



Wedding Seating Chart

IN WHAT ORDER ARE THE PARENTS & GRANDPARENTS SEATED?

The rule of thumb for the order in which to seat these VIPs is groom's side then bride's side categorized in reverse-order of importance -- did you get that?

Let me give you an example using the grandparents and parents for both sides:

1. Groom's paternal grandparents
2. Groom's maternal grandparents
3. Bride's paternal grandparents
4. Bride's maternal grandparents
5. Groom's parents
6. Bride's mother

The bride's mother is always sat last (assuming the father of the bride will be escorting her down the aisle). The seating of the bride's mother signals the other guests that the processional is about to begin.

WHAT IF THERE ARE STEP-PARENTS?

If there are step-parents in the picture the groom's father and new wife will be sat before the groom's mother and new husband. For the bride's side, if the father is escorting the bride down the aisle the step-mother would be sat alone before the mother of the bride is sat.

If the mother of the bride is re-married she may be escorted down the aisle by her new husband or by one of the ushers/groomsmen with her husband following behind.

WHO SEATS WHO AND HOW?

Your VIP guests may be escorted down the aisle by an usher, a groomsman, or a close friend or family member (typically a male). The escort will offer the female guest his right arm and escort her to her seat. If there is a husband/date as well he will follow in behind. When the group reaches the guest's seat the escort will use his left hand to signal the guest to her place.

HONORING A DECEASED PARENT DURING THE PROCESSIONAL

If there are any deceased parents to be honored you might have the escort carry a candle or photo down the aisle and place it in the parent's seat.