

Wedding Table Spacing Cheat Sheet

Calculate exact quantities and build visually stunning, guest-friendly reception tables.

Designing a flawless reception requires precise measurements to arrange a comfortable layout. Use this guide to effortlessly build your tablescape from the floor plan down to the place settings.

● Essential Spacing Measurements

24 in

Elbow room between adjacent charger centers

Under 14 in

Max floral height for clear sightlines

Min 60 in

Clearance between table edges for catering

Min 4 ft

Walkway perimeter around high-traffic zones

Exactly 1 in

Distance from table edge to chargers

At least 6 in

Foliage clearance protecting nearby delicate glassware



Anchor With Museum Wax

Press a dot of museum wax at the base of every taper to hold them perfectly straight. Warm with a hairdryer for a quick, damage-free cleanup later!

● Setting the Foundation

- 1 Map the Layout** Sweep the venue floor completely before mapping your room to keep pristine base linens spotless.
- 2 Drape Base Linens** Use heavy, floor-length matte fabric to hide legs and create a luxurious decorative backdrop.
- 3 Puddle the Runner** Weave softly gathered fabric organically between floral vessels instead of pulling it tight across wood.
- 4 Check the Lighting** Dim overhead lights to evening settings early to ensure candlelight provides enough menu illumination.

● Choose Your Table Shape

Find your row: Venue footprint

Venue footprint	Your pick	Why
Long, narrow room	Rectangular tables	Creates intimate, family-style dining
Square or wide room	Round tables	Naturally encourages group conversation

● 8-Foot Rectangular Table Quantities

Tables	Low compote centerpieces	Staggered taper candles	120-inch gauze runners	Condensation-free carafes
5	15 arrangements	35 candles	5 runners	10 carafes
10	30 arrangements	70 candles	10 runners	20 carafes
15	45 arrangements	105 candles	15 runners	30 carafes

Order a 5 percent overage on delicate rentals for unexpected breakages.

● The Perfect Place Setting

- ☐ Dinner knife placed to the right of the charger
- ☐ Dinner fork placed to the left of the charger
- ☐ Bottom flatware handles flush with base plate edge
- ☐ Water goblet positioned directly above the dinner knife
- ☐ Wine glass forming a tight triangle to the right
- ☐ Small bread plate balancing the top left of forks
- ☐ Simple pocket fold napkin anchored by cardstock menu
- ☐ Personalized place card resting above the dessert spoon

● Setup Notes & Measurements

Enjoy styling a breathtaking reception that your guests will navigate and experience comfortably!