



## Honeymoon Passport Information that Every Bride Should Know...

**How do you get a passport?** You must fill out an application. You can download it online and get all of the proof of identification requirements at <http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english.html>

**How much does a passport cost?** \$135.00, which is a huge bargain considering it is good for 10 years.

**How long will it take to get a passport?** Average time is between 4 and 6 weeks. Sometimes even longer for first timers. Be careful not to wait too long. It is recommended that you already have your passport in hand prior to booking your honeymoon.

**What type of passport do I get?**

**Always get the passport book.** The passport card is worthless when it comes to air travel.

**How long is a passport good for?** 10 years

**Should I get the passport in my married name?** No. Here's why: You'll need a copy of your marriage license as proof for a legal name change, and most couples don't obtain this document until shortly before the wedding. In the majority of cases, that won't allow time enough to change a name on a passport and other essential travel identification. Plus, a name change on a plane ticket could incur charges. Without a consistent name on all these documents, you could be inconveniently detained.

When you've returned from your honeymoon and received your marriage certificate, make a certified copy and send it along with a Passport Amendment/Validation Application and your new passport to the nearest passport agency. You'll receive your "married" passport back in about three weeks at no charge. You have up to one year to do this.

### Important to Note

- If you already have a passport, note that some countries require that it be valid for at least six months or longer beyond the dates of your trip.
- Some Middle Eastern and African countries will not issue visas or allow entry if your passport indicates travel to Israel.
- Passport forms can be downloaded from your computer or picked up at major post offices, county clerk offices, or passport agencies. You should be able to get the required 2 x 2" passport photo shot at a one-hour photo shop, Mail Boxes Etc., Kinko's, or your local drugstore.

### Places to turn in your Passport Application:

- Downtown Post Office or other post offices by appointment only
- Fresno County Clerk's Office or
- Check the [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov) website for locations nearest you.