The Gingham Grasshopper.com