

MAGGIE LORD is the author of two other wellreceived wedding books: Rustic Wedding Chic and Barn Weddings as well as being the founder and editor of the extremely popular blog RusticWeddingChic.com and the online source RusticWeddingGuide.com, which connects couples with wedding vendors. Maggie is a sought-after wedding expert who frequently appears on TV and radio, reporting on all things wedding. She is also a contributing writer for the *Huffington Post* and DIY Weddings magazine, along with several other print publications. She lives in Connecticut with her husband, Jon, and their young son, Jack.

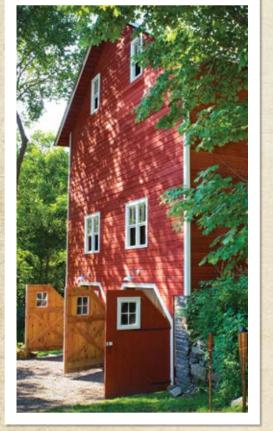


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JENNIFER BAKOS: Back cover, top left EE Photography: Back cover, middle right and bottom







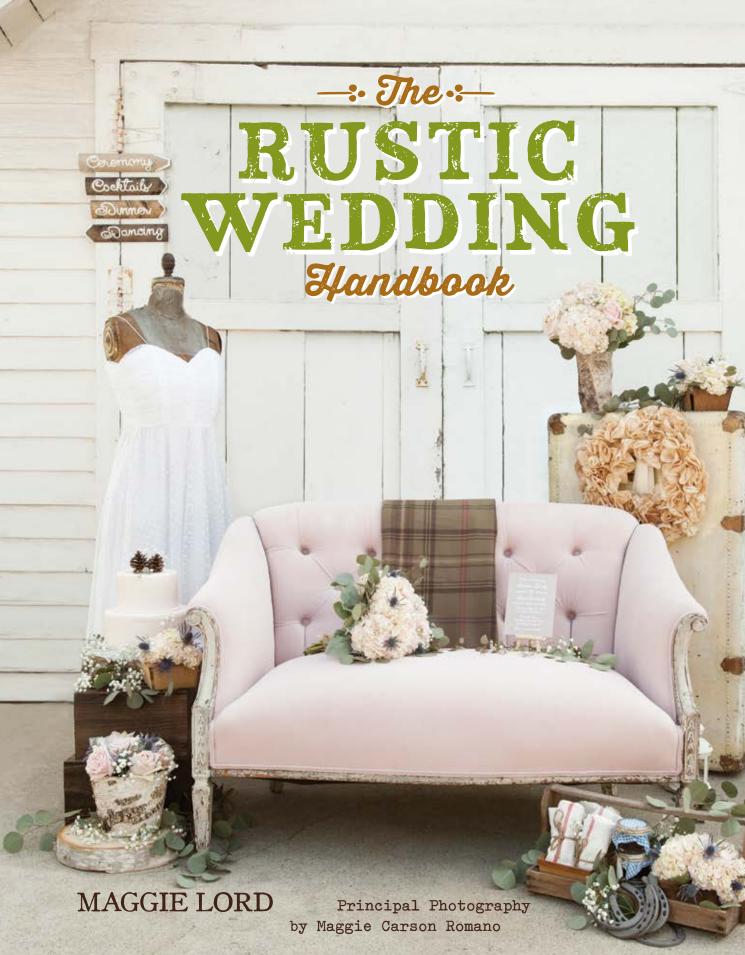
Wedding

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THE BEAUTY OF A RUSTIC WED-DING IS ITS VERSATILITY AND ALL THE CREATIVITY THAT IT INVITES. Drawing on the wonderful ambiance of a natural, rustic setting and expressing personal style in a less traditional fashion is an exciting opportunity for couples to say "I do" in a way that is perfectly unique to them. Bringing this inspiration to life will require those special pieces that will make the day feel as personalized as possible.

The Rustic Wedding Handbook offers brides, couples and wedding planners ideas, advice and inspiration for planning a rustic-style wedding. Join rustic wedding expert Maggie Lord as she hits flea markets and shops to seek out unexpected items, the ones that will make a wedding day unique, personal and memorable. She shares her carefully curated lists and links for event planners, wedding dresses, venues, décor, stationery, photographers and rentals. Also included are step-by-step instructions for crafting rustic wedding projects that will add an extra measure of charm and creativity to a wedding day.









Acknowledgments 9
Introduction 11
Снартег 1: Getting Started 19
Снартег 2: Style Inspiration 33
Снартек 3: Hunting & Gathering 49
Снартек 4: DIY Projects 85
» Thrifted Teacup Candles 88
» Doily Table Runner 95

- Rustic Floral Photo Booth Backdrop ... 100

- Woodland Chalkboard Menu ... 107
- Decorative Papered Bottles ... 112
- Rustic Feather Boutonniere ... 121
- Garland Ceremony Backdrop ... 126
- S'more Sticks ... 133
- Styling a Rustic-Chic Sweetheart Table ... 140

Chapter 5: Wedding Day Ready ... 145

Notes & Resources ... 157

## WHERE: THE VENUE

THE SKY IS THE LIMIT WHEN IT COMES TO SELECTING A VENUE FOR YOUR WEDDING. You may already be picturing an old dairy barn, a vineyard or an urban loft, but keep an open mind and you will find a venue that works for you, your style and your budget.

I have had the pleasure of reviewing thousands of beautiful and unique rustic venues from around the country on the Rustic Wedding Guide section of the blog. Each venue is so different—with its own personality, opportunities and challenges. How to decide? Consider these insights from the many venues, vendors and real couples who have written to the blog to share their experiences with us.

Start with a (long) list of possible venues that have some or all of the qualities you are thinking about. For example, an outdoor ceremony location, a barn, views, water, horses and fields—whatever is important to you as a couple. Regardless of your venue preference, even if it is as informal as a friend's backyard, there are several important factors to take into account before committing. Do your homework: find out if the venues you like will be available on or near your chosen date and if they'll be able to accommodate your budget and the size of your wedding.













CHAPTER FOUR

## DIY PROJECTS







