

*NB: This is not a word-for-word transcript*

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Up to a-quarter-of-a-million **couples** will get married in the UK this year. On average, this will cost them £21,000 each - not including a **honeymoon** or the rings.

Tessa O'Sullivan is getting married in a few months, and she's surprised at how much anything wedding-related costs.

"Every time I call a **supplier** – for example, a **florist**, or the printers – the **quotes** are always much higher than I expect," she says.

But experts say such pricing is **justified**.

"There's so much more **emotion** and work involved in a wedding than for any other party," says Sandy Moretta, a wedding planner.

However, it's possible to plan a wedding **on a budget**, without losing any of its emotional **impact**.

**Negotiating** with suppliers is essential, and reducing the guest list is another great way to cut the final bill.

One of the best ways to limit costs is to have a winter wedding. A wedding on a Tuesday in November could be up to 50% per cent cheaper than a Saturday in June.

Finally, you can often save money by asking friends to supply flowers and make-up.

But Tessa is going to pay the high prices. "I've dreamt of my wedding for years and I want it to be perfect," she says.

## Vocabulary

### **couple**

(here) two people who are in a romantic relationship

**honeymoon**

a holiday, which a couple takes immediately after they get married

**supplier**

a person or an organisation that sells something or provides something

**florist**

a person or a shop that sells flowers

**quote**

(here) a statement of the price of some goods or services, so the customer can decide whether to buy them or not

**justified**

if there is a good reason for something, we can say that it is 'justified'

**emotional**

having strong feelings

**impact**

effect

**on a budget**

with a limited amount of money available to spend

**negotiate**

have a discussion about something, and try to reach an agreement

**essential**

necessary

This story is based on an original BBC News story:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-28197127>