

Using this Planning Guide

This is a planning guide and checklist to help you communicate your photography needs for your wedding. Please keep in mind that this list of shots is created to both get you thinking about the photography you want for your wedding and to help highlight the things that are specific to you. As such, please approach this document with the knowledge that it is yours to make what you want. For instance, if you no longer have any grandparents or will have none at your wedding, please cross those shots off our list as it will only waste our time looking for your grandparents while trying to take formals. By the same token, however, this list is not all-inclusive and will not necessarily contain all the formal or group shots you want. If you have another group(s) not listed on the sheet, list them!

One last thing. Do not approach this as a contractual document. Use this to help your photographer learn about you and your wedding, not as an instruction manual on how to shoot weddings. Do not feel that any shot not listed on that document will not be made at your wedding and by the same token don't feel that just because a shot is listed there, making it at your wedding will be possible. Underline, cross out, and make it your own. And don't hesitate to ask questions.

PLEASE NOTE: BRIDES - DO NOT PUT THE DRESS ON PRIOR TO THE PHOTOGRAPHERS ARRIVAL. FIRSTLY IT'S NICE TO TAKE SOME PRELIMINARY SHOTS OF THE DRESS BEFORE IT IS PUT ON, AND SECONDLY - THE SHOTS OF YOU GETTING READY ARE WONDERFUL.

Event Date _____

Photographer Start time _____ **End time** _____

Photographer to report to (Location FULL ADDRESS)

Phone # _____ Cell # _____

BRIDE _____

Maid of Honor _____

Please list Bridesmaids

Flower girl? _____ Age _____

Brides Parents _____

List siblings _____

Grandparents _____

Others _____

GROOM _____

Best Man _____

Please list Groomsmen

Ring bearer? _____ Age _____
Grooms Parents _____
List siblings _____
Grandparents _____
Others _____

CEREMONY

Time of ceremony _____ Type of ceremony _____
Length of ceremony _____
Name of ceremony site _____
Address of ceremony site _____
Name of officiate _____
List photography restrictions _____

PHOTOGRAPHY CONSIDERATIONS

Location of formals (allow 1 hour for formals) Formals do not take this long but leave this amount of time in case of timeline delays

List any secondary locations _____

RECEPTION

Hours from _____ to _____ # of guests _____
Name and address of reception site _____

Phone # reception site _____
Name of the Reception coordinator _____
Cocktail hour: From _____ to _____
Dinner served _____
List main events of reception _____

Additional information

This information is also invaluable.

Makeup/Hair _____ Phone# _____ Video _____
Phone# _____
Florist _____ Phone# _____ Bakery _____ Phone# _____
Caterer _____ Phone# _____ DJ/Band _____ Phone# _____

Additional information for photographer

The following is meant as a guideline, to help both you gain a clearer picture (no pun intended) of some shots, which may be particularly important to you. This is not meant as a

definitive shot list. It is, however, meant to help jog your memory, and try and pin point any important individuals, groups or events that may be specific to you. Please think of important 'groups' in your lives. i.e. College friend's - Work friends - childhood friends
Frat/Sor group - God parents

STARTING THE DAY

Invitation (flowers, rings etc.)
Bride with Maid of Honor
Bride alone
Bride with all Bridesmaids (casual)
Bride with Flower Girl/ring bearer
Bride and mother (posed and casual)
Bride and Father (posed and casual)
Bride with parents (posed and casual or in background)
Brides parents separately
Bride with grandparents
Grandparents separately
Bride with her complete family
Bride with anyone else at the house
Other views of the bride - outside - at a specific location?

CEREMONY SITE

Outside view of ceremony site
Groom and Best Man (posed and casual)
Groom alone
Bride arriving at ceremony site
Bride getting out of car
Bride entering ceremony site
Grooms Mother being escorted down aisle
Brides Mother being escorted down aisle
Ushers unrolling white carpet
Each member of the wedding party going down aisle
Bride and Father going down aisle
Groom waiting for Bride at altar
Rearview of Bride and Father going down aisle
Bride and Father approaching altar
Bride and Groom meet at altar
Father gives away Bride
Bride and Groom entering altar area
General views of couple in altar area
Couple holding hands, exchanging vows
Groom putting ring on Brides finger
Bride putting ring on Grooms finger

Overall views of Ceremony site from rear

PLEASE NOTE: RESTRICTIONS PLACED ON THE PHOTOGRAPHER BY
OFFICIANTS MAY ADVERSELY EFFECT WHAT IMAGES MAY BE CREATED
DURING THE SERVICE

Balcony and Center Aisle

Special activities (depending on religion)

Catholic - Lighting Marriage Candle

Parents bringing up gifts

Special people - readings etc.

Jewish: Breaking of glass etc.

Orthodox Placing of wreaths etc.

Protestant Various

Other – Please say more

First kiss

Couple coming down aisle

Silhouette in doorway

Leaving ceremony

(If necessary to recreate it afterward - this will be done either now or after receiving line)

Wedding party congratulating

Receiving line candids

Couple entering car

Couple in car

Champagne toast in car

FORMALS - FAMILY GROUPS

B/G with Brides parents

B/G with Brides Family

B/G with Grooms parents

B/G with Grooms family

B/G with both sets of parents

Both sets of parents together

B/G with grandparents

B/G with Maid of Honor and Best Man

B/G with entire wedding party (2-3 poses)

B with Bridesmaids

G with ushers

B/G with Flower Girl and Ring

B/G with any other special groups

B/G formals - full length

Bride alone - Full length and close up

B/G 3/4 and close up (can be used for newspaper)
Environmentals of Bride alone
Environmentals of couple
Close up of wedding rings

RECEPTION

Wedding Party entering Room
B/G entering room
Clergy saying grace
Best Man proposing the Toast
B/G toasting each other
Views of Head table
Overall views of Reception site
B/G kissing at head table
B/G talking with guests - or mingling at cocktail hour
B/G dancing first dance
Bride and Father dancing
Groom and Mother dancing
Bride's parents dancing
Grooms parents dancing
Grandparents dancing
Guests dancing
Bride throws bouquet
Groom removes brides garter
Groom throws garter
Overall candid
Fun and guest shots
B/G with special groups of people - please try and make a note of them

B/G getting into Limo - farewell from guests

Please, please remember that this is not supposed to be a definitive list - in fact not even a list at all - simply a sketch of some of the shots that you may like to see of your wedding. It is designed entirely to help you in focusing on those shots that you may not be able to immediately think of at the moment.

Now the challenge Get this to your photographer