

# THE ELOPEMENT *experience*



QUESTIONNAIRE

# Should you elope?



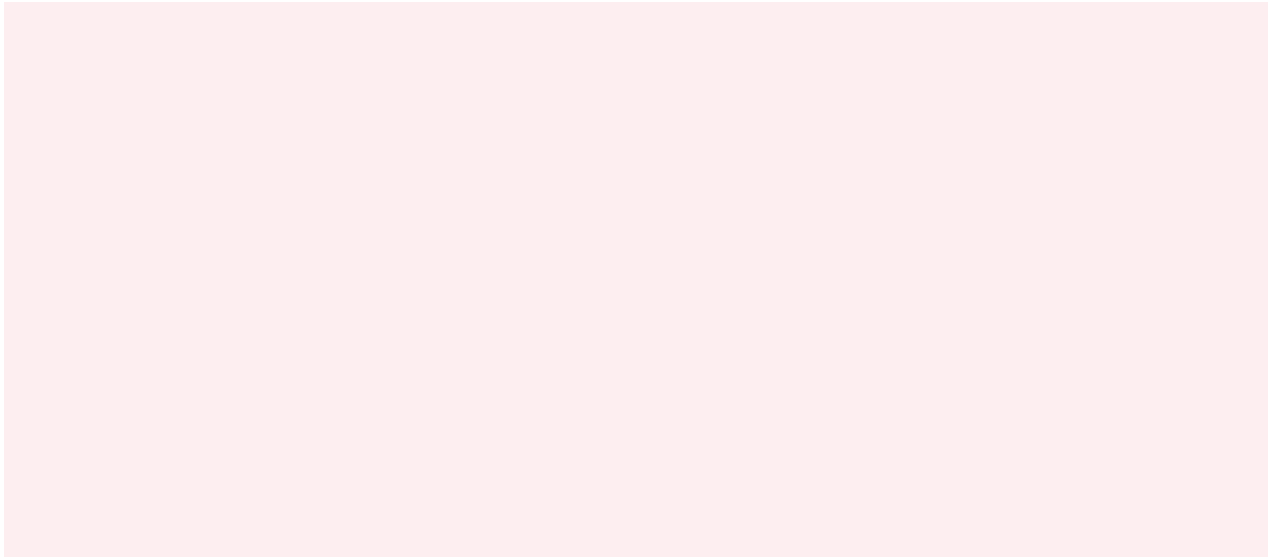
This questionnaire will help you begin your journey, so simply answer these questions to find out! Grab a pen, your fiance, and a glass of wine—and fill these together for some added fun!

Happy planning!

*rochelle*

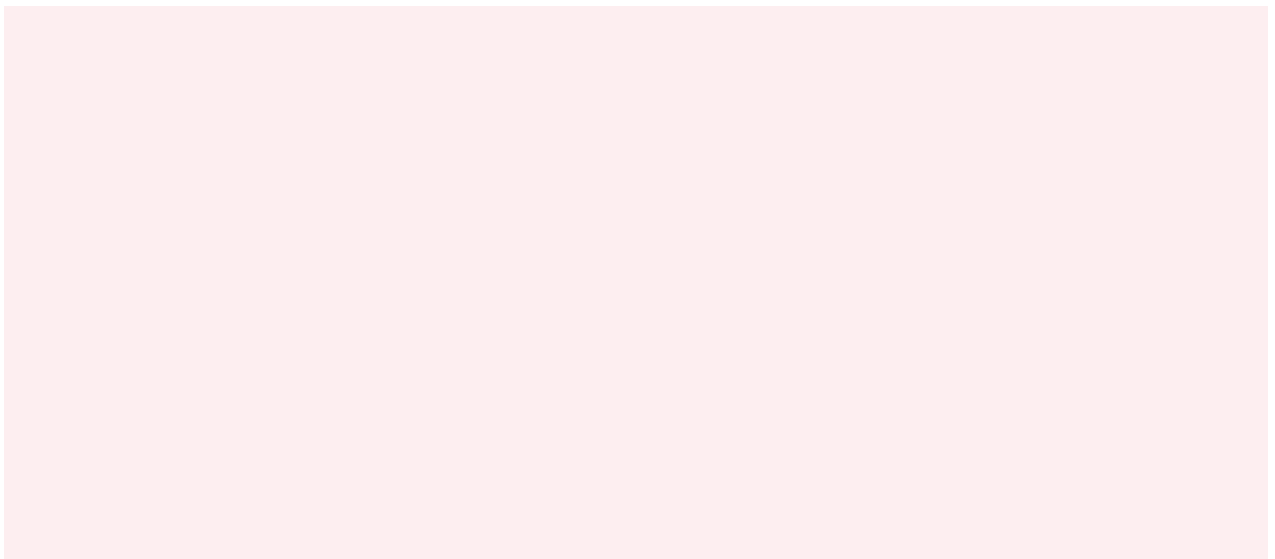
## Why do you want to elope?

Looking for something intimate? Trying to save money on a regular ceremony? Talk this out with your partner and list some reasons you're ready to elope!



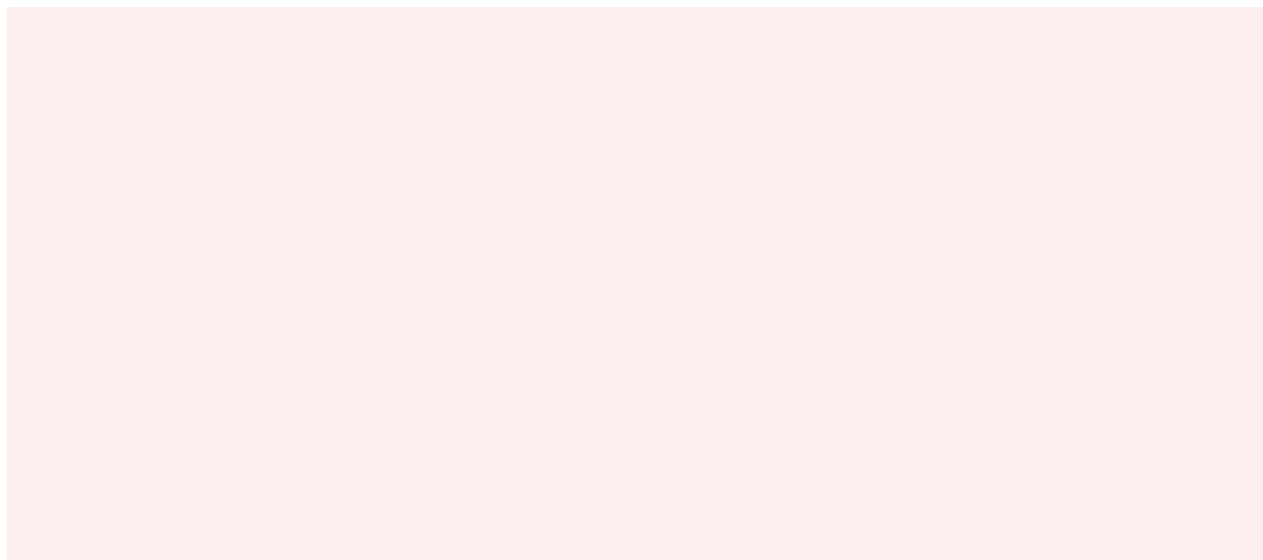
## Will you keep it a secret?

If you decide to elope, will you invite friends and family or keep it between you two? Something to consider: Will anyone be upset after hearing the news?



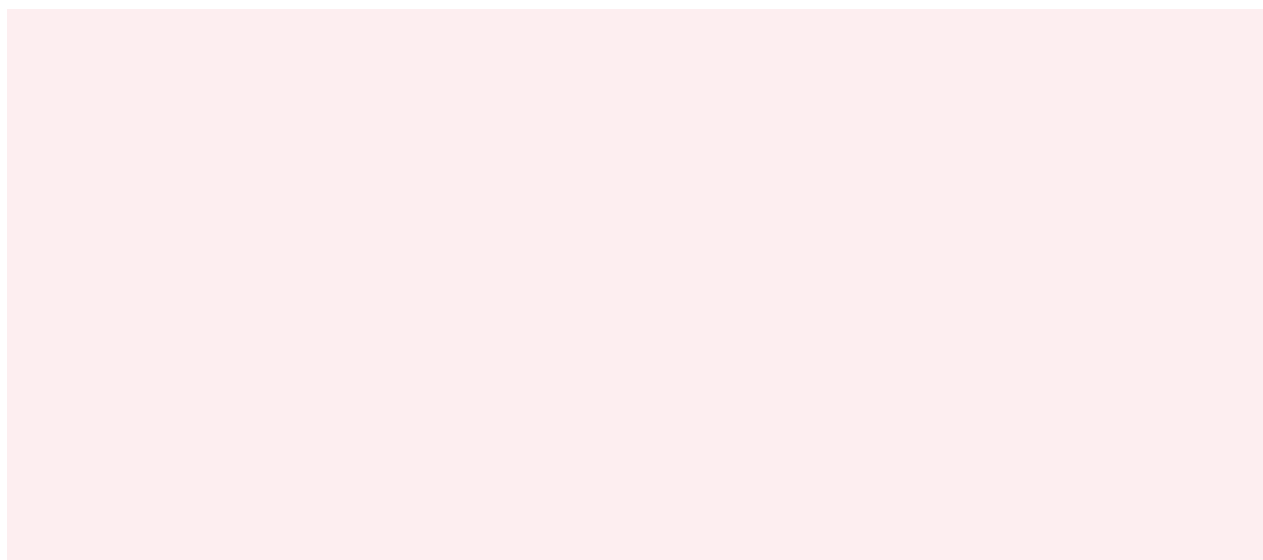
## Where did you meet?

Whether it was working together or taking each other's lattes by accident—it was truly fate! Tell your story here.



## Where was your first date?

Where did you go? Who asked who? How did you choose the time and place?



## Where did he/she pop the question?

Think about the special place where you said “yes!”. What made your other half choose this spot?

## What made you fall in love?

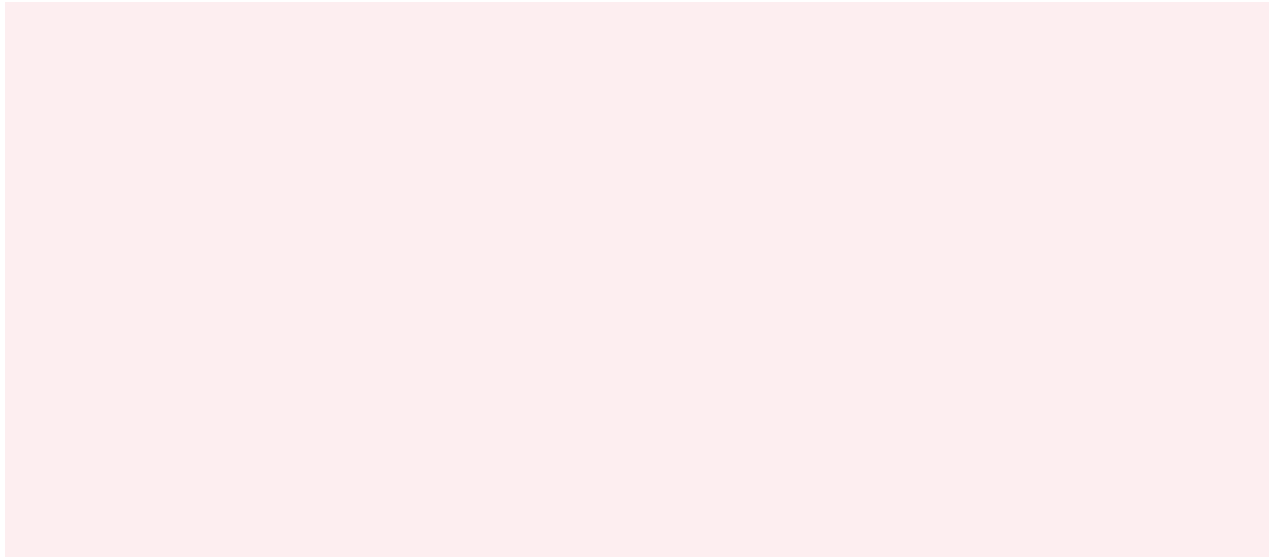
Go ahead! Spill the details. Hint: This is a fun one to answer with your S.O.!



THE ELOPEMENT EXPERIENCE QUESTIONNAIRE

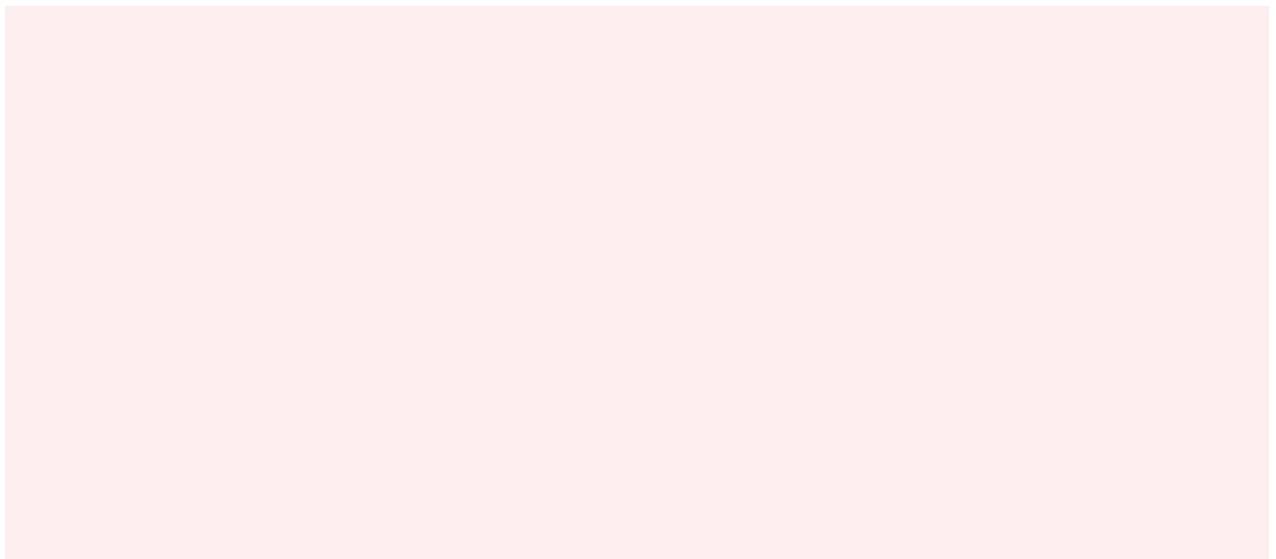
## Was it love at first sight?

Were you weak at the knees or writing their name in hearts after the first date? Write your story here.  
Bonus: This is your excuse to have a romantic moment with your fiance!



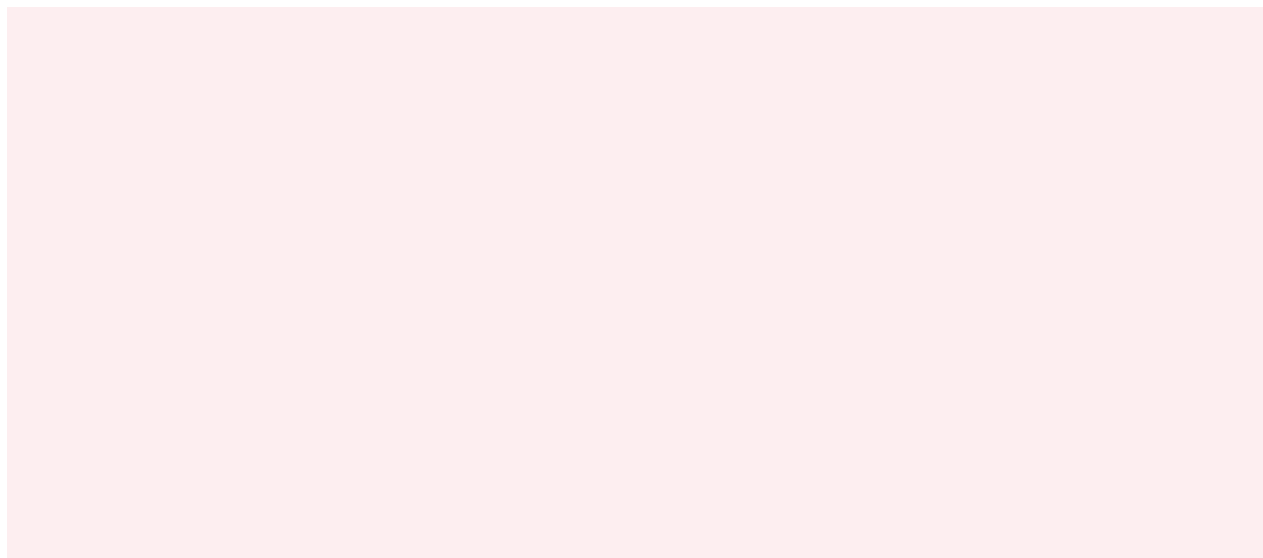
## Favourite things to do as a couple?

List at least 6 things you love to do together! (This will help you choose a location for the big day.)



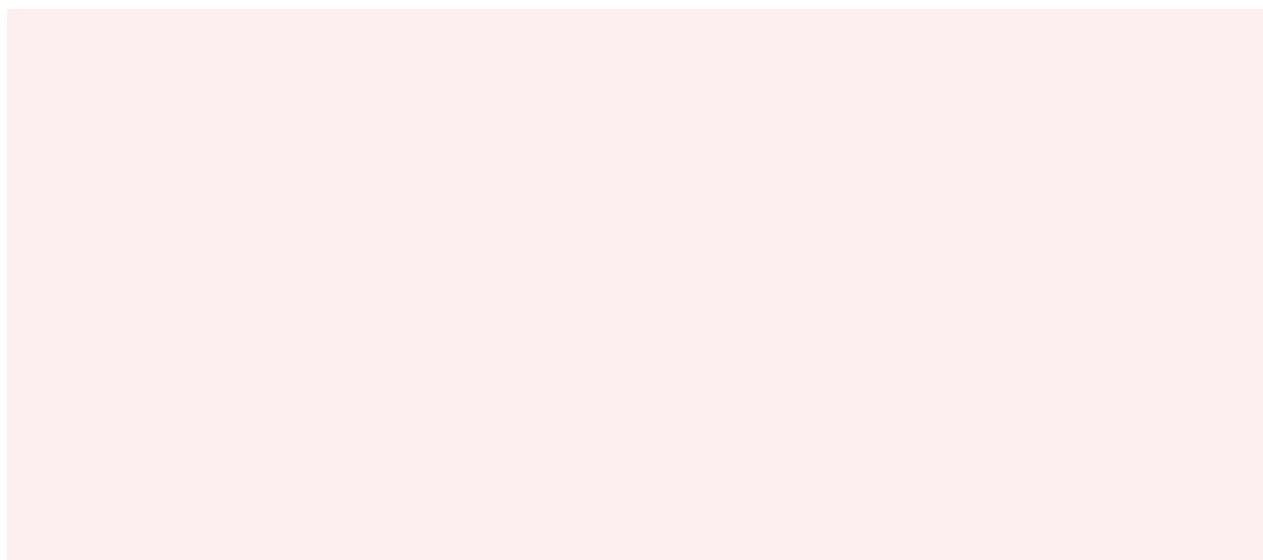
## Where will you live after your married?

Already living together? Can't wait to buy a house? Staying with family until you settle in?  
Dream up some future plans here!



## Do you like adventure?

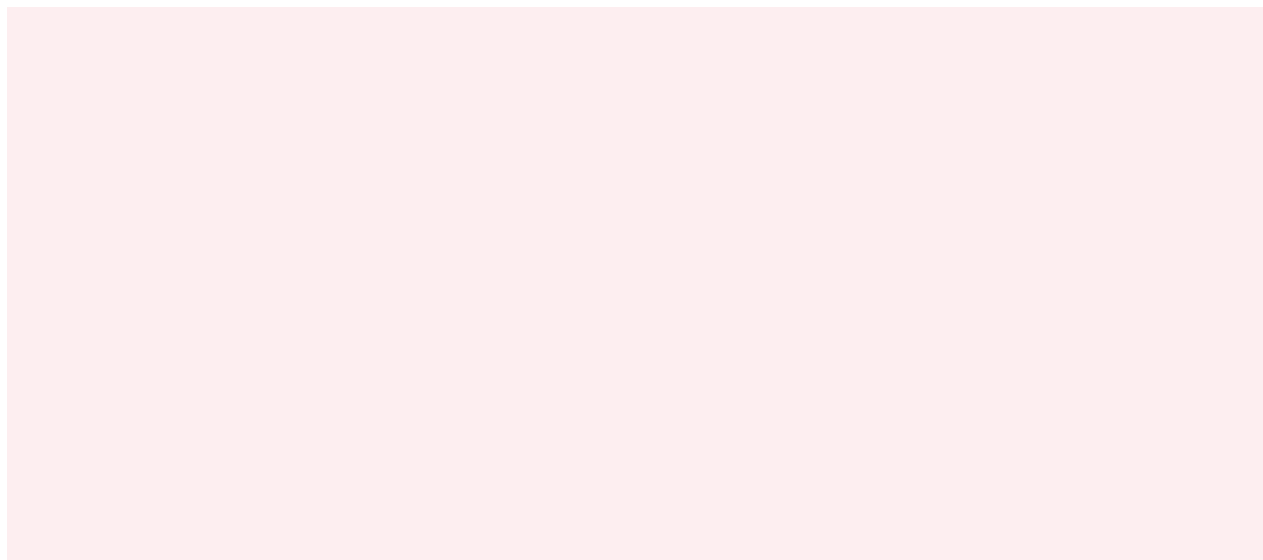
Answer honestly! This will help you decide what your day will look, or if eloping is right for you and your partner.





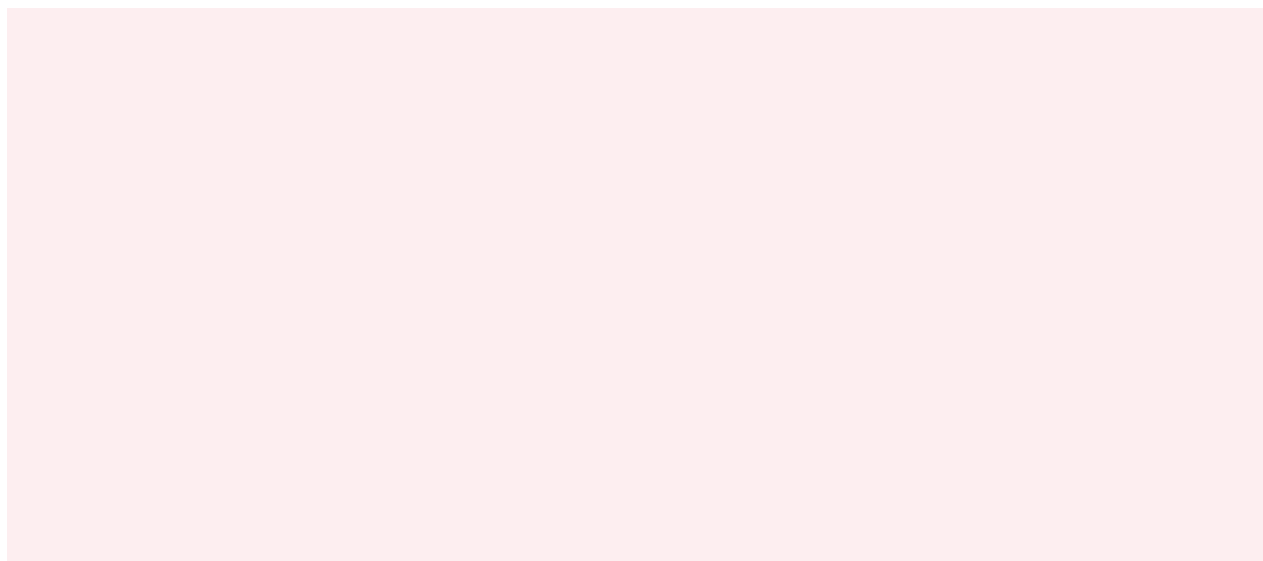
## Do you like to travel?

Where have you visited? Where's your next trip? What are your dream destinations?



## Do you want a reception?

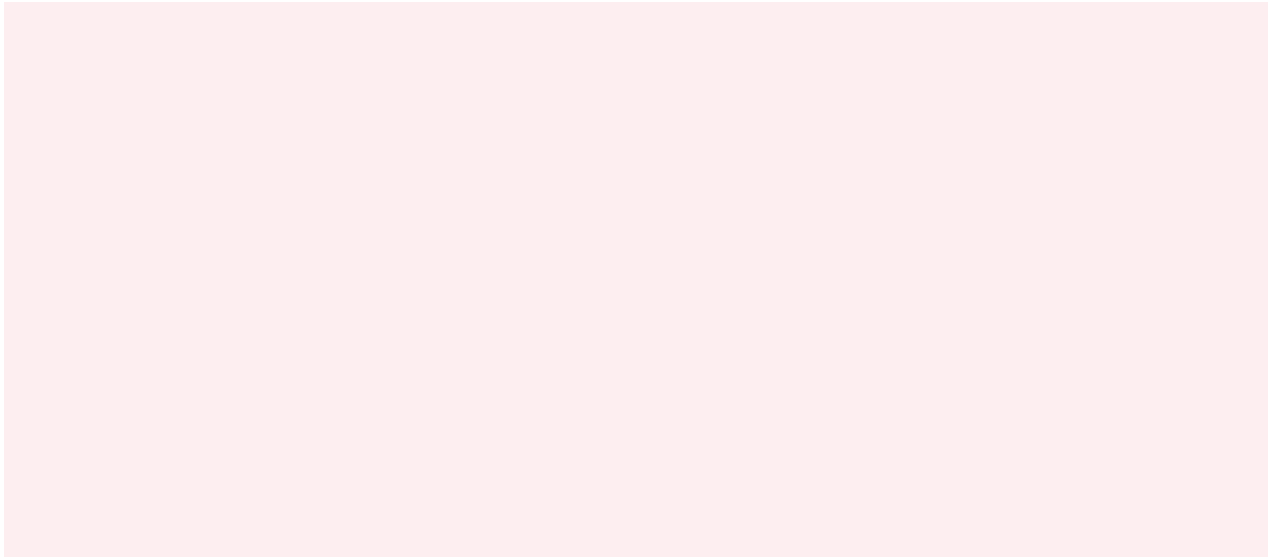
Right after the elopement? With just a few people? Not at all? Consider your options and list them here.





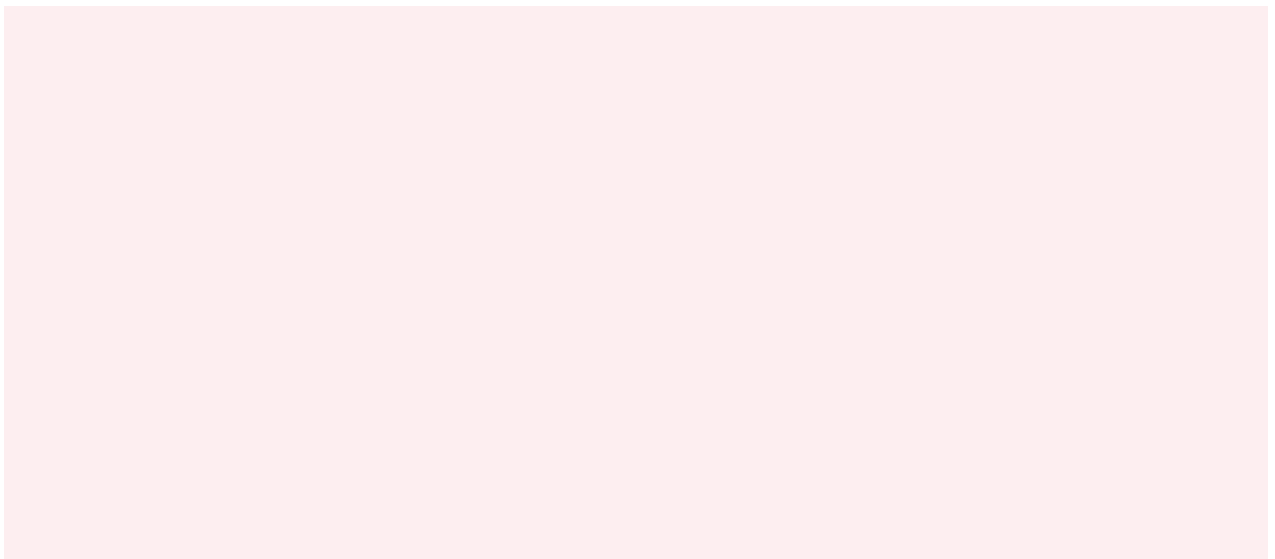
## How much time and what time of the year?

If you decide to elope, how much time can you take off? What time of year will it be?



## Going on a honeymoon?

How long will your trip be? When will you leave?



## Will you miss out on anything?

If you skip a large wedding, what would you miss? A big cake? The first dance? Nothing at all? Talk to your partner and think about anything you may regret missing after you say “I do”.

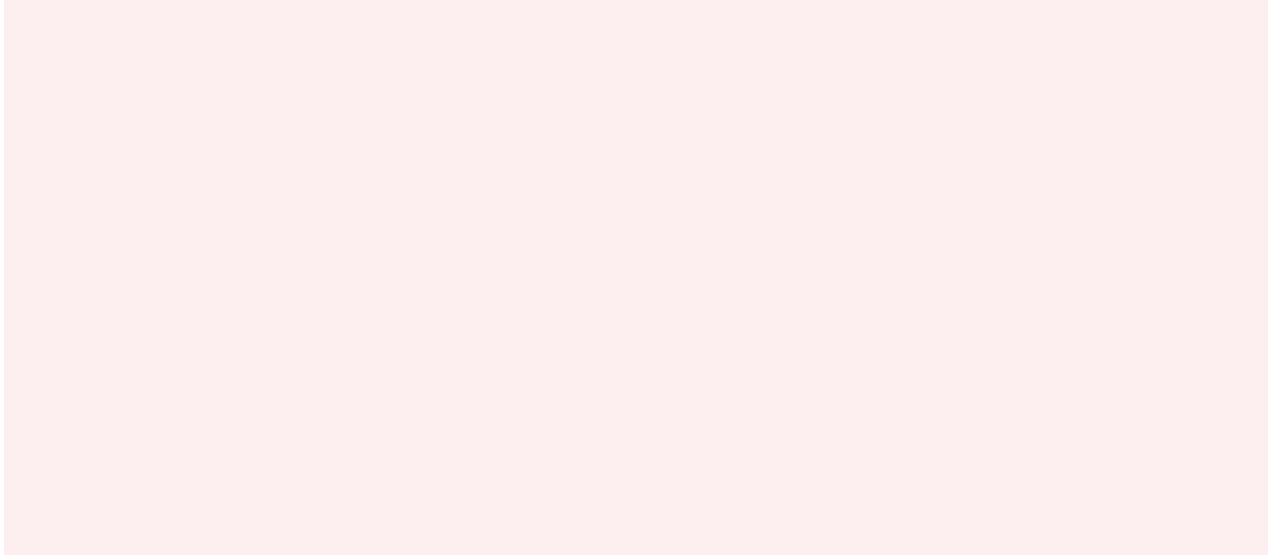
## How will you spread the news?

How will you tell your loved ones that you exchanged vows?

Some things to consider: Mailing a card, posting it on social media, or making a video.

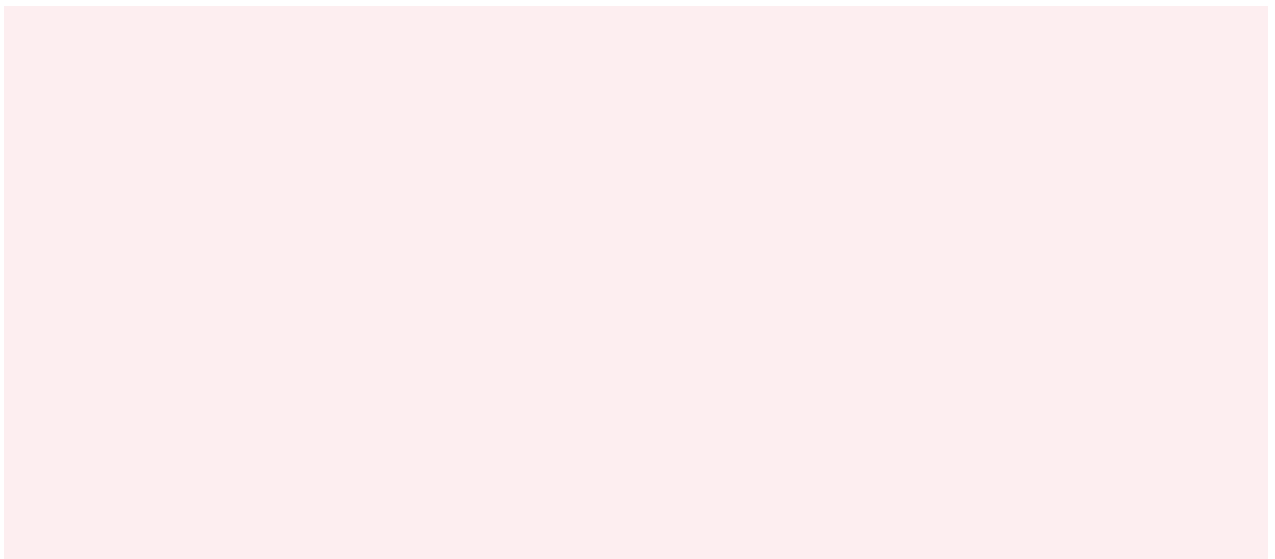
## Let's talk money!

What's your wedding budget? How much have you set aside so far? What do you still need? Some things to consider: How can you continue to save for your elopement? Where can you cut back to save money on the big day?



## Anything else?

List any other important notes here!



# Meet Rochelle Cheever



A fine artist by training, Rochelle studied painting and photography in Washington, D.C. at the Corcoran School of Art. Summers were spent in Italy, poring over, copying, and reinterpreting the works of Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo Buonarroti. After a post-graduate stint in portraiture at the Florence Academy of Art, she began to work as a painter, to teach applied art, and to lead workshops.

When she exhibited ten large-scale graphite drawings of her sons in international schools throughout Rome and elsewhere, she began to receive commissions for paintings of children. It's impossible for a small child to sit still and hold a pose, so she prepared by photographing her subjects. Parents, struck by the artistry of these working photographs, asked to purchase them. She was often told that her photographs resembled paintings and that her paintings resembled photographs.

Although she continued to work as a portrait painter, she began to make photographic portraits, as well, realizing that the camera allowed her to capture spontaneity and raw emotion — a smile, a laugh, a fleeting expression. When an American diplomat who saw her portraits asked her to photograph his wedding, she was taken aback, but decided to accept the challenge. To her surprise, she loved the experience of capturing an occasion filled with such joyful emotion. And having spent so many hours before a canvas inside a studio, she welcomed the chance to be on location, out of doors.

Since that first wedding, she has specialized in fine art photographic portraiture, shooting not only weddings, but anniversaries, engagements, vow renewals, proposals — even honeymoons. From photographing children, she had learned to work fast, to capture the unguarded moment, and to approach her subjects with purity and authenticity. She brought these skills to her wedding photography, as well as her skills as a painter, which enabled her to compose compelling images, setting the scene.

She loves the intimacy of elopements, getting to know the couple, the emotion of the most important moment in their lives. For more than a decade, she has worked almost exclusively with couples. Some of them have never been photographed professionally before, and she understands that they might feel super strange and vulnerable in front of the camera, especially as a couple.

But that is her speciality. She knows how to use her camera in a non-invasive way to reveal their authentic selves. Over the years she has developed tons of tricks and tools to help them relax and feel natural. At times, they actually forget that they're being photographed.

Rochelle Cheever has been awarded the Patronage of the Minister of Fine Arts and Culture in Italy (Patroncino del Ministro per i Beni e le Attività Culturali), and Artoque (Diploma of Excellence, England). She has been a finalist at the Orvieto International Awards, Lucie International Photography Awards, and Tau Visual (National Association of Professional Photographers of Italy). Her work has been exhibited in Rome at the Vittoriano Museum (with Patronage from the Italian Fine Arts Minister), 100 Artisti a Trastevere, John Cabot University Il Cortile dell'Arte, The American Academy, Explora Museum Italy and at Il Palazzetto Dépendence Hotel Hassler. In Dallas Texas, her work was exhibited at The Fairmont and at the Cattle Baron's Ball.

In the United States of America, her work has been featured in publications such as Style Me Pretty, Strictly Weddings, Destination Inspirations, Junebug Weddings, and the New York Daily News, and in Italy, in publications such as SposaMania, Il Messaggero, Il Giornale, The American and In Rome Now.

Her portraits have been commissioned by the Fendi family, the family of former U.S. Ambassador to Italy Mel Sembler, the Fracassi family, National Geographic CEO David Haslingden and his family; owners of the Energie fashion label the Zansuri Family; Vice-President of Perugia's soccer team Carlo Lancella, former CEO of Colgate-Palmolive in Italy Todd Atwood, and many others.

# ROCHELLE

## CHEEVER

Find out more about Rochelle and her work at  
[www.rochellecheever.com](http://www.rochellecheever.com) and you can email  
[rochellecheever@gmail.com](mailto:rochellecheever@gmail.com)

