

# Your Yoruba Traditional Wedding Engagement: A Guide to a Beautiful and Meaningful Ceremony

Congratulations on your engagement! Planning a traditional Yoruba wedding engagement is an exciting time, but it can also be a bit overwhelming. There are so many things to think about, from the attire to the food to the ceremony itself. But don't worry, we're here to help.



## YOUR YORUBA TRADITIONAL wedding - Engagement

by Debi Pearl

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In this guide, we'll cover everything you need to know about planning a traditional Yoruba wedding engagement. We'll start with the basics, such as the different types of Yoruba weddings and the roles of the various family members. Then, we'll move on to the more specific details, such as the attire, the food, and the ceremony itself.

By the end of this guide, you'll have all the information you need to plan a beautiful and meaningful Yoruba traditional wedding engagement. So sit

back, relax, and let's get started!

## **The Different Types of Yoruba Weddings**

There are two main types of Yoruba weddings: the traditional wedding and the white wedding. The traditional wedding is the more traditional of the two, and it is typically held in the bride's hometown. The white wedding is more modern, and it is typically held in a church or other Western-style venue.

The traditional Yoruba wedding is divided into two parts: the engagement ceremony and the wedding ceremony. The engagement ceremony is typically held a few months before the wedding ceremony, and it is where the couple formally announces their intention to marry. The wedding ceremony is typically held a few weeks after the engagement ceremony, and it is where the couple is officially married.

## **The Roles of the Various Family Members**

In a traditional Yoruba wedding, the family plays an important role. The bride's family is responsible for providing the food and drinks for the ceremony, as well as the bride's dowry. The groom's family is responsible for providing the bride price, as well as the gifts for the bride's family.

The bride's father is the head of the bride's family, and he is responsible for negotiating the bride price with the groom's family. The groom's father is the head of the groom's family, and he is responsible for providing the bride price to the bride's family.

The bride's mother is responsible for preparing the bride for the ceremony, and she is also responsible for providing the bride with her dowry. The

groom's mother is responsible for preparing the groom for the ceremony, and she is also responsible for providing the groom with his gifts for the bride's family.

## **The Attire**

The attire for a traditional Yoruba wedding is very important. The bride typically wears a beautiful iro and buba, which is a traditional Yoruba dress. The groom typically wears an agbada, which is a traditional Yoruba robe.

The bride's iro and buba is typically made of a rich fabric, such as silk or velvet. The groom's agbada is typically made of a more casual fabric, such as cotton or linen.

The bride and groom may also wear other accessories, such as headpieces, jewelry, and shoes. The bride's headpiece is typically called a gele, and it is a symbol of her status as a married woman. The groom's headpiece is typically called a fila, and it is a symbol of his authority as a husband.

## **The Food**

The food at a traditional Yoruba wedding is typically very plentiful. The bride's family provides the food for the ceremony, and they typically prepare a variety of dishes, such as rice, stew, soup, and pounded yam.

The groom's family provides the gifts for the bride's family, and they typically include items such as kola nuts, palm wine, and livestock.

## **The Ceremony**

The traditional Yoruba wedding ceremony is a beautiful and meaningful event. The ceremony is typically held in the bride's hometown, and it is attended by both the bride's and groom's families and friends.

The ceremony begins with the bride's father welcoming the groom and his family to his home. The bride's father then presents the groom with the bride price, and the groom accepts the bride price. The bride and groom then exchange vows, and they are pronounced husband and wife.

After the ceremony, the bride and groom are typically given gifts from their families and friends. The bride and groom then proceed to their new home, where they will begin their new life together.

Planning a traditional Yoruba wedding engagement can be a lot of work, but it is also a very rewarding experience. By following the tips in this guide, you can plan a beautiful and meaningful ceremony that you and your loved ones will cherish for years to come.

Congratulations on your engagement! We wish you all the best in your new life together.



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