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*Need to ask your vendors to get tested? [Go here.](#)*

*Quarantine? [Go here.](#)*

*If they've been vaccinated (and boosted)? [Go here.](#)*

*If they'd be willing to provide proof? [Go here.](#)*

*Looking for templates for how to talk to your GUESTS? [Go here.](#)*

*Last updated on February 2, 2022*

**Before you begin:** I highly recommend that you and your partner create a [COVID safety policy for your wedding](#). The templates below are to help you two share that policy with your VENDORS.

If you are looking for a **more generalized version of the below** — i.e. something that sets your boundaries but doesn't necessarily ask your VENDORS to do anything — [please refer back to the original article](#) and use the template under the section "Planning a 2022 wedding and want to communicate you and your partner's boundaries for the wedding you're hosting?"

**How do we send this?** Keep it simple. Probably do this via email though, if the conversation gets heated and/or personal, I highly recommend a phone call. It's much easier to have human conversations when you can hear the other person's tone of voice, don't you think?

**Subject:** update about our wedding — **[INSERT YOU + YOUR PARTNER'S FIRST NAMES]**

Dear **[INSERT YOUR VENDOR'S FIRST NAME]**:

Thank you so much for your patience as we continue to respond and adapt to the pandemic. We are doing our best to be informed about our options as we plan a wedding that prioritizes health, safety, and joy. As such, we have a few questions about our work together.

We want to be sure and note that we understand these questions are sensitive and we will respect whatever you choose to share with us. If you would prefer to have this conversation over the phone, of course, please let us know.

**If the boundary is taking COVID tests, next include this:**

We are asking **all people** who attend our wedding in person to **take a COVID test the week of our wedding or on-site at the wedding**. We don't quite know what the logistics of this look like but will keep you updated. In the meantime, if taking a COVID test is not an option for you, please let us know. **People who have been vaccinated (and boosted) will also be asked to take a test.**

- **Note to reader:** Anything in red is for you and your partner to decide for yourselves based on what combinations of safety make sense for your personal boundaries.
- **Note to reader:** [This article](#) explores on-site testing options for weddings including what they cost and who provides them.
- **Additional thought:** Should you expect your vendors to pay for their own COVID tests? The short answer: No but if you really can't afford it, be honest about that.

### **If the boundary is quarantining, also include this:**

We are also asking that **all people** agree to quarantine for at **least [insert number] of days** before taking a COVID test and, if the test is negative and the person does not present symptoms, attending the wedding in-person.

- **Note to reader:** Anything in red is for you and your partner to decide for yourselves based on what combinations of safety make sense for your personal boundaries.

That said, we understand that quarantining is likely not a viable option because of your work. We totally understand this! Would you be willing to tell us what precautions, if any, you would be willing to take before attending our wedding in-person?

- **Note to reader:** I added the above because it is very unlikely that your wedding vendor will be able to quarantine because the way they make their living is by working many weddings back-to-back — let alone other commitments and responsibilities they may have in their lives.

Testing and/or quarantining may also not be as necessary based on the *type of vendor* we're talking about. For example, a florist probably has a few legitimately effective ways to do their work while wearing a mask and maintaining social distance so asking them to take a test and/or quarantine isn't as necessary.

That said, I still think this is worth bringing up because your vendors will likely be willing to share some of what they're doing to self-quarantine when they're not working. And if they don't feel comfortable sharing this, **please respect that**. We are really straying into personal vs. professional lives here and we need to honor that even as we honor health and safety.

### **If the boundary is vaccination (and booster), also include this:**

We are asking all guests and vendors who are attending our wedding in-person to please be vaccinated (**and boosted**) before attending the wedding. If vaccination is not possible, we are **[INSERT WHAT THE ALTERNATIVE IS, IF THERE IS AN ALTERNATIVE]**.

- **Note to reader:** I put “and boosted” in red because some couples are setting a vaccine + booster boundary, some are setting a vaccine + booster optional boundary.
- **Note to reader:** The most common alternative I’ve seen is that the vendor proactively offers to wear a mask the entire time even if it’s not legally mandated. If you don’t want to make a direct request and instead see what the vendor offers, try this language: “Please share how you and your team are thinking you’ll prioritize health and safety at the wedding.”

Again, we very much want to respect your personal boundaries here so, as comfortable to you, would you be willing to share with us where you’re at with vaccination? If you’d prefer to discuss this over the phone, please let us know. We recognize this is delicate and difficult information to discuss and we want to do our best to find a way to work together while prioritizing safety.

- **Notes to reader:** If you want to read even more about talking to guests and vendors about vaccinations, I recommend [this article](#).

Sometimes I give this advice and people respond with some version of, “OK, your advice works if you are talking about an individual like a DJ or another wedding planner but what if you are talking about a caterer or someone with a staff who they either won’t or can’t ask?”

I hear this. I also don’t want this fear to stop couples from initiating an important conversation. Instead, I advise anybody — couple or vendor — who is asking another person — guest or vendor — about their vaccination status and/or the vaccination status of their team to lead with empathy. Recognize that you can ask but asking doesn’t mean you’re going to get an answer you like (or any answer at all).

In my experience, if a vendor declines to comment on vaccination status they *will* still offer other safety measures they are taking, such as wearing masks while on-site at the wedding.

## **If you and your partner are LEGALLY REQUIRED to provide or just want proof for any or all of the parts above, also include this:**

Last but not least, we are asking everyone — guest or vendor — to confirm they have taken the steps above to keep each other safe. To do this, please plan on the following: **[Insert details about what is LEGALLY REQUIRED or, if proof is not legally required, what you and your partner want these people to do and by when. If you don’t know where to start, [read this](#).]**

- **Note to reader:** If you and your partner decide to ask for proof, please recognize that it is not the job of a wedding vendor to oversee the collection of this proof on your behalf. So, whose job is it? I go into this more [here](#).

**Once you've created your message using the parts above, end with:**

Thank you again so much for your support. This has been — and remains — an extremely difficult time and we so value your help. We look forward to hearing from you.

**[INSERT YOU + YOUR PARTNER'S FIRST NAMES]**

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