



Wedding Day - Pre-Ceremony

Getting Ready

If there are two photographers, one can focus on the groom and the other on the bride.

- *Shot of wedding invitation*
- *Bride and Bridesmaids getting their hair and make up done*
- *Dress hanging, jewellery laid out, shoes etc.*
- *Bouquets and buttonholes/corsages*
- *Bride putting on dress/veil with help from Mother of The Bride or Bridesmaids*
- *Bridal party having fun*
- *Close up of dress details*
- *Putting on jewellery*
- *Putting on shoes*
- *Close up of bride holding bouquet*
- *Mother and bride portrait*
- *Father and bride portrait*
- *Family shots*
- *Bride spending moment alone*
- *Bridal party walking down stairs/leaving the house*
- *Bride and Father in Wedding Car/ Walking to ceremony*
- *Groom and Grooms men getting ready*
- *Best man adjusting Groom's tie*
- *Groom spending moment alone*
- *Wedding ring shots*

Trip to the Ceremony/Venue

- *Bride and Father/Mother*
- *Bride and Bridesmaids/Flower girls*
- *Groom and Grooms men/Pageboys*

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Wedding Day - Ceremony

- *Shots of empty venue/church - altar, flowers, interior & exterior details*
- *Groom and Grooms men waiting inside venue/church*
- *Guests outside and inside church*
- *Ushers handing out program*
- *Bride arriving in wedding car*
- *Bride stepping out of car*
- *Bride and Bridesmaids at back of church*
- *Bridal Party entrance*
- *Bride walking up the aisle*
- *Groom's reaction*
- *Father/Mother giving bride away*
- *Exchanging of vows*
- *Lighting of unity candle*
- *Ring bearer*
- *Exchanging of the rings*
- *Participants such as readers, the officiant, musicians etc.*
- *The first kiss as husband and wife, and the moment after*
- *Signing register*
- *The Recessional/Bride and Groom walking back down the aisle*
- *Newly wed shot*
- *Confetti throwing*
- *Greeting guests outside venue*
- *Bride & Groom in back seat of wedding car*

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Wedding Day - Post Ceremony

After the ceremony you have to make time for the wedding portraits - this usually takes 1-2 hours depending on the couple and the list of specific shots you require. Prepare a list of all the people you want in the portraits - family members and friends - and the specific combinations you require e.g. a shot of just you and your siblings or a shot of all your first cousins together.

Give this list to your photographer well in advance so they can prepare and discuss any issues. Also assign a close friend (not a bridesmaid or grooms man who will be in the images), someone who knows all the people on the list, to work with the photographer on rounding people up.

Couple Shots

- *Portraits of the couple alone*
- *Portraits of Bride on her own*
- *Portraits of Groom on his own*

Bridal Party

- *Bride and Groom with bridesmaids/grooms men*
- *Bride and Groom with bridal party*
- *Bride with bridesmaids/maid of honour*
- *Groom and grooms men/best man*
- *Entire wedding party*

Family

- *Bride and Groom with her parents*
- *Bride and Groom with his parents*
- *Bride and Groom with both sets of parents*
- *Bride and Groom with siblings*
- *Bride and Groom with close family members*

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Informal shots

- *Shots with friends*
- *Bride showing her new ring to the guests*
- *Shots of Guests eating, drinking, and chatting*

Wedding Day - Reception

- *The reception space set up - before room fills up*
- *Details and room decor shots - table settings, place cards, favours, candy buffet, centrepieces etc.*
- *Wedding cake detail shots*
- *Bride & Groom arriving*
- *Toasts and Speeches*
- *Cutting the cake*
- *The first dance*
- *Bride dancing with father/Groom dancing with mother*
- *Bride and Groom mingling with guests*
- *Guests dancing*
- *Musicians, singers, DJ*

A really important thing to remember when considering what pictures you want to have is how the style of wedding portraits can vary enormously, from the traditional poses to the quirky and fun. The style of portrait is really determined by your choice of photographer so be sure to choose the right person for the job.

A photographer wrote a great post about choosing your wedding photographer - it's well worth reading. The biggest mistake to make is choosing a photographer whose style you admire, but who won't produce the photos you really want to see 3 months after the day. As he points out, the key question is: "Can you imagine yourself in the same photos you're viewing?"

And with this wedding photo check list we ask a related question: "What photos do you expect to see?" Best to have a chat with your photographer about it well in advance...

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