

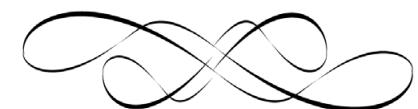
# The Bride's Guide

To Wedding Photography



*Presented by:*

Dogwood  
PHOTOGRAPHY



*The best thing to  
hold on to in life,  
is each other.*

~Audrey Hepburn

*On the cover: Heather & Patrick ~ Kansas City Wedding 2010*

This guide is provided complements of Dogwood Photography; Wilmington, NC.  
All images in this guide where taken by Dale Foshe, Owner, except where noted.

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Aubri & Mike ~ Topeka, KS Wedding 2011



Brooklyn & Micah Wrightsville Beach Wedding 2013



Rachel & Jay ~ Topeka, KS Wedding 2010

## Engagement Photos Matter



Here is a dirty little secret about engagement sessions; they aren't always about the images produced, or what you do with them. An engagement session is a great opportunity for us to get together and to get to know each other a little better. The session allows me to work with you on how I pose, so that on your wedding day you are already a pro. The fact that we produce some awesome images for you is an amazing bonus. Even if you never look at the images again the experience is invaluable, especially if you haven't spent much time together in front of the camera as a couple.

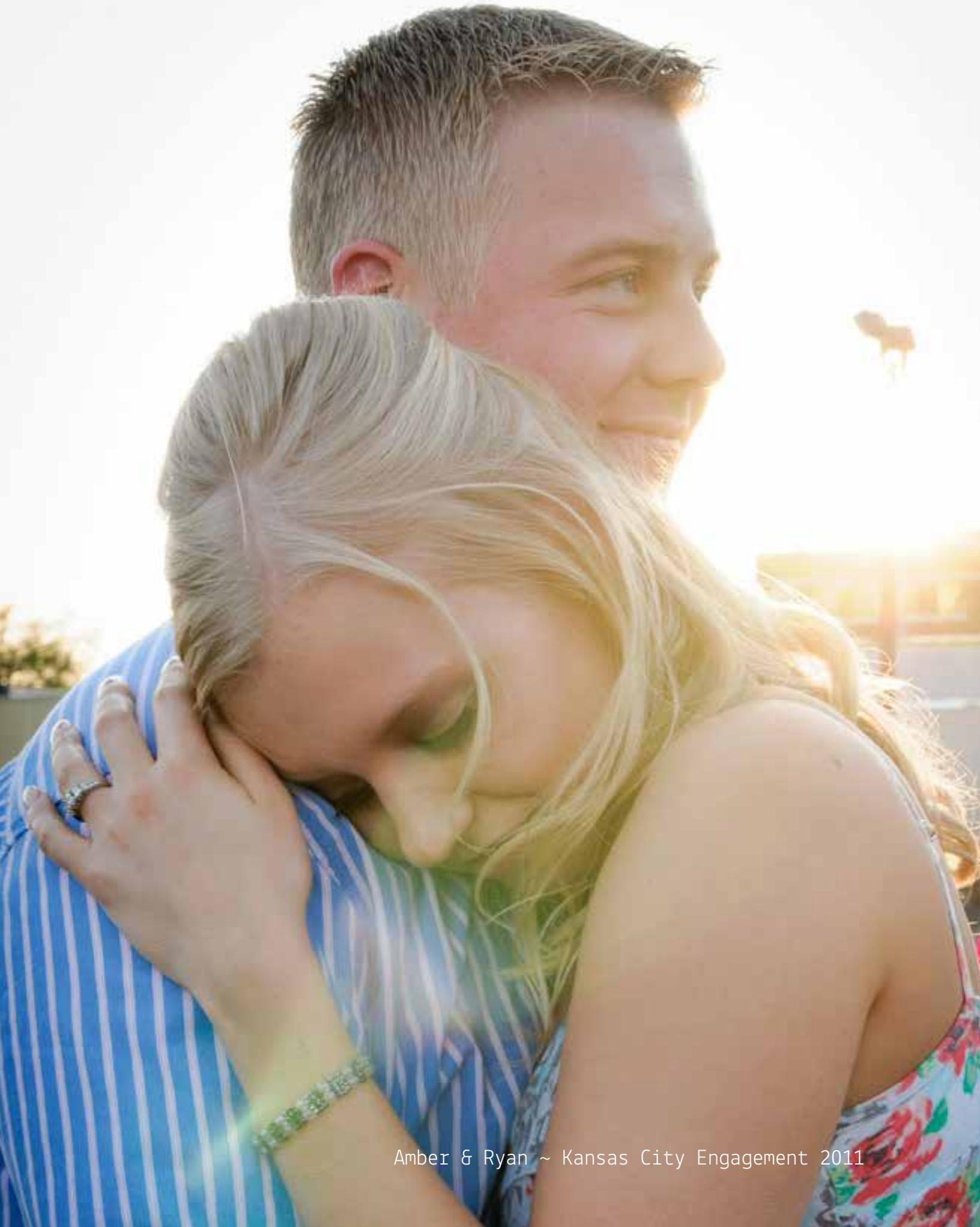
An engagement session is a great idea, especially if your partner is camera shy. People who hate being photographed can get really awkward around cameras, and are prone to doing things like always making the same terrified/frozen smile every time the shutter snaps. I will work to get both of you comfortable, and look for ways to make you relax and settle in so that they can capture more natural, honest expressions.

Engagement sessions generally last between 60 and 90 minutes, depending on the location and/or activity you've selected for your session. The last two hours before the sun goes down are when I typically photograph engagement sessions. I am, however, very flexible with time and location because I want to create the best experience I can for my clients. So please don't hesitate to ask if you have an idea or suggestion in mind.

Engagement photos are great to have for a variety of uses!

- Save the Date or holiday cards.
- Gifts for parents, who probably still have your senior pictures up.
- Guest books or to display in the entry way to the reception.
- Social Media profile pictures.

I love getting to know my couples, and an Engagement Session is a great way to do that. I also have amazing couples that are coming to the area for a destination wedding and live states away. I have some couples that I won't actually meet in person until the day of their wedding. Don't worry! We will still get amazing pictures for your wedding, and I will often find time to work with you a bit before if at all possible. I have even had an Engagement Session that was the day before the wedding!



Amber & Ryan ~ Kansas City Engagement 2011



Cinthya & Edwin ~ Wilmington Engagement 2013

## Engagement Sessions

### What to Wear & Where to Shoot



For your engagement session wear clothes that match your style and personality. Choose outfits that feel like you, and that you feel great in.

You are welcome to bring several outfits for each of you. Try to bring a variety of options, including both casual and dressy. Choose clothes and accessories that you feel confident in and that flatter your size and shape.

Your Engagement session can be a great time to do a trial run with your makeup artist before your wedding day. Having your makeup professionally done for your session can help boost your confidence and will definitely make you "pop" in your photos! Be sure to communicate your desired "makeup style" clearly to your artist so that he or she is able to create a look for you that compliments your features, but that keeps you looking like you.

If you are planning to wear shoes that are high on style, but maybe low on comfort... be sure and pack an extra pair for walking to the car. If we are

shooting at the beach, also take that into consideration when planning your footwear.

Depending on the location you choose for your session, there may not be a wide selection of places in which to change your outfit. Keep that in mind--what you'll wear, and what you will wear *first*.

Where we shoot is also up to you, though I am available to make suggestions if you're having trouble deciding. My experience has taught me that selecting locations or activities that are meaningful and important to my couples always results in better images.

Wilmington is surrounded by amazing beaches, beautiful gardens, and stunning historical areas. There is a reason why so many TV shows and movies are filmed here. There are also quite a few places with strict photography rules, so be sure and let me know what you are interested in early so we can work out what permissions are needed.



Ina & Andrew ~ Wilmington Engagement 2013

## Engagement Session Style Tips



- 1** Be you. Choose clothing and accessories that represent your style and that you feel great in. Select clothing that fits well and that complements your figure.
- 2** Try to avoid clothing with logos... otherwise you run the risk of looking like an ad for your favorite retailer.
- 3** Try to avoid being "matchy matchy". Instead, try to coordinate your outfit selections.
- 4** Select outfits that compliment each other in color, style, and level of formality.
- 5** One just for the guys, since the girls already know this... Shoes matter. Pick appropriate footwear for the outfits you will be wearing.

**10**

Are we shooting at the beach? Consider the constant ocean "breeze" as you choose clothing. Short, flowy skirts and the ocean breeze do not get along well. And bring a towel! Even if you don't get wet, you will almost always have sand on your feet and clothes.

- 6** Don't be afraid to bring a couple of different outfits. Most couples bring at least one casual outfit and one with a more formal tone.

- 7** Layers and texture translate great on camera! Don't be afraid to layer jewelry, scarves, sweaters, jackets, or any combination in order to create depth in your outfits.

- 8** Don't forget the details! Accessories, nails, shoes. The level of care on the little things can add up. A fresh manicure, polished shoes, and even the simplest earrings can create a more polished and styled look.

- 9** Brides... consider having your hair and makeup done professionally for your session. Having a professional hair and/or makeup stylist prep you for your session will help to add a little glamour to your photos even if you've selected casual apparel for your session.



Alexandria & John ~ Bar Harbor, ME Wedding 2011



The Ringbearer ~ Kansas City 2010

*Love is patient; love is kind;  
love is not envious or boastful or  
arrogant or rude.*

*It does not insist on its own way;  
it is not irritable or resentful;  
it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but  
rejoices in the truth.*

*It bears all things, believes all  
things, hopes all things, endures all  
things.*

*Love never ends.*

1 Corinthians 13:4-8

## Your Wedding Day



Your wedding day will go by in a flash (a little photography humor for you)! The day you have spent so much time preparing for, dreaming of, and investing in, will go by as one of the quickest days in your life. That is one of the great reasons to invest in wedding photography that will tell the story of your day, giving you the opportunity to relive it.

When photographic coverage of your wedding day starts, typically we begin by shooting the bride's details: dress, shoes, jewelry, bouquet, etc. Having all of your "details", including your flowers, ready to be photographed is a huge help and time saver!

Photography is all about light, and finding the best possible light to use is my number one technical priority on your wedding day. So on your big day my team and I will always be looking for the best possible light to shoot in. If we find great light

in another room, or even outside, I might ask you if I can move your dress to photograph it.

Another important detail for your day is to eliminate clutter in the background of your preparation images. Having your bridesmaids tidy up your getting ready room before you put your gown on is always appreciated and helps to make your images more editorial and classic in style.

I will coordinate with your planner, DJ, banquet captain, and anyone else on your vendor team to ensure that all of the highlights of your day are captured; and to create a pleasant flow to your day for you and your guests.

Weddings, like all events, take on a life of their own and we'll be flexible if for any reason the schedule doesn't go as planned.



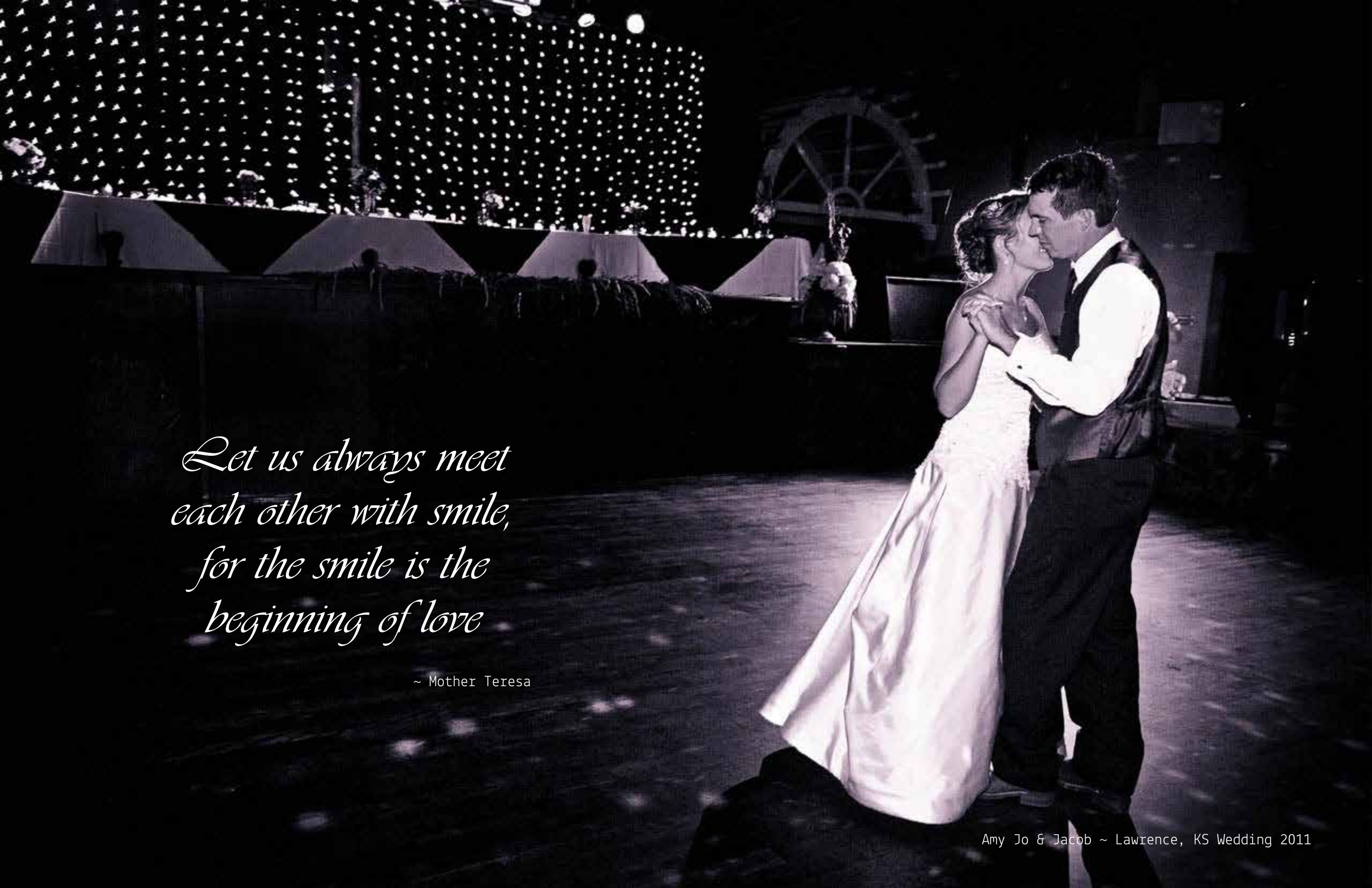


Michelle & Chris ~ Kansas City Wedding 2011

## Sample Wedding Day Timeline



1:00pm	<b>Photography Coverage Begins</b> - Details: Bride's Dress, shoes, jewelry, bouquet, special items. - Final preparation of the bride and bridesmaids.
2:00pm	<b>Bride Gets Dressed</b> - Bride's portraits and group shots with bridesmaids.
3:00pm	<b>Groom Final Preparations</b> - Groom's details, portraits, and group shots with groomsmen.
3:30pm	<b>The First Look</b> - Bride and groom portraits.
4:00pm	<b>Bridal Party Photos</b>
4:30pm	<b>Hide the Bride Away</b> - Photograph ceremony site and ceremony details. - Photograph reception details if ready.
5:00pm	<b>Ceremony</b>
5:30pm	<b>Family Photos   Cocktail Hour Begins</b>
6:00pm	<b>Bride &amp; Groom Creative Portraits</b>
6:25pm	<b>Photograph Reception Room Before Guests Enter</b>
6:30pm	<b>Reception Begins</b>
6:40pm	<b>Grand Entrance &amp; First Dance</b>
6:45pm	<b>Dinner is Served</b>
7:45pm	<b>Toasts</b>
8:00pm	<b>Special Dances</b>
8:10pm	<b>Open Dancing</b>
8:30pm	<b>Cake Cutting</b>
8:45pm	<b>Bouquet and Garter Toss</b>
11:00pm	<b>Sparkler Exit</b>



*Let us always meet  
each other with smile,  
for the smile is the  
beginning of love*

~ Mother Teresa

Amy Jo & Jacob ~ Lawrence, KS Wedding 2011

## Say Yes... To the First Look



Elisabeth & Mitch ~ First Look

It may go against old traditions, but I'm excited that First Looks are becoming the NEW tradition. A First Look has a huge impact on your wedding photography timeline for the day and provides the opportunity for additional bridal portraits. It also makes the moment you see one another for the first time an intimate experience that's truly just about you.

So what exactly is a First Look? Before the ceremony I photograph just the bride and the groom, in an intimate setting where we reveal you to each other. It's an opportunity to get his reaction when he sees you in your wedding gown for the very first time. Unlike your walk down the aisle, when all eyes will be on you, during the First Look only his eyes (and my lens) will be on you. Your wedding day will go by in the blink of an eye. A First Look is a private moment for the two of you to enjoy, before being swept into the rest of the day.

Why would we want to break with tradition? If your wedding photographs are a priority in the planning of your perfect day, then you're likely to appreciate the benefits of a First Look. Those benefits include having additional time for bridal portraits, getting to your reception sooner following the ceremony, and creating a moment for just you and your soon-to-be husband. Many brides and grooms also find it a wonderful way to calm their wedding day jitters before walking down the aisle.

## The Details



Details are a great way to make your wedding a unique experience, highlighted with touches of you. Carefully selected and purposefully placed details can make your wedding more personal and memorable. Details also help to tell the story of your wedding in your photographs.

Don't just select details for the sake of details, instead try to choose items that are a personal reflection of you as a couple, and help tell the story of your wedding day.

*Something old, something new,  
something borrowed, something blue,  
and a silver sixpence in her shoe.*

~ Author Unknown  
17th Century England

Something old represents continuity.

Something new represents optimism for the future.

Something borrowed symbolizes borrowed happiness.

Something blue stands for love, purity, and fidelity.

A silver sixpence stands for good fortune and prosperity.



## "Unplugged" Weddings



If you've ever attended a wedding and noticed more than half of the guests are holding a device like an iPad or smartphone in front of their face through the entire ceremony... you're not alone. Maybe you've even been the one holding the phone taking photos or video.

The term "un-plugged" wedding has become a hot topic in the wedding photography world recently, and even found it's way to the front pages of Yahoo and even an article in the New York Times. In a world where just about everyone has a cell phone equipped with camera and video we've all become "iPhoneographers" and are constantly pulling out our phones to snap a photo or capture a quick video.

As a professional photographer I can see both sides of the coin.

*If you take a picture of a moment, your moment was taking the picture. People don't enjoy the moment trying to preserve it.*

~ Drew Carey

Guests are excited to be there, and want to capture and share images from your wedding day; while at the same time you have invited them there because they are important to you and you want them to be part of your special day. If you want your guests "fully present" at your wedding and not experiencing it through the back of their phone, consider having an un-plugged wedding.

It's entirely up to you whether you suggest to your guests that they refrain from taking photos or video during your ceremony and reception. During group photos (bridal party & family) I am always happy to allow your guests to take photos after I have gotten the shots I need for you. Your wedding day is about you as a couple and the focus should stay on you.



Lauren & Chad ~ St. Joseph Wedding 2011

Have you decided to unplug your wedding?  
Here are some ways to let the guests know:

- Have a sign at the entrance to the ceremony area.
- Have the officiant make an announcement before the wedding starts. *Just be sure the announcement is made before you start walking down the aisle!*
- Place an announcement in your wedding program.

Need some ideas on how to word your request?  
Here is an example from Offbeatbride.com:

*We welcome you to our un-plugged wedding.  
We invite you to be fully present with us during the ceremony;  
so please turn off all cell phones, tablets, and cameras.  
Thank you*

Offbeat Bride: <http://offbeatbride.com/2011/06/unplugged-wedding-templates>



Amber & Ryan ~ Topeka, KS Wedding 2012

## Shoot & Share. Simple.



It is said that "a gift isn't truly a gift until it is given away." I think the same theory applies to photographs. They are meant to be SHARED. Every day a photograph grows in significance because we are one day further away from the precious moment in time that is captured in the image. Your wedding photographs should be enjoyed and shared by you, your friends, family, and even future generations.

I believe your photos were meant to be shared. That is why I have chosen to be a "Shoot & Share" photographer.

What is Shoot & Share? It is an exciting new way of doing business that is sweeping through the photography world. Shoot & Share puts the focus on the client, not the sales. We shoot the images, and then we share the images, in high resolution. Simple.

Traditional photography pricing, or "shoot and sell", is a leftover relic from the analog (film) days. Back then a photographer charged you a sitting fee to take your photos. This covered time and talent, as well as the cost of developing the negatives, and creating proof sheets. You then came back into the studio a couple of weeks later to look at the proof sheets, and pick the photos you wanted printed. The photographer headed back into the dark room to create the prints, a laborious and time consuming process. This is why prints were so expensive.

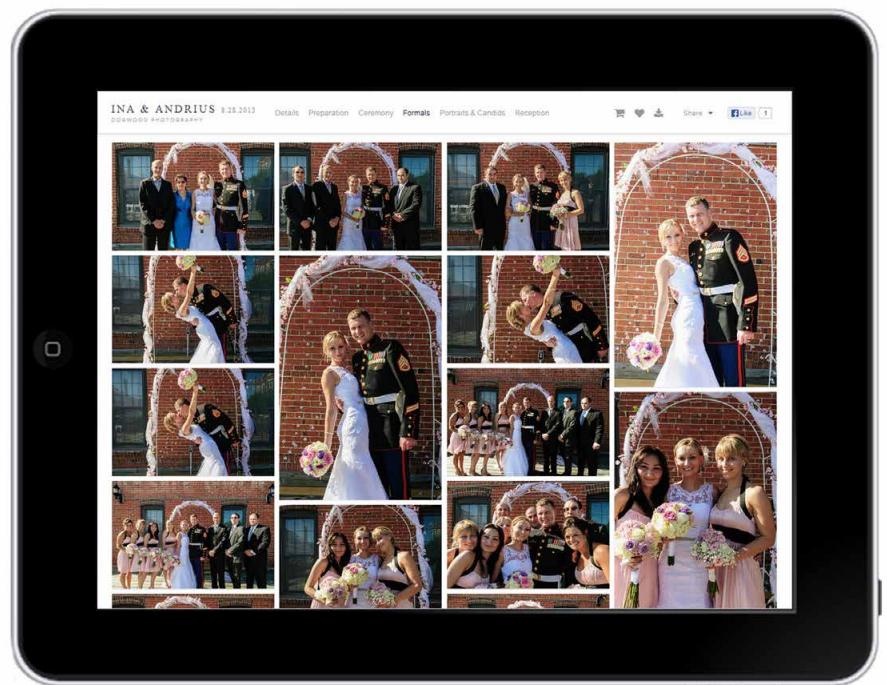
The traditional photography sales model of charging a small sitting fee, then an exorbitant price on prints does not make sense in the digital world. The whole process has changed. Much more of the work is up front. When you see your images my work on them is already done.

The new pricing model is simple. I charge a single creative fee that covers my time and talent. This includes my time and talent behind the camera, as well as in front of the computer. That's it. No crazy up-charges. No high pressure print sales. Your images are shot, edited, and then uploaded to an online gallery in high resolution for you to view, share, and download! You can share your images via social media, email, print, or any way you prefer.



Meagan & Lenn ~ Kansas City Wedding 2011

## How Images are Delivered



We live in an incredibly connected world. Calling a friend on the phone on another continent, talking on Skype with our college roommate, or reading the Facebook wall of a friend we haven't seen since high school is now normal. We've forgotten how just ten years ago we didn't have iPhones, iPads, or even Facebook. One of the major benefits of being so connected is that we can now share images of our lives with the ones we love... instantly.

When your wedding images have been fully edited, a collection of your photos will be uploaded to an online gallery. You will receive

a unique URL where you can view, download, share, and order prints on any computer, tablet, or smartphone that has Internet access. To share your images with friends and family you simply share your unique URL with them and they too can view, download, share, and order prints of your images. All downloads require a PIN which I will provide to you, and your gallery can be password protected at your request.

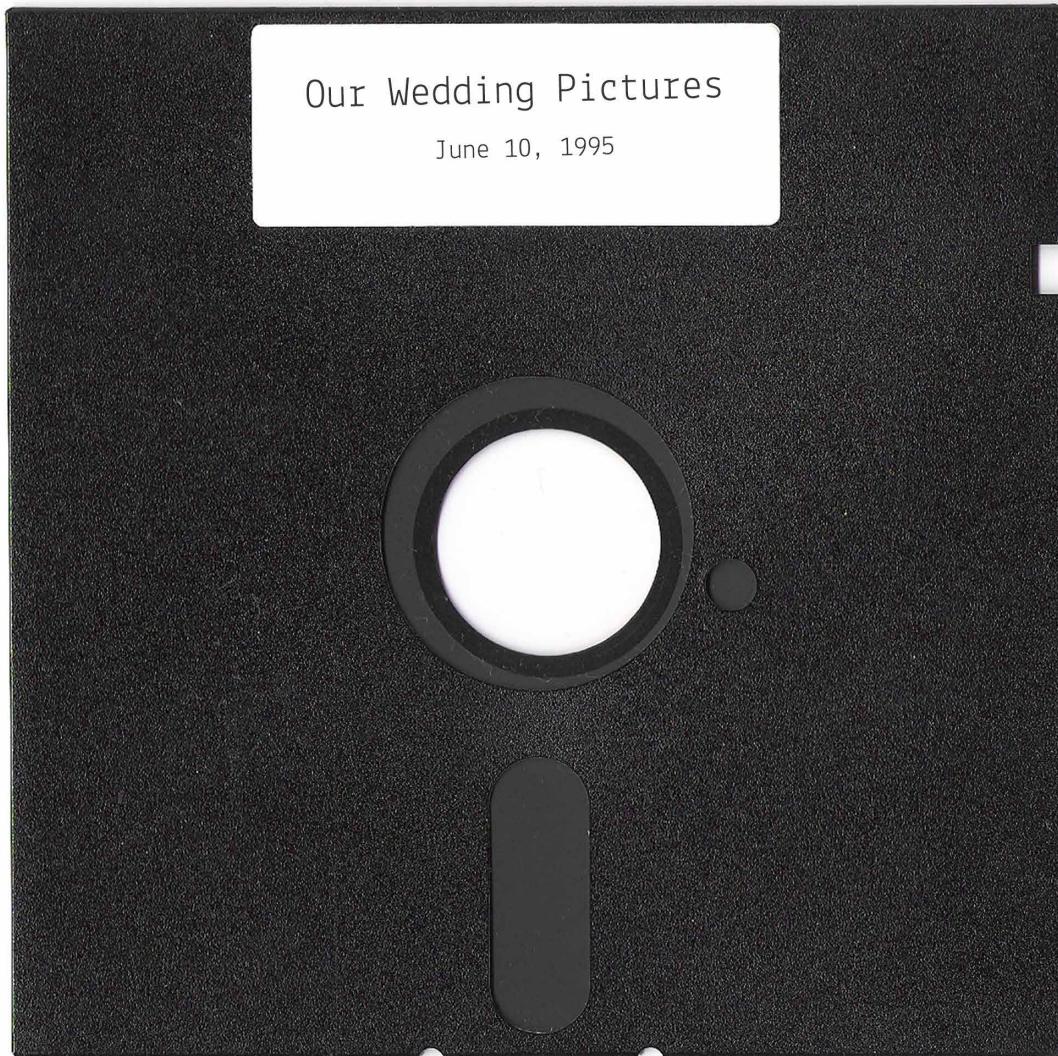
If your Internet at home is not fast enough to download the images through the online gallery, I can easily provide a DVD to you at no additional charge.

*Love doesn't make the world go round.  
Love is what makes the ride worthwhile.*

~ Franklin P. Jones



## Why Prints Still Matter



I am a firm believer in prints, and believe photos still look their best in print. Prints are also the best way to ensure your images are around for a very, very long time! Hard drives will fail, USB/Thumb drives will stop working, and DVDs will become unreadable.

Since the cost of providing my service to you is fully covered in the creative fee, there is no high pressure sales pitch to get you to purchase overpriced prints after the wedding. As a courtesy, I do offer a full range of professionally printed albums, prints, and products, and can do so at reasonable, upfront prices. One of my favorite things about Shoot & Share is that I can offer you access to professional print labs, ones only professional photographers have access to, at reasonable prices. All prints ordered through your on-line gallery are printed on Kodak Endura Professional Lustre paper for amazing color rendition and superb skin tones. Prints on matte or metallic paper are also available, if you prefer. Of course you are also free to have your images printed at your favorite consumer lab! It is all about choice.

Are you confused by print sizes, and image crop? You are not alone. The different print sizes are left-overs from the Analog days when film came in different sizes and shapes. An 8"x10" print is a direct descendant of Large-Format cameras from the 1930s. And since changing the shape of the image involved using a straight edge and a razor blade, frames were produced to match the shape of the image. Today's professional digital cameras produce images that are the same shape (or crop ratio) as 35mm film. Prints ordered in the following sizes will not be significantly cropped: 4x6, 8x12, 12x18, 20x30, 24x36, 30x40. All other sizes are going to experience some cropping. Yes, that means that the classic 8x10 image is going to experience cropping! When you order prints on-line, the approximate crop will be displayed.

20 Years ago, this was how digital files were stored.

Will a CD/DVD be this obsolete in another 20?

### Example Print Prices

4x6 ~ \$2.00	5x7 ~ \$2.50	8x10 ~ \$4.00	16x20 ~ \$30.00
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*Prices are subject to change without notice*



Valerie & Mike ~ St. Joseph Wedding 2011

## Hiring a Wedding Photographer



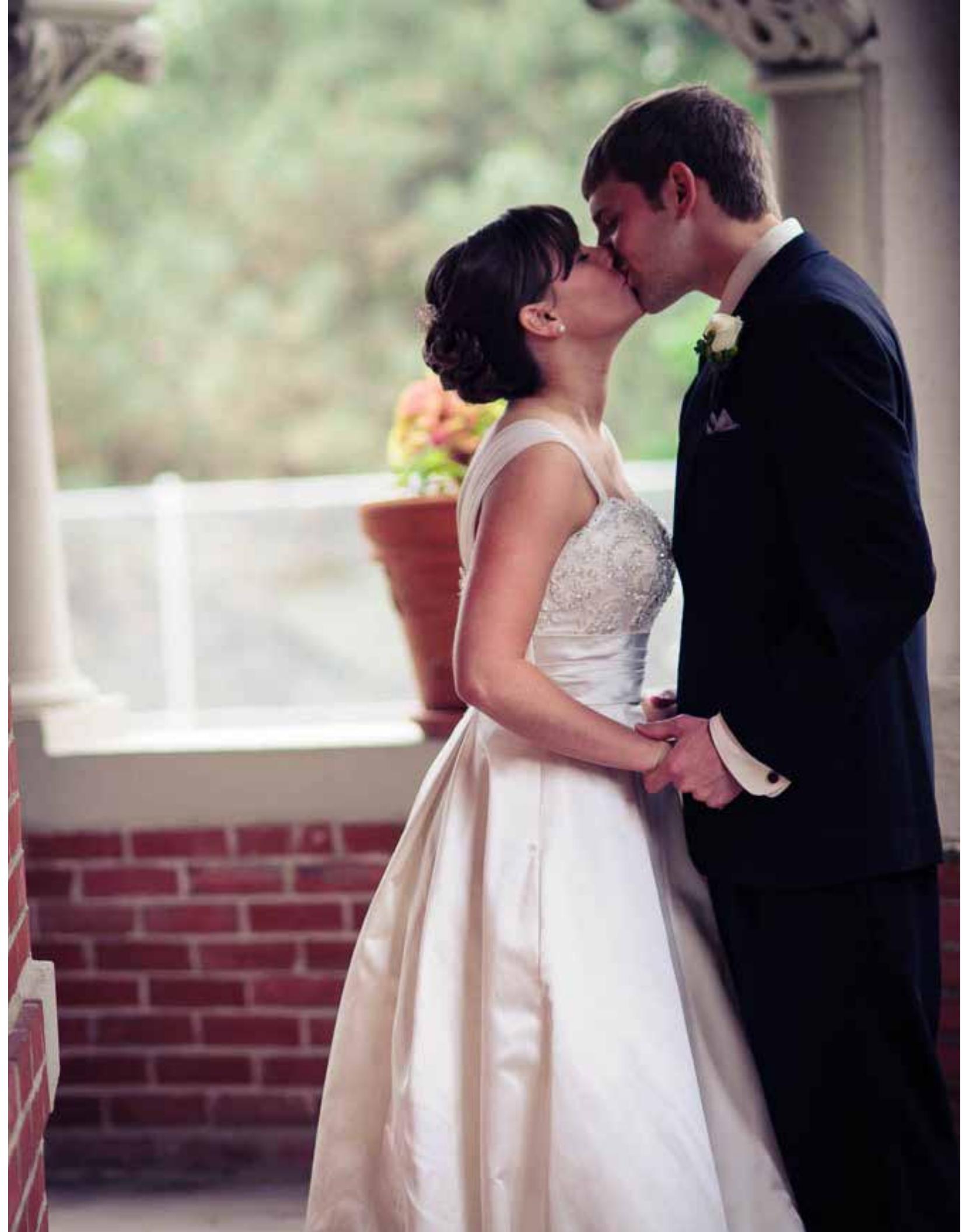
Hiring a wedding photographer can be a daunting task, with literally hundreds of choices in some cities. So how do you know which one is the right one for you? Hiring the right photographer for your wedding is a blend of photographic style, budget, and personality. I certainly hope that you will consider Dogwood Photography to tell the story of your wedding day; but even if I am not the photographer for you, I want to pass on a few tips to help you in your search.

- 1** Book Early! Wedding photographers are often booked a year or more in advance. Book your photographer as soon as you have locked in your venue and your date, especially if you are getting married during a prime month like June.



- 2** Pay attention to the photographer's style. Look for a photographer who captures real moments, not just stylized portraits.
- 3** Ask how a specific photo that you love in their portfolio was taken. Listening to a photographer talk about how an amazing image was created is a great way to get an understanding on how they work.
- 4** Ask to see a whole wedding. It's only natural for us photographers to only show the best of the best in our portfolios. But to ensure the photographer covers a wedding in a way that appeals to you; ask to see an entire set.
- 5** Hire a professional. According to a survey by New York Magazine<sup>1</sup>, the number one thing brides wished they had spent more on is photography. Don't risk the memories of your wedding day with someone who may or may not have the proper experience, equipment, or business practices in place.

<sup>1</sup>. New York Weddings - Summer 2013 | Pg47.



## Meet Dale, the Photographer



Hello! My name is Dale Foshe, and I am the photographer/owner at Dogwood Photography. I have been taking photos almost all of my life. In 2007 I was asked to help a friend of mine shoot a wedding and ever since I was hooked. I knew that my photography would take a new direction. I have a strong technical background and weddings have given me the opportunity to push my technical and lighting skills to the edge, and fine-tune my ability to work in crazy, unpredictable environments.

I am also a romantic, I have always loved weddings. I have been happily married for almost twenty years, and it always makes me feel inspired to be a part of a couple's new beginning.

I love being able to tell the story of a couple on their wedding day. Capturing the sweet, simple moments and emotions that occur during a wedding is an amazing job to have. It is wonderful to be able to give a visual narrative of the most important day in their lives.

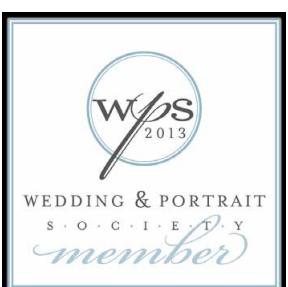
I am originally from Springfield, Missouri. I moved to Kansas City in 1995 when I married my amazing wife, had kids and settled down. We moved to Wilmington, NC in 2011 and fell in love with the city and people here.



Photographing weddings professionally since 2009 ~



Professional Photographers  
of America



Dale & Erinn Foshe  
January 7th, 1995

Photograph by: Wayne and Roxanne Carson

# Wedding Pricing



## Traditional Wedding Packages

My goal is to tell the story of your wedding day. With that in mind all of our packages include a full day of coverage; no counting hours or trying to rush to get everything done before the photographers leave! All of our packages also include a sharing gallery of the images in full resolution and without watermarks. There are no hidden costs or fees; everything needed to completely cover your wedding is included.

*Unlimited Wedding Day Coverage  
Images Only ~ \$1900*

- Two Professional Photographers
- Online Gallery for Sharing & Downloading
- Complementary Engagement Session
- Prints, Products & Albums available a la Carte

*Unlimited Wedding Day Coverage  
With Album ~ \$2850*

- Two Professional Photographers
- Online Gallery for Sharing & Downloading
- Complementary Engagement Session
- 30 Page 12x12 Museum Quality Wedding Album

## Intimate/Beach Wedding Packages

These packages are especially designed for couples who are coming from out of town to the amazing Carolina Coast area for their wedding. These packages don't include an engagement session since they aren't normally desired for a couple's having destination weddings, though one can be added. The Beach / Intimate Wedding Packages are designed for weddings that have fewer than 50 guests, and include full day coverage.

*Unlimited Wedding Day Coverage  
Images Only ~ \$1400*

- Online Gallery for Sharing & Downloading
- Prints, Products & Albums available a la Carte

*Unlimited Wedding Day Coverage  
With Album ~ \$2350*

- Online Gallery for Sharing & Downloading
- 30 Page 12x12 Museum Quality Wedding Album

## Terms

- \$250 retainer due at booking. Remainder due one month before wedding.
- Accepting Cash, Check, Credit Cards, and Paypal. Payment plans available.

*Prices subject to change without notice. Tax not included.*



Ina & Andrew ~ Wilmington Wedding 2013

# Frequently Asked Questions



## **What is your style?**

The best answer is to look through the portfolio on my website at [www.dogwood-photography.com](http://www.dogwood-photography.com). All of these images have been taken by me and represent my style.

## **Will you be photographing my wedding?**

Barring illness or injury I will personally be photographing your wedding. I am not a large company that uses a booking agent, and then sends out a random photographer. I am a one person business (with significant help from my amazing wife of 18 years!)

## **What happens if you are sick or injured?**

This has never happened, knock on wood. But if it were to happen, I have an extensive list of wedding photography colleagues in the Wilmington/Myrtle Beach area I can draw from. I am also a member of the Wedding Photographic Society which is a network of wedding photography professionals.

## **How much time will you spend at my wedding?**

I don't put time limits on my packages, as I don't want to limit my ability to tell your story. I will be there when the story starts and I stay until it has been told. It depends on what you want, but often times I am there when a bride starts with hair/makeup, and don't leave until after the sparkler exit. We will work together to determine your coverage needs.

## **Why is wedding photography so expensive?**

Wedding photography is a specialized field. The equipment needed to handle the ever changing situations of a wedding, often in poor lighting and unpredictable weather, is much more expensive than what your standard portrait photographer needs. And since we simply can't reschedule your wedding if something goes wrong with a critical piece of equipment, we have to have backups for everything. Also, most weddings are on a Saturday, and there are a limited number of Saturdays to book weddings. This dictates price, unfortunately. Hiring the wrong wedding photographer is putting your memories at risk. They might not have

proper equipment, backups, or business practices to ensure your day is captured and your images are safe.

## **I only need you for 4 hours, why should I pay for all day coverage?**

I only shoot one wedding a day, and generally only one wedding a weekend. I have to be sure I can guarantee a specific amount of income to stay in business. That being said I can be flexible if you only need a few hours of coverage, especially on weddings that are not on a Saturday.

## **Why do you only list a couple of packages?**

I understand that as you search for the right wedding photographer you are going to be overwhelmed with options. I try to keep it simple with that in mind. The packages listed in my pricing section are what I offer. I don't have confusing packages filled with 'fluff' to make them look more appealing, or try to up-sell you on additional coverage when it comes time to book. I can also create a custom package to fit your needs.

## **Should I get an album?**

Yes! When my wife and I were married, we did not have an album made. We always thought we would 'get to it later'. Well 18 years later and the negatives are lost, and we don't have enough prints to make an album. Technology changes; in 10 years computers likely won't even have DVD players in them, so getting your images off of the DVD may be impossible. The only time tested way to be sure you can see your wedding photos in 10 or 20 years is to have quality prints made in some form. Can you imagine trying to get your parents' wedding images off of an old 5 1/4 floppy disk today?

## **I don't see prints in any of your packages, do you offer prints?**

Absolutely! I offer a full range of photographic prints, as well as products like gallery wraps. I don't have these in my packages to keep things simple. Your images will be in an online gallery for you to order prints and products from after your wedding should you desire.

## **Do I get the high resolution images?**

Yes. The images are available for download cropped and color corrected, in high resolution, without watermarks, and ready for print. You can get these images printed anywhere and you are not required to go through me.

Continued on Page 52...

**If I can get images printed anywhere, why should I order through you? Your print prices are higher than the local discount store.**

My prints come from professional labs that are only available to professional photographers. These labs use photographic paper that is exposed to light and developed using a chemical development process. Though constantly being improved for color and contrast, this is the same basic process that has been around for over a hundred years. Discount printers use an inexpensive inkjet type system that sprays ink on paper. These inexpensive systems often use thin cheap paper to save money, and don't hold color and contrast as well as a developed print from a professional lab.

**How soon will I get my photos?**

The online gallery with the full set of images will be ready within 30 days. I will make every effort to have them ready for you sooner than that if possible, but always within 30 days. The online gallery is where you share your images from, as well as download them.

**How many images do I get?**

That depends on the wedding. An intimate beach wedding with 40 guests that only lasts a few hours might produce 300 images, while a large full day wedding with 300 guests might produce 1000 images. I will take as many images as I need to tell the story.

**Do you do any special processing on my images?**

Every image is manually color corrected and cropped. I believe in providing a clean crisp beautiful image. I try to avoid any editing fads that will make your images feel dated in 10 or 20 years. For any images that are ordered as prints, and especially products like gallery wraps, I will do additional editing on them to prepare them for large printing including blemish cleanup and background cleanup.

**I am from out of town, but having my wedding in the Wilmington/Myrtle Beach area. Can you accommodate me?**

Absolutely! With the amazing weather, beautiful scenery, and spectacular beaches, we have many "destination" weddings where this is the destination. I even have a special wedding package to cater to your needs. Most destination weddings are smaller and don't need engagement sessions, so I am able to offer a package that is priced accordingly. We can handle pre-wedding consultations over the phone or via Skype/Facetime.

**What is your coverage area?**

I am located in Wilmington, NC. My local coverage areas include Wilmington, Myrtle Beach, Jacksonville, and beaches/area in between!

**Why is so much of your past work from Kansas/Missouri?**

I am originally from Kansas City, and for years photographed weddings in that area. My family and I moved to the Coastal Carolina region in 2011. The Dogwood is the state tree of Missouri, and the name of the company pays homage to that.

**Do you book destination weddings?**

Have passport, will travel.

**Do you do portraits, or just weddings?**

I specialize in weddings and engagements. This lets me put all of my focus on being the best at what I do. I will take portraits and other types of photography on request, but I do not put any emphasis on that in my business.

**How big is your company?**

I am a sole proprietor. That being said, my wife is a huge part of my business, and could not function without her. She is my primary 2nd shooter, lighting assistant and office manager.

**Do you have a studio?**

Yes, although most of my sessions are outdoors or in locations special to the bride and groom, I do have access to a studio space, if needed.

**I think you are awesome and want to hire you, what's next?**

Now you contact me! We will set up a consultation to see if I am the right wedding photographer to tell the story of your day. We can meet in the studio; or go for coffee, a beer, or even ice cream! If you are not local we will handle the consultation over the phone or via Skype/Facetime.

*Photography is a way of feeling,  
of touching, of loving. What you  
have caught on film is captured  
forever. . . it remembers little  
things, long after you have  
forgotten everything.*

~ Aaron Sussman