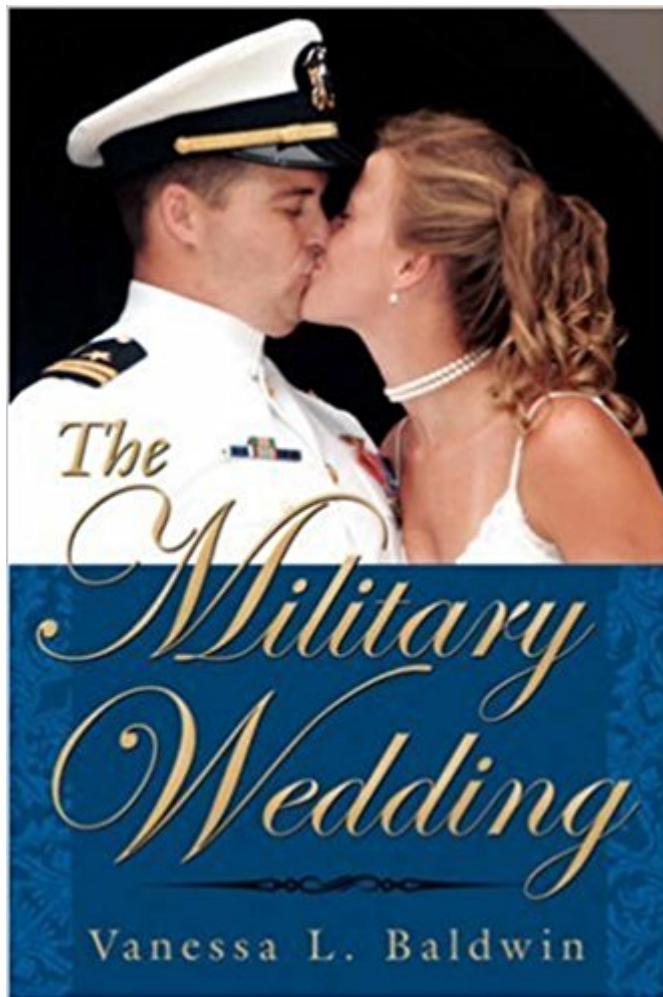


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# The Military Wedding



## Synopsis

As a wedding consultant, who specializes in military weddings, I hear brides, who are trying to plan military weddings, lament about the lack of information available about military weddings. Brides are marrying later and are better educated. Even if they are hiring a wedding consultant to plan a military wedding, the brides still want to know as much as possible. Most wedding planning and etiquette books briefly address military weddings, but not to the satisfaction of most military brides. There are situations that face the bride or groom marrying a military person that a civilian couple doesn't always have to face. In addition to embarking on a new journey as a married couple, the military wedding is the beginning of a whole new way of life and culture. A severe case of culture shock may manifest once the new military spouse arrives at the spouse's duty location. Welcome to the brave new world of military jargon, acronyms, ID cards, wives' clubs, customs and courtesies, personnel reassignments, deployments and on and on. Becoming a military spouse is also an exciting adventure--full of new and exotic places, as well as challenges that will test the foundation of your marriage. Or, it will strengthen your partnership as husband and wife, bound by the fondest memories of shared experiences, adventures and challenges conquered. It's enough to make a strong person weak in the knees. It's not a life for the faint of heart. So, this book, *The Military Wedding*, has been written to make the experience less harrowing and more enjoyable. This book is mainly written for the civilian bride marrying a military groom, but I will try not to overlook the civilian groom marrying a military woman and the military bride and groom. A few paragraphs, as found in most books, won't answer your questions. Consider this your military wedding planning manual or special operating instruction to supplement your main wedding planning guide. Last, but not least, keep your se

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Vanessa L. Baldwin is the President and Senior Consultant of Elegant Beginnings, a wedding consulting and planning service in Northern Virginia. Ms. Baldwin is a graduate of University of Maryland Baltimore County and Howard University School of Social Work, Washington, DC. After professional experience as a social caseworker and a social science analyst, Ms. Baldwin was commissioned as an officer in the United States Air Force. Ms. Baldwin retired from the Air Force in 1998. The Association of Certified Wedding Consultants, Plano, Texas, certified Ms. Baldwin as a wedding consultant in 1997. Then, she established Elegant Beginnings, providing a full range of wedding planning services in the Metropolitan DC and Northern Virginia areas. Ms. Baldwin specializes in, but is not limited to, military weddings. In 2004, Ms. Baldwin developed the Wedding Coordinator Certificate Program to train wedding planning professionals. Ms. Baldwin began teaching the first series of courses at the Northern Virginia Community College, Woodbridge Campus in the Fall of 2004. Ms. Baldwin resides in Woodbridge, Virginia.

Normally, reading about how to put on a wedding makes me hyperventilate. Reading Ms. Baldwin's book got my breathing back to normal and was very helpful. We're not there yet (LOL) but I want to be as prepared as possible and Ms. Baldwin's book told me what I need to know about a military wedding. My thanks for putting together the various service traditions as well as some solid Wedding 101 information.

Very basic and common sense. I guess I can use this as cliff notes to make sure the wedding planner knows what they are doing. I purchased Service Etiquette and the Army Wife Handbook. Those books go above and beyond and will be my go to references.

As a new wedding planner, military retiree and spouse, I found the book to be very informative. I was first introduced to the book and its author via an article in the Army Times dated May 18, 2009 while completing my Wedding Planner Certification course. The book is an excellent addition to a wedding planner's professional library that offers practical knowledge and advice to brides and grooms planning a military wedding. Military ceremonies are steeped in unique customs and courtesies; therefore, this book can only enhance the pageantry of the military wedding and culture.

Great book for trying to plan a military wedding. Goes over things you probably wouldn't have thought of or didn't really consider

It prepares the reader for all eventualities in facing the event of a Military Wedding. It makes the upcoming even less daunting.

Very helpful!!!

This is short, which is fine because it is concise, but a lot of the information is useless. I read it and the only thing that helped me was reminding me to use my father in law's title in the invitations.

very informational

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