

## Let them eat cake: Weddings take center stage in Food Network competition

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Go ask some people what the most important cake of their lives will be (I know, I know — it's a strange question to ask) and I suspect that most people will give you the same answer: their wedding cake. Wedding cakes are an iconic part of a very special day, and despite trendy cupcakes showing up at more and more weddings, a big, elaborate and tiered cake is still the norm for most celebrations.

Of course, the most amazing cakes are made by the most amazing bakers, and Food Network's "Wedding Cake Championship" is back for another season to discover just who the best of the best really is. Premiering Monday, June 3, the four-episode series is hosted by

former Olympic figure skaters Johnny Weir and Tara Lipinski, who have brought together six of the country's most talented baking duos for a series of challenges that test the limits of their creativity and baking skills.

Each episode features two challenges. In the first, the bakers are tasked with making elaborate cake toppers that follow a theme, like online dating or an ode to music. The somewhat vague themes allow the contestants to go all out with their creativity, and for the second challenge they get to put those cake toppers to use. After meeting with a soon-to-be-married couple looking for the perfect cake for their wedding, the teams of two tackle the cakes themselves, using the desires of the lovebirds to come up with cakes that are truly legendary.

In the premiere episode, the first challenge requires the bakers to make cake toppers that showcase a city of love. Then they meet with a couple of professional puppeteers who are looking for a cake that blends traditional design with their love of puppets.

At the end of each episode, once the baking is finished, the couple chooses which cake they want to serve at their wedding, netting its bakers the sweet taste of victory. For one team, though, it's the end of the line as the panel of judges must decide which of the losing teams gets sent home.

Wedding cakes are a big deal, but they can also be fun and whimsical. The latest season of "Wedding Cake Championship" premieres Monday, June 3, on Food Network.



Tara Lipinski and Johnny Weir host "Wedding Cake Championship"

## cooking this week

### WEDNESDAY

**2:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Guy's Grocery Games** The chefs flip ingredients of carrot cake into a lunch. (CC)

**3:00 p.m.**  
**KVEW The Rachael Ray Show** (CC)  
**FOOD Guy's Grocery Games** Returning GGG chefs take on former rivals. (CC)

**4:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Guy's Grocery Games** Four chefs must make meals without returning to market. (CC)

**5:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Guy's Grocery Games** The chefs must use marshmallows in their lunch. (CC)

**6:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Guy's Grocery Games** (CC)  
**7:00 p.m.**

**FOOD Guy's Grocery Games** Chefs race to gather ingredients for a seafood dish. (CC)

**8:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Guy's Grocery Games** GGG superstars return for more heavy heat. (CC)

### THURSDAY

**2:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Beat Bobby Flay** Sunny Anderson and Ted Allen vs. Bobby Flay. (CC)

**2:30 p.m.**  
**FOOD Beat Bobby Flay** Andrew Evans battles up and coming chef Brooke Mallory. (CC)

**4:30 p.m.**  
**FOOD Beat Bobby Flay** Gail Simmons and Sunny Anderson try to get Bobby beat. (CC)

**5:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Beat Bobby Flay** Two tough judges from Iron Chef come to Bobby's arena. (CC)

**5:30 p.m.**  
**FOOD Beat Bobby Flay** Two chefs who won't back down are brought in. (CC)

**6:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Beat Bobby Flay** Marcus Samuelsson and Michael Voltaggio conquer Flay. (CC)

**6:30 p.m.**  
**FOOD Beat Bobby Flay** Bobby goes up against Amanda Freitag and Laura Vitale. (CC)

**7:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Chopped** Competitors work with hot dogs and taro root. (CC)

**8:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Chopped** The appetizer round teaches us what a narutomaki is. (CC)

### FRIDAY

**2:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives** Guy Fieri travels to various locations for ice cream. (CC)

**2:30 p.m.**  
**FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives** Brothers put a creative spin on classics in Providence. (CC)

**3:00 p.m.**  
**KVEW The Rachael Ray Show** (CC)  
**FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives** Guy checks out the hot spots in Hawaii for food. (CC)

**3:30 p.m.**  
**FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives** Guy visits California and Texas for home cooked meals. (CC)

**4:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives** A Chicago brewhouse serves up beer to go with mussels. (CC)

**4:30 p.m.**  
**FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives** Guy hits the surf 'n' turf jackpot in Mississippi. (CC)

**5:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives** Visiting restaurants in Virginia and Texas. (CC)

**5:30 p.m.**  
**FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives** Menu includes sammies, lobster and burgers. (CC)

**6:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives** Guy checks out places in L.A. and Toronto. (CC)

**6:30 p.m.**  
**FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives** Guy travels to Charleston, Chicago and Honolulu. (CC)

**7:30 p.m.**  
**FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives** Guy is hitting up spots serving comfort food. (CC)

**8:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives** Some bomb barbecue in San Antonio, Texas. (CC)

### SATURDAY

**2:00 p.m.**  
**OPB Annabel Langbein: The Free Range Cook** Annabel Langbein tries her hand at fly fishing. (CC)

**FOOD Chopped** Chefs must create magical brunches. (CC)

**2:30 p.m.**  
**OPB Martha Bakes** Explore the power of flour. (CC)

**3:00 p.m.**  
**KTNW America's Test Kitchen From Cook's Illustrated** (CC)  
**FOOD Chopped** The baskets are packed with bacon, burgers, and beer. (CC)

**3:30 p.m.**  
**KTNW A Chef's Life** Vivan is on a challenging hunt for broccoli. (CC)

**4:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Chopped** The chefs scramble to prepare octopus and mollusk. (CC)

**5:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Chopped** In this battle, pasta is in every basket. (CC)

**6:00 p.m.**  
**OPB The Great British Baking Show** The remaining bakers try to wow Paul and Mary. (CC)

**FOOD Chopped** The competitors must pair a pickled product. (CC)

**7:00 p.m.**  
**KTNW The Great British Baking Show** The five remaining bakers work with unusual desserts. (CC)

**FOOD Chopped** Chefs make cheap items taste like a million bucks. (CC)

**8:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Wedding Cake Championship** Contestants are hit with their first surprise. (CC)

### SUNDAY

**2:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Best Baker in America** Flaming bombe Alaska awaits the seven remaining bakers. (CC)

**3:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Worst Cooks in America** Celebrities arrive at the culinary boot camp. (CC)

**4:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Worst Cooks in America** It's Celebrity Game Night at boot camp. (CC)

**5:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Worst Cooks in America** Teams race to assemble sushi rolls. (CC)

**6:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Worst Cooks in America** Recruits learn to make Thai ice cream rolls. (CC)

**7:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Worst Cooks in America** Boot camp is transformed into a cocktail party. (CC)

**8:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Worst Cooks in America** (N) Recruits recreate dishes from taste alone. (CC)

### MONDAY

**2:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD The Pioneer Woman** Ree prepares a quinoa salad and roasted vegetables. (CC)

**2:30 p.m.**  
**FOOD The Pioneer Woman** Reclaiming kitchen scraps to transform them into stars. (CC)

**3:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD The Pioneer Woman** Ree removes the fuss from food with no cook recipes. (CC)

**3:30 p.m.**  
**FOOD The Pioneer Woman** Ree makes a homemade rub for breakfast steaks. (CC)

**4:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Wedding Cake Championship** Contestants are hit with their first surprise. (CC)

**5:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Wedding Cake Championship** Teams make a destination beach wedding cake topper. (CC)

**6:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Wedding Cake Championship** Teams compete in a precocious pet topper challenge. (CC)

**7:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Wedding Cake Championship** Teams make an anniversary cake for Tara Lipinski. (CC)

**8:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Best Baker in America: Extra** Icing (N) Flaming bombe Alaska awaits the seven remaining bakers. (CC)

### TUESDAY

**2:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Bite Club** Competing chefs must work with local ingredients. (CC)

**3:00 p.m.**  
**KVEW The Rachael Ray Show** (CC)  
**FOOD Chopped Junior** The junior chefs are young and fearless. (CC)

**4:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Chopped** The chefs must make meatballs in every round. (CC)

**5:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Chopped** A delicious selection of Italian ingredients. (CC)

**6:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Chopped** Four chefs get creative with appetizer sandwiches. (CC)

**7:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Chopped** Chefs must make creative use of blue cheese. (CC)

**8:00 p.m.**  
**FOOD Chopped** The judges are in for a pizza party to remember. (CC)

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