



# Big Fat Wedding Finances: The Price Tag of “Happily Ever After”

WORK SAMPLE FOR ENTERTAINMENT NICHE



Alt text: The image depicts a newlywed couple, seen from behind, walking hand-in-hand across a grassy, hilly landscape.

## **Love Ain't Cheap: Why Big Weddings Are Getting Bigger**

Once upon a time, a wedding meant a modest gathering, simple ceremonies, and home-cooked feasts. But welcome to the era of cinematic shaadis, where everything is extra — from drone-shot entries and firework finales to choreographed sangeets that look like Karan Johar directed them.

These weddings aren't just celebrations anymore; they're full-blown productions. Social media has cranked up the pressure — if your haldi ceremony isn't going viral, was it even worth it? Add to that the emotional fuel of family expectations and the “we're only doing this once” mindset, and suddenly, you're planning a spectacle. And hey, if you're not getting married in a Rajasthani palace or on a cliff in Santorini, are you even trying?

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## The Breakdown: Where the Money Goes

Let's get real — the math isn't pretty. A Big Fat Wedding can drain savings faster than you can say "Shaadi Mubarak." First up, venues and accommodations can eat up ₹10–50 lakhs (or more if you're dreaming of a destination fête). Catering? Think ₹5–25 lakhs to keep everyone's plates — and hearts — full. Add another ₹5–20 lakhs for décor that screams Pinterest goals, and at least ₹5–50+ lakhs for clothes and jewelry that would make a Mughal queen blush. Then there's photography and videography, easily ₹2–10 lakhs, because those Instagram reels won't make themselves. DJs, celebrities, and entertainment can touch ₹25 lakhs, and don't forget those sneaky extras — transport, gifts, planners — another ₹5–15 lakhs. Total damage? Anywhere from ₹50 lakhs to ₹5+ crores, depending on how royal your vision is.

## Smart Shaadi Moves: Finance Tips to Avoid Bankrupting Your Future

Let's pump the brakes and talk strategy — because as glamorous as a 3-day destination wedding sounds, nobody wants to start married life drowning in debt. Rule #1: Set a rock-solid budget. Not just a vague idea — write it down, build a spreadsheet, lock it in. Rule #2: Know who's footing which bill. Communication is key here. Bride's side, groom's side, couple themselves — make sure everyone's on the same financial page. Rule #3: Consider hiring a wedding planner — yes, they cost money, but they can help save more with vendor deals and time management. Rule #4: Embrace the power of DIY — think digital invites, handmade favors, or a home garden mehendi. And finally, prioritize: Do you really need 4 lehengas and 5 makeup artists? Focus on what matters most and cut the fluff.



Alt text: The image displays two golden wedding rings placed on a light-colored surface with some decorative elements.

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## Wedding Loans & Credit Cards: Heaven or Hell?

When your Pinterest board exceeds your bank balance, the temptation to swipe that credit card or take out a wedding loan is real. But let's not turn the mandap into a money pit. Wedding loans may sound convenient, but interest rates can range from 10% to a whopping 20%, and you might find yourself paying EMIs well into your first anniversary. If you're absolutely set on borrowing, opt for a low-interest personal loan or explore EMI plans with clear terms and conditions — no nasty surprises, please. But truly, if there's one piece of financial advice to tattoo on your soul: a wedding lasts a week, but debt lasts a whole lot longer. Borrow with caution, plan with intention.

## Love Over Luxury

Here's the closing curtain: it's your wedding, not a competition or a reality show. Whether you're spending ₹5 lakhs or ₹5 crores, the real success isn't in how jaw-dropping your mandap looked or how many reels went viral — it's in how joyfully you celebrate, how authentically you show up, and how peacefully you step into this new chapter. Don't blow your future on a week of flexing. Invest in your love, your growth, your shared dreams — and yes, maybe that once-in-a-lifetime honeymoon where you don't have to refresh your bank balance every morning. Marry smart. Love loud. And spend like you've got forever ahead — because you do.



Alt text: a beautiful shot of a newly wed couple in an Indian marriage

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