



Pre-Ceremony To-Do Checklist



MORNING OF THE WEDDING

1. Hair & Makeup (for Bride & Attendants)

- Begins 4–6 hours before the ceremony
- Typically starts with bridesmaids or moms, the bride goes last
- Includes touch-ups, photos, and possibly lunch/snacks

2. Getting Ready Photos

- Candid shots of both sides of the wedding party
- Details like dress, shoes, rings, invitations, and accessories
- Photographers and videographers often split between locations

3. Attire: Getting Dressed

- Bridesmaids and groomsmen get dressed first
- Bride typically gets into the gown with help from mom or MOH
- Groom and groomsmen suit up, boutonnieres pinned



OPTIONAL: FIRST LOOK & PRE-CEREMONY PHOTOS

4. First Look (Optional)

- Private moment between the bride and groom before the ceremony
- Helps calm nerves and allows for emotional, intimate photos
- Can be done with a parent or bridesmaids instead

5. Couple Portraits

- Photos together in scenic locations
- Often includes wedding party or family shots too

6. Wedding Party & Immediate Family Photos

- Done before guests arrive (if doing a first look)
- Speeds up post-ceremony photo time



FINAL TOUCHES

7. Venue Setup & Final Walkthrough

- Florals delivered and set up
- DJ/Band and audio-visual team begin sound checks
- Signage, guest book, programs, and seating arrangements finalized

8. Marriage License Signing

- Couple and officiant sign, often with witnesses
- Can be done before or after the ceremony, depending on timing



PRE-CEREMONY GUEST EXPERIENCE

9. Guest Arrival

- Ushers or greeters welcome guests
- Soft background music is playing
- Guest book signing, welcome drinks (optional)

10. Ceremony Seating & Prelude Music

- Guests are guided to their seats
- Music sets the mood, typically begins 15–30 mins before start time