



elegant wedding
PLAYBOOK

for busy brides and grooms



TABLE OF *contents*



INTRODUCTION	1
VISION	2
COLORS	3
BUDGET	4
WEDDING PARTY	6
GUESTS	7
FLOWERS	9
FOOD + DRINK	11
CAKE	13
VENUE	14
TIMELINE	16
DETAILS	18
GETTING READY	20
THE SPACE	22
FIRST LOOK	24
COUPLE PHOTOS	26
CEREMONY	28
THE FAMILY	29
THE RECEPTION	31



Key Levels

introduction

We're thrilled for you! This playbook is filled with helpful advice to guide you at every stage of the planning process to achieve an elegant wedding.

Shoot Media's mission is more than just being your photographer and videographer. Since we'll frequently engage with you on your wedding day, we'd like you to consider us your friends. We don't believe you deserve anything less, so over the years, we've picked up techniques that will help us make sure your photos and videos are amazing.

WEDDING *vision*



It's your wedding! As you get to plan the most lavish and elegant wedding imaginable, the choices are unlimited!

In planning your wedding, it is a must that you have a vision. Your vision is the cornerstone and overall vibe of your wedding. Setting your wedding vision is a crucial first step. However, it is usually overlooked. We strongly suggest you and your fiancé take the time to build your wedding vision together. This will help ensure that your wedding lives up to your hopes and dreams.

Plan the wedding of your dreams, start by keeping a wedding planner that focuses only on your ideal nuptials. Remember any clever ideas by noting every tiny detail you can think of for rapid reference.



GET YOURS

WEDDING *colors*

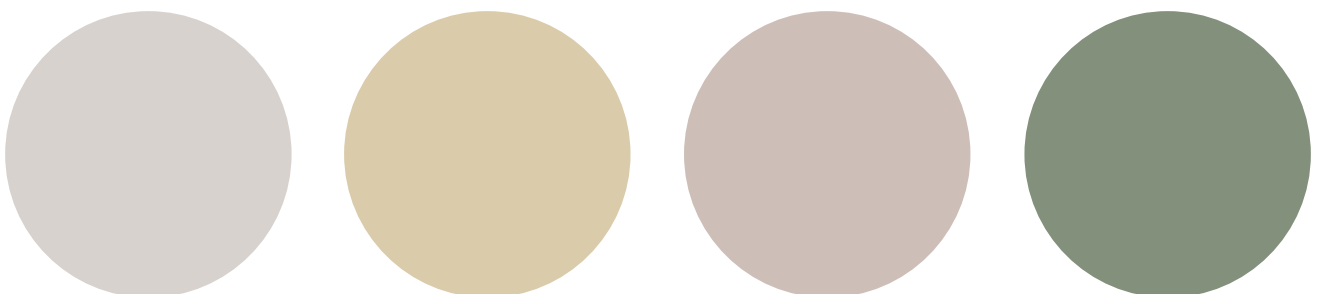
When planning your wedding, choosing colors that will reflect your personality and style is important. Here are some tips to help you choose the right colors for your big day.

Start by exploring your style. What fabrics do you love? What colors do you feel inspired by? Once you know what color palette stands out to you, start looking at wedding venues in that same color range. If you're on a budget, don't be afraid to choose a more affordable option that still looks professional.

Once you've found a few potential wedding venues in your color range, start narrowing them down. Start by thinking about the specific elements of your wedding in that color palette. For example, if you're having a rustic wedding with lots of natural elements, choose colors that will work well with earthy tones. Go for colors that complement your beautiful gowns and bouquets.

When you are done listing a few potential venues and selecting your favorite colors for each one, start shopping for the perfect supplies to bring your vision to life. Make sure you have everything you need, from flowers to table settings to table linens, to have the ideal wedding in the chosen colors.

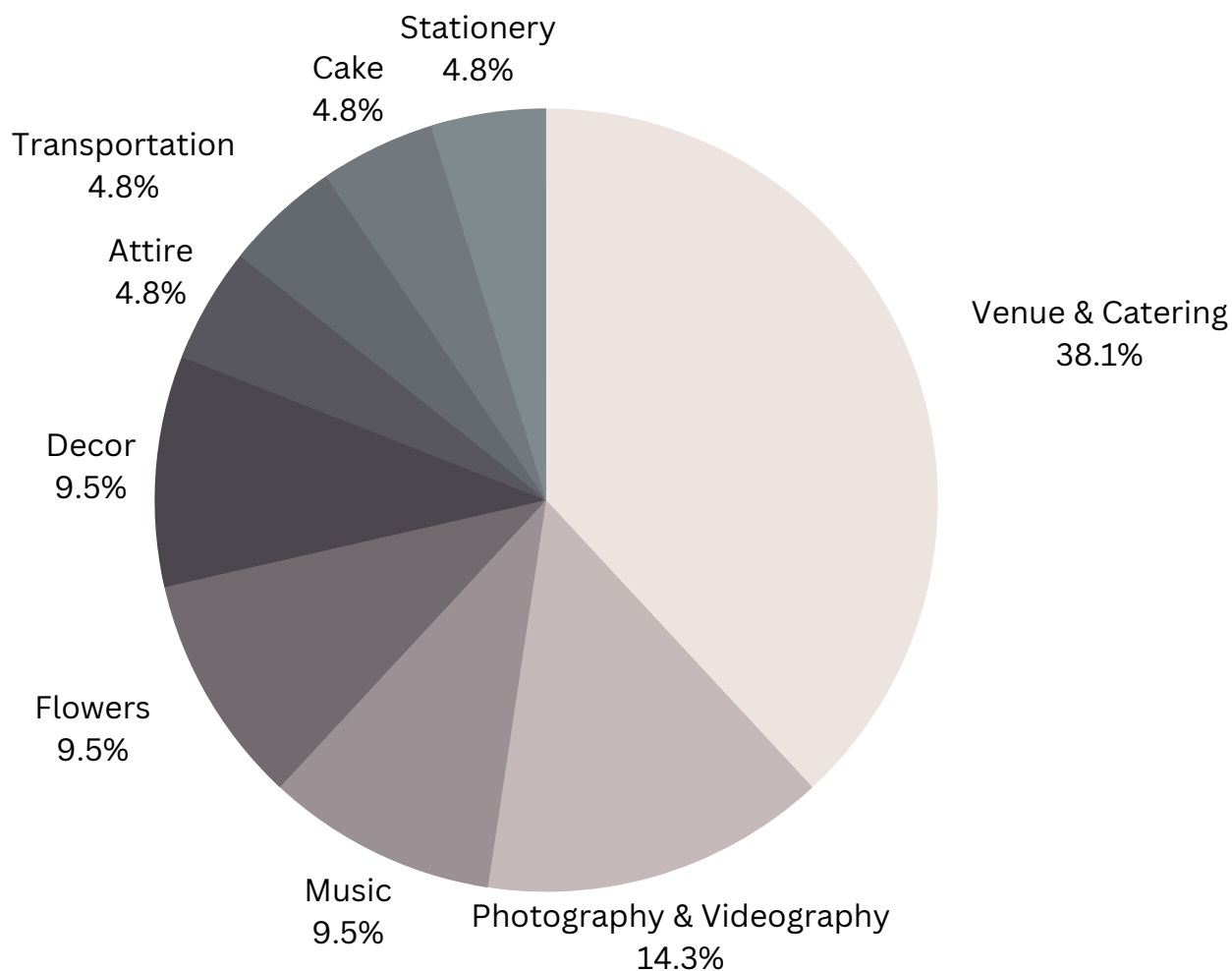
SAMPLE COLOR PALETTE



WEDDING *budget*

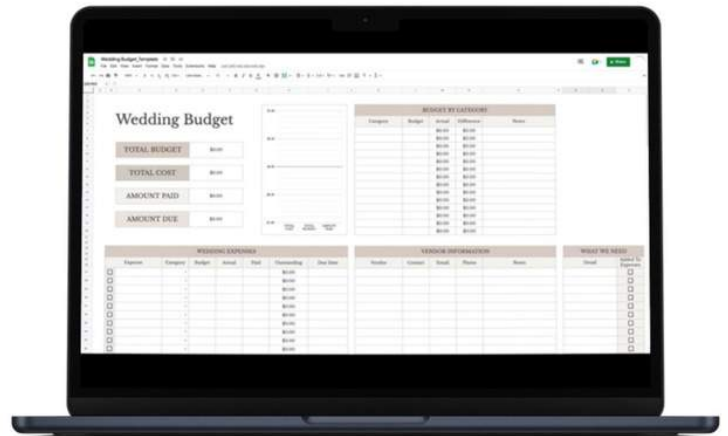
Figuring out your wedding budget can be quite a challenge. Your most elaborate event yet will undoubtedly be lavish and costly; it requires meticulous planning to avoid incurring excessive expenditures later on while anticipating potential expenditures alongside making meaningful reductions if necessary - all in an effort to stay cognizant of one's financial situation without adding any further debt!

SAMPLE WEDDING BUDGET BREAKDOWN

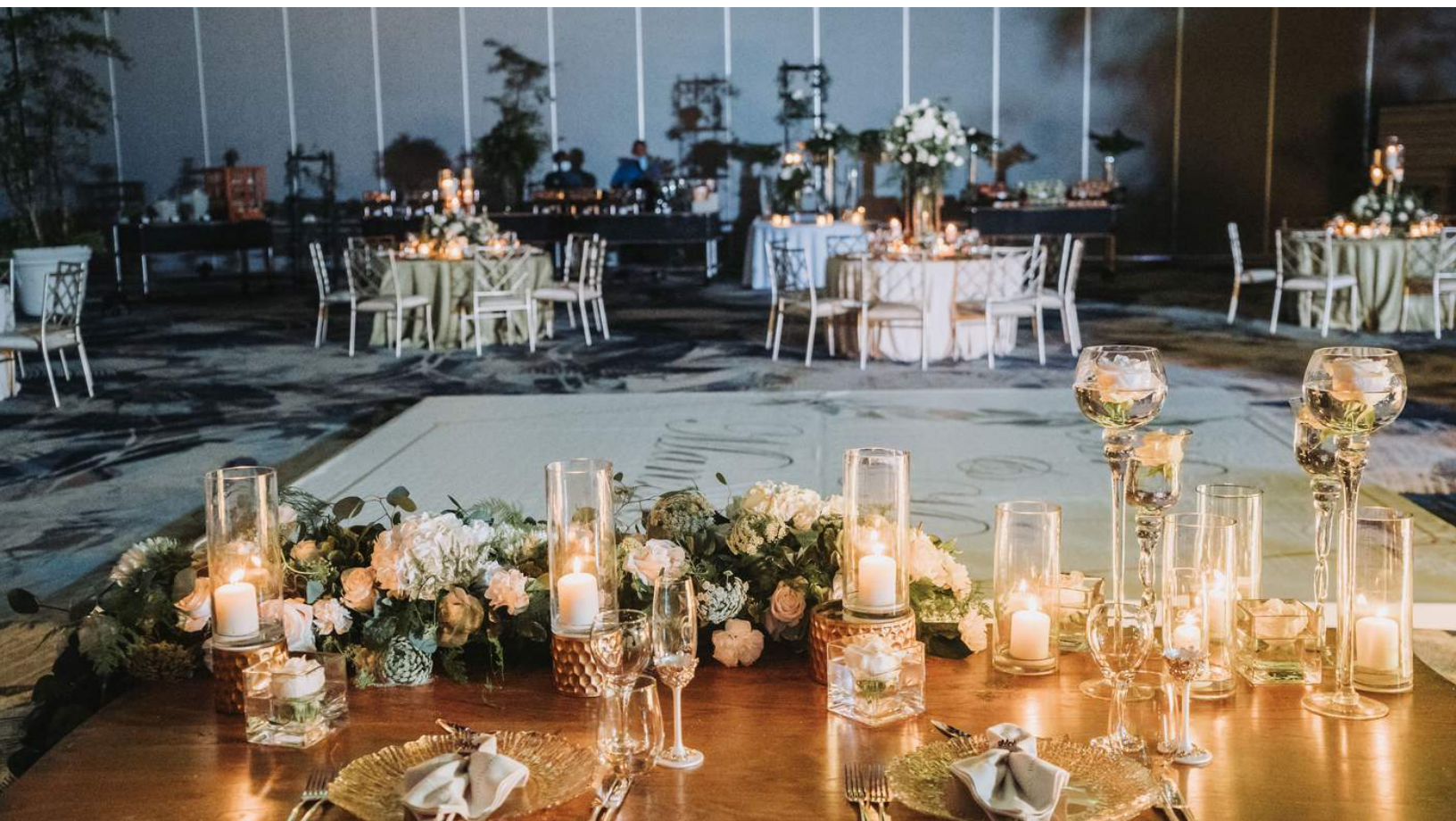


✦ wedding budget calculator ✦

Setting a budget is essential for staying on top of your wedding expenses. By keeping tabs on these figures, it will be much easier to ensure that all parties involved are satisfied with the outcome. Through this process, you will gain insight into the bigger picture and pinpoint where your money should be spent. However, it's critical to preserve non-negotiable priorities like certain aspects of your wedding; otherwise, there may need to be more funds available for everything else!



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WEDDING *party*

Choosing your wedding party is one of the most important aspects of organizing a wedding. So, who should sit with whom, and what responsibilities do they have? Although myriad traditional roles may be acceptable to choose from, ultimately, it's up to you and your partner as to which members make an appearance on the special occasion—perhaps none if that suits your fancy! Mix things up by having no matron-of-honor or swapping a human for a puppy—whatever works best for yours truly!

TRADITIONAL WEDDING PARTY ROLES

- Maid/Matron/Man of Honor
- Best Man
- Bridesmaids
- Groomsmen
- Flower Girl
- Ring Bearer
- Mother of the Bride
- Father of the Bride
- Mother of the Groom
- Father of the Groom
- Ushers
- Officiant

WEDDING *guests*

Undoubtedly, one of the most challenging tasks for any couple is making a guest list for their wedding. There are a few things to keep in mind when creating your list, such as ensuring you have enough seats for everyone and not excluding anyone interested in attending your wedding.

Here are a few tips to help you get started:

1. Start by compiling a list of all the people who are important to you and your fiancé. This could include family, close friends, co-workers, etc. Make sure to have everyone on this list!
2. Next, consider who is currently living away from home. If one or both of your families are scattered across the country, gathering everyone for the event may take time. Consider inviting extended family members or friends who can act as proxies for those who can't attend in person.



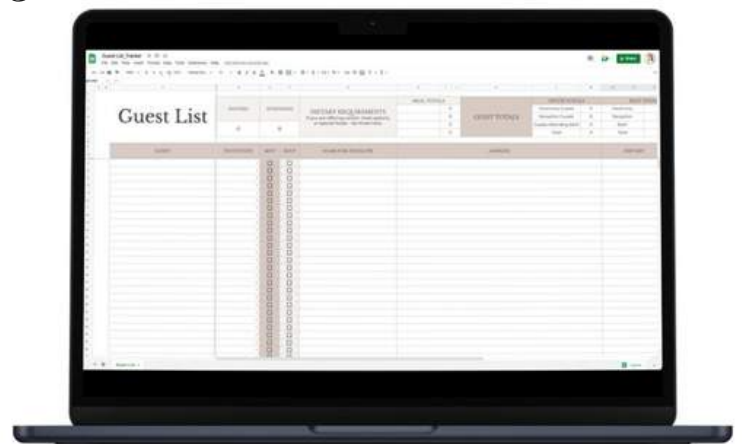


3. Once you have a list of everyone important to you, it's time to start narrowing it down. Start by considering who is closest to you in terms of relationship and proximity. Once you have your primary invitees, it's time to consider others who may be interested in attending, such as friends of your fiancé or family members of your soon-to-be wedding guests.

4. Once you have finalized your guest list, send invitations as soon as possible! There is no worse feeling than having someone on your list that you can't get hold of to let them know about the event!

5. Finally, take a moment to thank everyone who has agreed to attend your wedding—it means a lot! Not to mention, it will help ensure your wedding is a success.

guest list tracker



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WEDDING *flowers*

When it comes to choosing wedding flowers, there are a few things you need to keep in mind. First, your flowers should reflect the colors of your wedding party and personality. Second, think about the atmosphere you want your wedding to have. Third, choose flowers that will last throughout the day and night. Finally, consider your budget when choosing flowers, especially if you're on a tight schedule! Here are some tips on how to choose the perfect wedding flowers:

1. Choose colors that match your wedding party and personality.

If you have a color-coordinated wedding party, like brothers and sisters or friends who live near each other, picking flowers in the same color family will look cohesive. Alternatively, if you have a more eclectic group of wedding guests, selecting flowers that are different colors but complementary to each other will work well.

2. Consider the atmosphere you want your wedding to have.

Do you want a light and airy wedding with lots of greenery or a more rustic celebration with earthy tones? Whichever atmosphere you choose, make sure to include flowers in it!

3. Be budget-conscious when choosing flowers.

If you're on a tight budget, try to find flowers that can be reused multiple times throughout the day or night, like roses or lilies. Alternatively, choose plants with shorter life spans, like daisies, or filler plants, like bougainvillea.

4. Floral designers can help you with all of this!

There are a lot of bridal salons that offer floral design services, so ask them what flowers they recommend for your wedding.



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WEDDING *food + drink*

The food and beverages greatly influence the atmosphere of your wedding. Make sure your guests have a great time and enjoy the food and drinks by following the few steps below.

1. Make a list of must-haves and go with what your guests will enjoy. If there is one dish that everyone always requests, go with that! But don't forget to include unique options, too.
2. Serve plenty of water and nonalcoholic beverages. It's polite to offer them, and most people will be grateful for the break from booze!
3. Keep servings small. Large portions can be tiresome to eat when you're already busy celebrating. And remember: No one wants to waste food or drink!





4. Keep everything tidy and organized. This goes for the food itself, as well as the serving dishes and glasses. It will make it much easier for your guests to enjoy their meals.

5. Let guests help themselves. This goes for both food and drink. If someone wants something, let them help themselves. It will make the experience that much more enjoyable.



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WEDDING *cake*

When choosing a wedding cake, there are a few things to remember. Here are some tips to help you choose the perfect cake for your special day!

First and foremost, consider what type of wedding you're having. Depending on your style, you may want something traditional or modern. Next, could you think about your budget? A high-end cake may be expensive, but it might be worth it if you want something unique and beautiful. Finally, think about what flavors you and your fiancé like. Plenty of options are available, so there's no need to feel limited.

Once you've determined all these factors, start looking at cakes online or in stores. Be sure to take pictures or make notes of what you like and don't like so that you can compare later on. Once you've chosen a cake, ask the bakery to make a sample for you to try. This will help ensure the cake meets your expectations and looks and tastes great on your special day.



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WEDDING *venue*

Choosing the right wedding venue can be daunting, but there are a few things to remember when narrowing down your choices.

1. Size and location

First and foremost, think about the size of your wedding and the location where you would like it to take place. Do you want a large wedding with guests spread out over several venues or a more intimate affair with just a few guests at one location? If you're short on time, consider choosing a venue closer to home so you can enjoy your wedding day rather than traveling out of town.

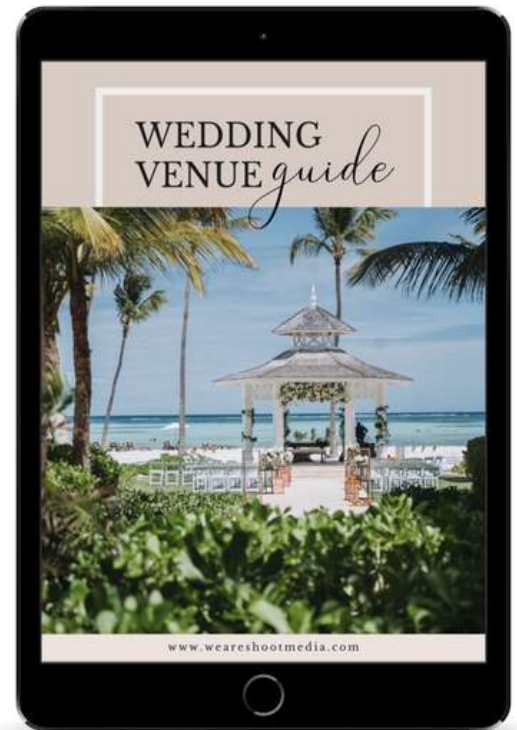
2. Budget

Another deciding factor is budget. Do you want to splurge on a luxury venue or go for something more affordable? Again, if time is an issue, you should choose an option close to your home.

3. Style

Just as important as the other factors listed is the style of the venue. Do you want a rustic affair with an old-fashioned feel or a more modern and up-to-date venue? Again, if money is tight, consider looking for a less expensive option.

Once you've determined what you're looking for in a wedding venue, it's time to start narrowing down your choices. Consider visiting local venues and getting a sense of how they would look and feel. Once you have a few favorites, take photos or videos to help you decide. Be sure to consider the space's cost, as this can be an important factor in your decision. Once you've chosen a venue, remember to reserve the date and plan your wedding!



GET YOURS





WEDDING *Timeline*

Create a detailed, hour-by-hour timeline to guarantee your wedding day runs smoothly. This will help you stay organized, stress-free, and on time.

Share your wedding day timetable with your wedding party, wedding coordinator/planner, photographer, caterer, florist, and other vendors once you've completed it so that everyone is on the same page.

While most weddings follow the same format, the order in which these events occur may differ based on your preferences. It's not a one size fits all.

To help you plan the perfect wedding timeline, here are some suggestions for how much time to give for each event, as well as a general order of events.



[GET YOURS](#)







WEDDING *details*

Because you have most likely spent time carefully picking various details of your wedding, We love taking pictures of them to preserve your day's events! Please gather your wedding details so that it is ready for us to photograph when we get there. After greeting you, we'll start taking pictures as you get your hair and makeup done. We advise you to put these things in a box in advance.

A quick tip: If you want clutter-free images, designate a room or a section of the room as the bag area and keep the majority of your belongings there.

details *box*

FOR THE BRIDE:

- Shoes
- The rings
- All other jewelry
- Headpieces
- Perfume
- Bouquet
- Garters/handkerchiefs
- Pretty Dress Hanger
- Wedding stationery with envelopes, i.e., invitations, programs, thank you cards.

FOR THE GROOM:

- Shoes
- Pocket square / Tie / Bowtie
- Belt
- Socks (If patterned)
- Cologne
- Cufflinks
- Watch

OTHER:

- Vow Books
- Ring Box
- Any other special details



GETTING *ready*

While you're getting ready, we'd like to capture your excitement and feelings, the beautiful moments you shared with your bridesmaids, mother, sister, or any other friend. Usually, these pictures are our favorites. There's something special about the butterflies before the wedding, the fleeting "this is it" moments, and the frequently crazy laughs with your best friends.

It consists mostly of candid photos. However, we make an effort to wait until everyone is completely ready to take pictures.



✦ what to wear ✦

You'll want to ensure that you're getting ready in a way you'd like to be captured in photos. It's entirely up to you how you approach it. Some brides prefer having their bridal party wear matching attire. Some prefer providing each guest with a personalized shirt or robe while getting their hair and makeup done. On your wedding day, you're not simply creating memories but also preserving them. By the time we enter the room, you should all be looking and feeling fantastic!



THE *Space*

The getting ready area is the most significant space on your wedding day, after the venue and the ceremony area. It is where you will spend the morning getting ready for your wedding party and having your pictures shot. When picking a location for getting ready, look for an open space with plenty of natural light. Consider renting out a lovely Airbnb or boutique hotel room if the space provided by your venue for getting ready does not seem to be a suitable fit.





FIRST *look*



The best and most hectic day of your life, let's face it, is your wedding day. We usually suggest a first look to our couples because it gives them time alone with their partner before the ceremony. You get to take a break from the commotion and spend time together, savoring the romance and excitement.

You want to see your partner's teary, emotional reaction when you first see each other. However, when you're up in front of a large crowd, it's difficult to concentrate on anything other than the faces staring at you.

We've found that getting a first look provides a safe place to be sentimental and savor the moment. You can embrace, kiss, spin, and take a good look at each other without feeling hurried after your first meeting.

First-look pictures allow you to show your love for each other privately in the middle of a busy day. We adore first looks!

But this isn't about us, so if you prefer to stick to the traditional way, that's fine! For example, we never want our couples to feel pushed; we want you to be aware!



COUPLE *photos*

After the first look, we'll capture photos of just the two of you. We suggest you ask your friends and family to give you space during this part. Most people find it easier to relax when they aren't in front of an audience. But hey, if you prefer to have your hype team with you, go ahead! We'll do this section right after the ceremony if you still need to do a first look. In either case, you're overflowing with joy and love, and these images will prove it!

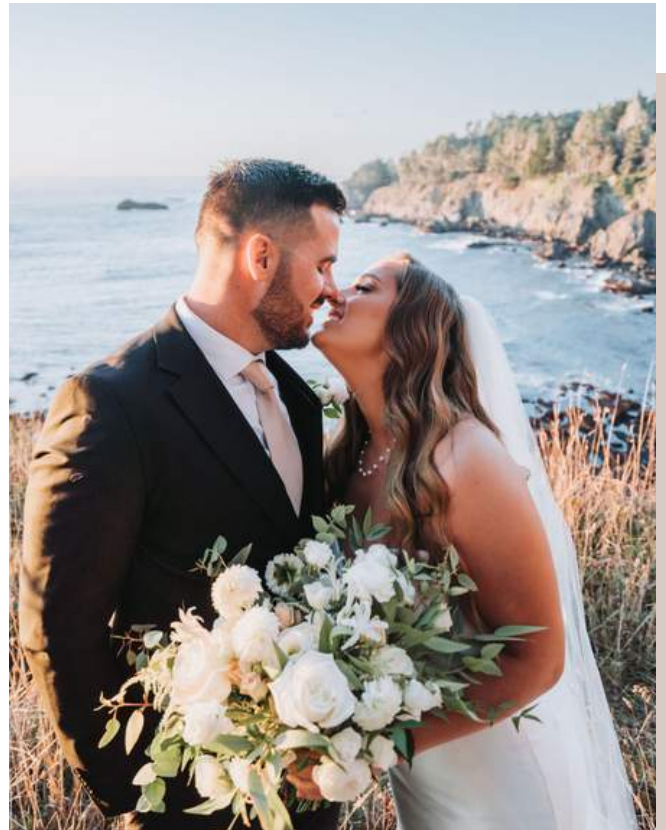
but we're awkward in photos..

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One of the most common worries we hear is this one. And we always tell couples, "It doesn't matter!" When this concern is raised, it usually means, "I've never had professional photos taken before, or I get uncomfortable or uneasy in front of the camera."

We will never attempt to change who you are; instead, you'll have the freedom to be the most authentic version of yourself because of this, since that's where the most beautiful photography appears.

You'll go home with a huge photo collection that perfectly captures your love for each other. We're not exaggerating when we say you'll look stunning.



THE *ceremony*

And we're finally here! This is the moment you've been looking forward to. It's easy to get caught up in all the preparations and stress. However, remember the most important thing is that this is the beginning of your lives together. Savour this moment!

The usual ceremony lasts approximately 30 minutes, but if you want to include any specific traditions, We'd recommend giving yourself an hour.

Two important tips we have been asking your officiant to move out of the way before the first kiss so they aren't in the background of the photo and holding your kiss longer than usual for lots of shots!





THE *family*

We want your family photos to be as entertaining and useful as possible. Although they might seem difficult, we are here to make everything go smoothly. Here are some tips:

let your family know...

Make sure the family members who will be in your group shots are aware ahead of time. You can also have your officiant make an announcement asking family members to meet for photos after the ceremony in a designated location.

prepare a shotlist...

We will ask for a shot list before your wedding so that we can take all of the family photo combinations you desire. We would be able to call out the person who is up next and ensure that we don't forget any of the shots you mentioned.

person in charge...

Having a friend or relative who is familiar with your family can help ensure that everyone is there and prepared for the family photos.

big to small group...

We suggest starting with the largest group and working your way down to smaller groups so that any visitors who are no longer required can be dismissed. We also recommend taking photos of grandparents or older guests first so they can be dismissed earlier.

avoid phone photos...

When a guest takes a photo over our shoulders, it can confuse people about where to look and slow down the process. Please ask guests to refrain from taking pictures with their phones.



THE Reception

You've done it! Woohoo! Now that you're married, it's time to celebrate! We'll shoot some candid and group shots during the reception, so if you have friends or extended family members you need photos with, now is the time! During the reception, many things happen; therefore, we'll photograph everything. You have the freedom to make the reception your own! The possibilities are endless!

Here are the usual reception events:

- grand entrance
- toasts
- first dance
- parent dances
- bouquet toss
- garter toss
- cake cutting
- grand exit



GET YOURS

unplugged WEDDING

When you marry your fiancé, you ask all your closest friends and family to rejoice with you and witness your union. You want them to be there to share this special moment with you; you want to see their faces, grins, and tears of joy and excitement as you walk down the aisle. You don't want to glance back down the hall and find people taking pictures of you with cameras and phones covering their faces.

We've seen many times when a guest's phone is sticking out into the aisle and getting in the way of both the moment and the pictures I'm taking as your photographer.

We suggest having an unplugged ceremony so that no one's phone is hanging down the aisle and people can be more at the moment.

There are a few ways to inform your guests if you decide to have an unplugged wedding. Tell them early in the invitation by adding a line that says, 'We would love for you to be there so that we will have an unplugged wedding, please, no photos during the ceremony.' You can also ask the officiant to make a short announcement asking people to turn off their phones and not take pictures.





SELF *care*



Keep sight of the most crucial person in your wedding: yourself! Wedding planning can be an intense endeavor; it can sometimes feel overwhelming.

You might be worn out, panicked, and stretched thin amidst all the preparations for your big day.

While self-care is vital during any process or activity one embarks on, many people overlook this aspect when planning a wedding, no matter how overwhelmed they are with wedding plans!

No matter what goes wrong or goes right during the ceremony, you and your partner are celebrating a lifetime of happiness together. Those who have the most enjoyable weddings are those who keep an eye on matters at hand and don't let minor issues cloud their celebration.

LET'S GET YOU *married!*



"Your style is our style. You name it, we shoot it."

Let's shoot your wedding photos and videos with the vision of preserving your most memorable moments in natural, real, and delicate shots.

BOOK A CALL