

MARTHA STEWART

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# weddings

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WINTER 2011  
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# The Perfect Plan

PREPARING FOR A WEDDING is a big, exciting endeavor. And you can go about it in one of two ways: stressed out and frazzled, or relaxed and focused on the wonderful event to come. Naturally, at Martha Stewart Weddings, we suggest you take the latter approach. That's where this planning issue comes in. It's brimming with smart advice and creative ideas to ensure that you feel cool, calm, and inspired as you shape your vision. When the day arrives, it won't matter if there's a minor mishap at your party—you'll be having too much fun to care. Speaking of parties, check out the wedding Martha hosted for her nephew, Chris Herbert, and his longtime love, Tim Long, at her Bedford, New York, home (page 290). The afternoon was full of good food and live music. For behind-the-scenes videos, log on to [marthastewartweddings.com](http://marthastewartweddings.com). If you're in New York City on January 22, join me at The Wedding Party New York at the New York Palace hotel. It's a chance to meet some of the industry's most talented experts, including the hosts and our newest contributing editors, Claudia Hanlin and Jennifer Zabinski of the Wedding Library (for tickets, go to [theweddinglibrary.com](http://theweddinglibrary.com)). Hope to see you there!

*Darcy Miller*  
—Editorial Director

P.S. Looking for more tips delivered right to you? Have my **Idea of the Week** sent directly to your phone via text message every Tuesday. Just text DARCYS to 69866, or sign up at [marthastewartweddings.com/darcys-idea-of-the-week](http://marthastewartweddings.com/darcys-idea-of-the-week).

## HAVING A BALL AT MARTHA'S

(clockwise from top left): Her nephew, Chris Herbert (left), and his new husband, Tim Long, pose for a snapshot with Martha and me, Martha's Chow, Ghenghis Khan, hangs out with the band, Carte Blanche, at the reception. The amazing planning team (from left):

Matt Murphy of Matt Murphy Event Lighting, Bancroft Potter of Sperry Tents, Ann David of David Reinhard Events, me, Nicky Reinhard of David Reinhard Events, David Stark of David Stark Design and Production, and Peter Callahan of Callahan Catering.

PACKAGING: PHOTOGRAPH: RAYMOND HOA; PORTRAITS: DONNA NEWMAN; MAKEUP: DARYL SCHWARTZ; GROOMING: PAUL LABRECQUE; SALON: DARCY'S HAIR; CHRIS LOSFARRO OF SHARON GORAM; COLLOR AT SALLY HERSHEBERG; MARTHA'S HAIR: ANTHONY SOBIENSEN OF FREDERIC TETKA AT THE MARK

A photograph of two men in formal attire standing outdoors in a grassy field with a wooden fence and trees in the background. The man on the left is wearing a light grey suit, a white shirt, and a dark tie. The man on the right is wearing a dark grey suit, a white shirt, a striped tie, and glasses. Both are smiling and looking towards each other. The text is overlaid on the bottom right of the image.

*Celebrating*  
AT AUNT MARTHA'S

WITH SUNSHINE AND BLUE SKIES  
AS THEIR BACKDROP, TWO TALENTED MUSICIANS HERALD  
THEIR UNION WITH A LUXURIOUS AFTERNOON FÊTE AT  
THE HOME OF A VERY SPECIAL FAMILY MEMBER.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY *Johnny Miller* TEXT BY *Colleen Oakley*



**This page:** Wicker chairs foster intimate gatherings under the tent and outside on the grass.

"We really wanted everyone to feel comfortable," says Chris.

**Opposite:** The colorful provisions include grilled marinated hanger steak; sliced soppressata; green-zebra, orange, red, and yellow tomatoes; herb and cheese flatbreads; and ficelle, raisin-pecan, and olive breads. Garden scissions were placed next to rosemary and basil so guests could snip fresh herbs into their dishes. Additionally, strawberry-fig jam, rough mustard, and chive butter were offered as condiments.





**This page:** A centerpiece brims with white Japanese beautyberry branches and peegie hydrangea, while vintage inkwells and twine-wrapped bottles display jasmine, dahlias, and yellow zinnias. "We chose antique vessels because they're beautiful, romantic, and have a unique sense of history," says the couple's event designer, David Stark of David Stark Design and Production. **Opposite:** Grooms Christopher Herbert and Timothy Long share a private moment near Martha Stewart's horse pasture in Bedford, New York. Both men are sporting attire by J.Crew.