



THE
WEDDING
EXPERIENCE

A Helpful Handbook for All Linen & Elm Couples



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LET'S TALK ABOUT
me and you



THE GIFT OF *friendship.*



This may not be what you were expecting to find in your photographer's client guide, but if you don't read anything in this magazine, please read this! It's so important for me to explain how I view my relationship with my couples.

Photography has introduced me to more friends than I ever made in my 17 years of software sales. And this includes YOU. I get to be the witness to one of the most profoundly special moments in your life. Capturing these moments is such a gift for me.

From the minute I walk through your doors with my camera in hand, I am so grateful that you let me into your lives. I am humbled and forever grateful to be the one to capture this day!

I'm excited to get to know you, your family and friends, and the entire creative team that will make your day spectacular.

Jeanette





GET TO KNOW JEANETTE

I'm a mom, wife, pet lover, coffee addict, and hopeless romantic. I am always seeking out dramatic imagery mixed with simple, intimate moments. Some fun tidbits: I have personally appeared in Better Homes & Gardens and was once a TV guest on the Rachael Ray Show! I've been passionate about creating beautiful imagery since I first picked up a camera. My goal is to capture magazine-worthy images of your big day and to share your story in a beautiful way.

WEDDING DAY *favorites*

There are some parts of the wedding day that are always my favorite! The style of my photography is natural and creative. I unobtrusively document your wedding as it naturally unfolds, capturing moments of laughter, joy, and all the other special moments that you might not have seen. I'm always looking for that perfect shot of you, grandma or grandpa, mom and dad and all of your guests.



THE WEDDING DETAILS

I love starting off the day by shooting beautiful details. I consider this my "warm up" time. I capture ring photos, floral, the dress and the veil, the cufflinks, ties and more. These details will make your wedding album magical! All of these little details set the stage for your big day!



COUPLES PORTRAITS

Portrait time is my favorite time of day, but is easily missed due to tight timelines. This is the stuff that dream wedding albums are made of. From formal poses to just being themselves, these intimate moments should not be missed and worked into your wedding day timeline.



AFTER THE CEREMONY

The first few moments after the formal ceremony are so special. This is when the couple can take a big sigh of relief and hug family and friends, and it's filled with smiles and happy tears. Genuine interactions and congratulations are happening in this moment, and I'll be moving around the capture it all.



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PHOTOGRAPHY

YOUR ENGAGEMENT SESSION

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PHOTOGRAPHY

ENGAGEMENT PREP

Engagement sessions are included in all of my wedding packages! I do this because it's a perfect way for us to spend 2 hours of practice time before the big day. I suggest using a Pinterest board to share your "must have" shot list for both your engagement session AND your wedding. Over the next few pages, I'll be providing tips for outfits, handling nerves and recommendations that will make your shoot the best it can possibly be!



the basics + what to bring

POCKETS | Empty your pockets! Literally. You don't want to have key chains or phones showing through your pockets. This is for the guys especially!

TIMING | The sun sets quickly, especially if your shoot is not in the summer months. The later you arrive the less time we have to shoot. Once the sun is set the shoot will be over

RING CLEANING | Clean the ring! I love to shoot a few ring shots while you change your outfits. The cleaner the better.

CHANGING CLOTHES | As much as I would like to say that you always have restrooms available for outfit changes, more often than not our clients do quick outfit changes in their cars. I am investing in a pop-up changing tent, too!

DEEP BREATHS | I'm going to help you along the way and it's going to be a blast! Enjoy this time together and make a date out of it! Plan dinner afterward and celebrate!

PARKING FEE | This may not apply to your shoot, but you always want to plan in advance for a cash-only parking fee that we may encounter, or tolls.

CLOTHING | I'll explain this more in-depth in the next few pages but generally my couples like to bring one casual outfit and one dressier outfit. If you're unsure about a few pieces, feel free to bring all options and I can help you decide.

LIP COLOR & HAIRSPRAY | You may need to apply more lip color after a few kisses. If you have a bold lip color try to have a matte finish so it won't transfer to your partner. Hairspray and a brush will be helpful for both of you!

FLIP FLOPS | If an outfit calls for heels, bring comfy shoes such as flip-flops to change into while we walk to each shooting location.

BRING A DUFFEL BAG | Carrying this with all of your essentials during the shoot makes the day easier for you!

A romantic couple is shown from the waist up, holding hands and standing in a field of tall, golden-brown grass. The woman on the left has long, wavy brown hair and is wearing a blue and white plaid button-down shirt over a white top and dark leggings. She is smiling and looking down. The man on the right is wearing a white t-shirt and light-colored shorts. The background is a bright blue sky with soft, white clouds. The overall mood is joyful and romantic.

CHOOSING YOUR
STYLE
for your engagement shoot

SELECTING YOUR OUTFITS

and styling your engagement shoot

Engagement photos set the tone for all of your wedding events to come! Treat yourself on this important day. Get your hair and makeup done. Browse [my Pinterest boards](#) for more ideas and inspiration! Believe it or not, you have so much control over the ambiance of your engagement shoot.

OUTFIT *myths*

MYTH #1: NEUTRAL COLORS WASH YOU OUT. Absolutely not! Neutrals are classic and timeless. The right lighting and presets will make you look amazing. If you love bright and airy photos, neutral colors are essential to achieving this look!

MYTH #2: WEARING BLACK TO LOOK SLIMMER. The MOST slimming is to wear well-fitted (not baggy) clothing! I love black but it can overwhelm light and airy aesthetic so if that's what you're going for, wear khakis to achieve this look. It's my job to find flattering angles, so let me do the work to find the best light, the best angles, and expressions!

MYTH #3: MATCHING YOUR OUTFITS. Nothing dates a photo faster than trying to exactly match your partner's look. Find colors that complement the other without matching. If he wears a plaid shirt, then she can wear a solid color that complements his shirt.

MYTH #4: DON'T WORRY ABOUT MATCHING YOUR LOCATION.

Actually? The location DOES set the tone for your shoot. If you're in a city, it makes sense to wear a black dress and heels. In a field? A long, flowy dress with a hat makes sense along with lighter, cooler colors.

MYTH #5: DON'T BE TOO DRESSY. On the contrary, this is a great excuse to wear that long, romantic flowy dress or a stylish suit and tie. You don't need to buy a new wardrobe for engagement shoots, but let yourself create the dream photos you've always wanted! Enjoy this moment!



PHOTOGRAPHY & CREATIVE SERVICES

3 OUTFIT IDEAS

When you look at your photos 10, 20 even 50 years from now, you want them to look as if they were taken yesterday. THAT is classic style. Audrey Hepburn's photos are considered classic and timeless even today. That's because she chose clothing and accessories that never go out of style. So I lean toward neutral-classic!

HOWEVER, this is YOUR shoot! So I encourage you to bring 2 (or even 3) outfit choices. Here is what I recommend:

OUTFIT #1: Your EVERYDAY Style

Choose great-fitting clothing that represents YOU and your everyday style. Avoid loose or baggy clothing if possible. Choose the colors you often wear. Be yourself here!

OUTFIT #2: ROMANTIC NIGHT OUT ON THE TOWN

Think about this as your magazine-worthy, dramatic outfit. If you were a guest at your own wedding, what would you wear? A flowy, long dress? If you were on a romantic date downtown on a rainy day, would you choose a more metropolitan look? I love that look with a couple dressed up all swanky to go downtown! This is your chance to dress up and go with the look you've always dreamed of!

OUTFIT #3: CLASSIC & NEUTRAL

Simple lines, pale neutrals, whites and tans. This is your classic, neutral theme. Choose pale colors. Khakis instead of black pants. Pale blue oxfords, whites and natural linens. These will look timeless and elegant for years to come.

BRIGHT + BOLD

Just like the romantic style recipe, you don't have to apply all of these ingredients to achieve a perfectly bright and bold look for your engagement session.

The ideal ingredients for bright & bold:

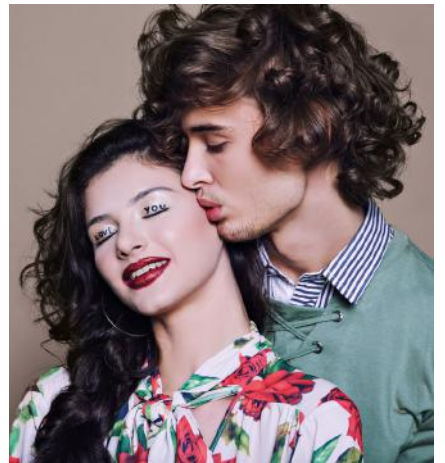
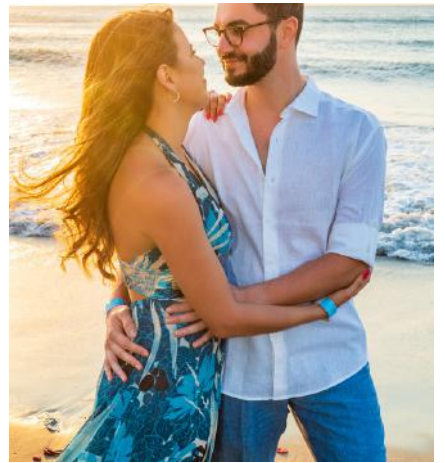
ONLY ONE WEARS A PATTERN | If one of you wears a pattern it's very important that the other does not. The more bold the pattern the more important this rule is.

ONLY ONE BOLD COLOR | If you want to pull off a bold and bright look (and do it tastefully), then one person should air on the side of neutral to balance the look.

CHOOSE LARGER PATTERNS | When choosing a pattern, go for larger prints. Smaller patterns can be difficult to photograph.

BOLD BACKGROUNDS | If my couples are going for a bold and bright look, I look for solid-colored backgrounds to work with their color scheme.

ACCESSORIES | Fresh, flowers, a scarf, hat, or jacket in a solid yet complementary color is a great way to accentuate your bold style.



ROMANTIC STYLE

Just like the bold & bright style recipe, you don't have to apply all of these ingredients to achieve romantic style. The ideal look consists of:

FLOWY MATERIALS | Think of long dresses, light fabrics and flowy materials. Avoid black for an airy and bright shoot. Opt for khakis and neutrals.

KHAKI vs. DENIM | A pale blue oxford with khaki pants works well for him.

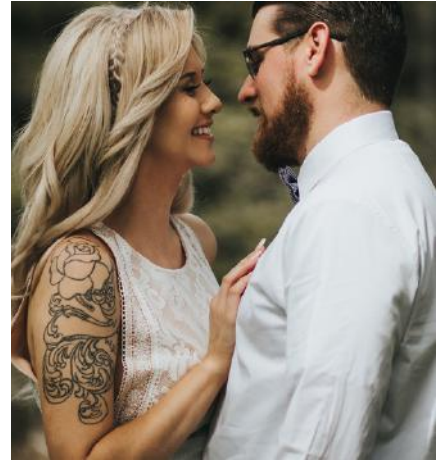
LONG, LOOSE HAIR | If you have long hair, this is a chance to let your hair down. Beachy waves and natural looking makeup will do!

TEXTURES INSTEAD OF PATTERNS | Think chunky sweaters, blankets, seersucker, and linen. Neutrals are often much more interesting when textures are part of the shoot. Do this instead of bold patterns.

FRESH FLORAL | For a pop of color, add floral that complements your future wedding announcements or decor. Add a flower in your hair, too!

ACCESSORIES | Sandals, bare feet, hats, and shawls all work well here. If there is any wind, keep the material light and airy.

WEARING WHITE IS TOTALLY ACCEPTABLE | You don't have to only wear white on your wedding day!



ENGAGEMENT PHOTOS

Checklist

- ☐ 1 bag to carry your personal items between sets
- ☐ A mirror, brush, comb & hairspray
- ☐ Extra lipstick (reapply after kissing shots!) & powder
- ☐ Simple props like fresh flowers, a blanket, a hat, or a shawl
- ☐ 1 casual outfit with appropriate footwear. Bring layers and options
- ☐ 1 dressier outfit with appropriate footwear
- ☐ If cooler weather, bring something to keep you warm between shots
- ☐ Comfortable shoes to wear between sets (if walking a lot)
- ☐ A blanket to sit on (neutral in color)
- ☐ Extra neutral clothing options (in case I want you to change)
- ☐ If you're bringing a pet, bring along a helper to pet sit
- ☐ Please leash your pets :)
- ☐ The engagement ring & the invitation (if you have them)
- ☐ An umbrella (just in case)
- ☐ Money for tolls, parking meters or garages
- ☐ Water, or champagne with stemmed glasses if you'd like!





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PHOTOGRAPHY

A romantic couple in white wedding attire embracing outdoors. The groom, on the left, is seen in profile, looking towards the right. He has a light beard and is wearing a white short-sleeved shirt. The bride, on the right, is leaning her head against his chest and smiling warmly at the camera. She has long, wavy brown hair and is wearing a white off-the-shoulder wedding dress with a ruffled neckline. The background is a soft-focus outdoor setting with trees and a wooden structure, bathed in warm, golden light.

PREPARING YOUR GROOM



ARE YOU RELUCTANT TO HAVE YOUR PHOTO TAKEN?

We receive so many emails from couples who say their partner doesn't like getting their photo taken. If you're one of those couples, you're not alone.

My #1 Tip

Pinterest boards! I love Pinterest to preplan for our sessions. This way you can pre-select the "look" that you want for the day. Why? Because I am one of those people. I am probably the least photographed person on the planet. Knowing what to expect can help ease your fears of being photographed.

This is an especially important milestone in your life. I won't make you do crazy poses. I want you to look like your best YOU. There comes a time in life when what limits our thinking today matters none in the future. But, having documented evidence that you existed...does!

I am so proud at the end of a session when a person who really didn't want to have their photo taken tells me, "that was actually FUN!" By the end of the session, they become the person who is MOST into the session.

One day, all your children will have is pictures of you. Make sure you're in them. No matter what your hair looks like, your makeup, or your body, they won't care about any of that, they'll just want to see you.

TIMELESS DECORATING

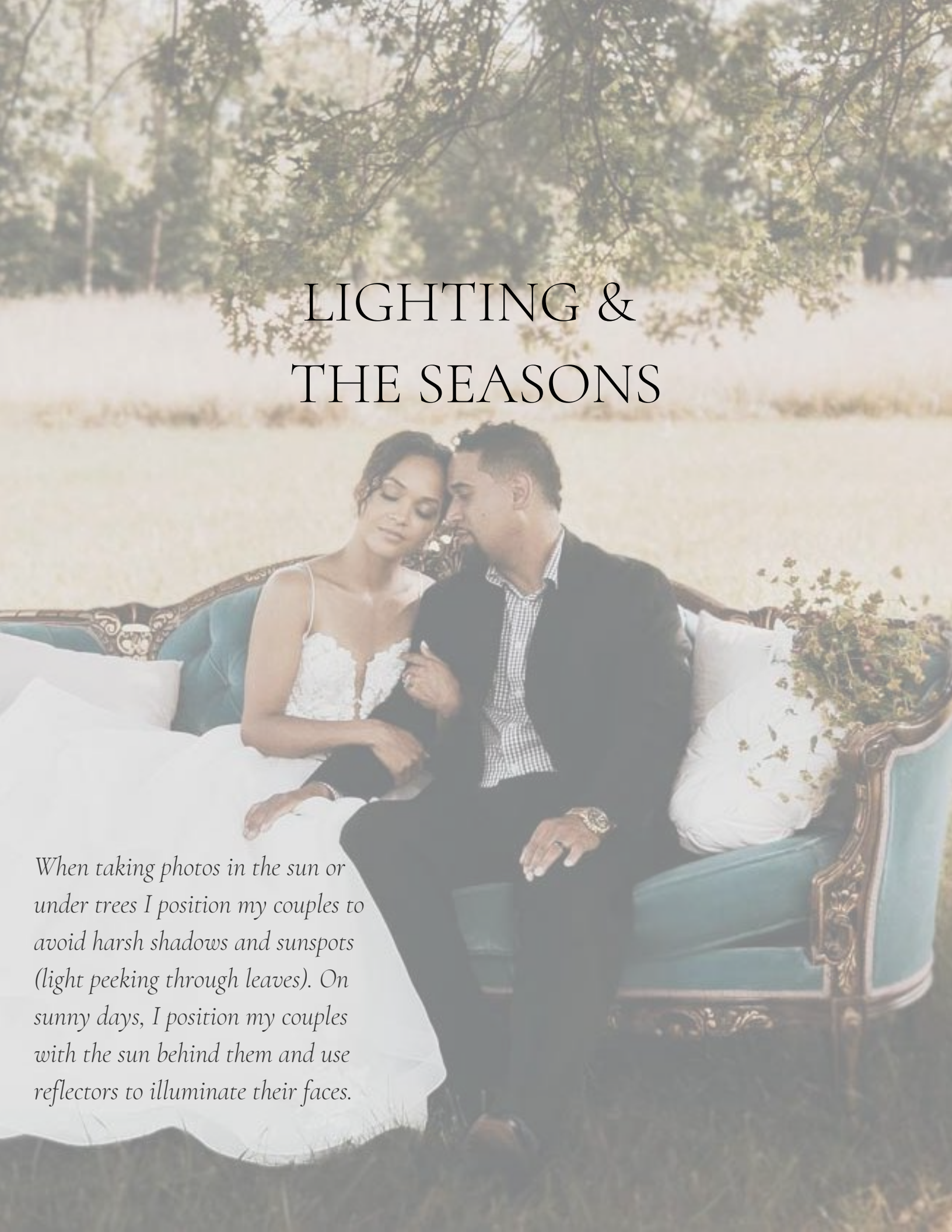
on a budget

After years of photographing interiors and having my work published in magazines, and planning a few weddings of my own, I have learned what decor is timeless and classic, and sure to "WOW"! Think lower cost with the highest impact! If your venue is already beautiful, the most timeless approach is to embrace the venue's architecture as your "decor". The weddings in these photos had little to no decor whatsoever. Their venue was their backdrop! There are so many expenses when it comes to wedding planning, so I hope this page helps you spend less money and focus on what counts!

- Invest in your bridal bouquet first. If the bride has a gorgeous bouquet, I can use the bridal bouquet to spruce up bridal details, reception tables, AND even bride and groom portraits as well. The bridal bouquet is a focal point for me when it comes to your photography, so I highly recommend getting your DREAM bouquet and investing less in bridesmaids' bouquets since they will not be photographed nearly as much.
- Alternate table decor. Greenery is beautiful and photographs well but it can be half the price of ordering blooms. The exception is to add blooms to your bridal bouquet as a priority. Example: use candles on 1/2 of your reception tables, with greenery / less floral on the other half.
- Invest in one well-done installation instead of lots of small decor items. Such as an arch filled with flowers. If you're hoping for a heavily detailed reception but the cost is adding up, focus on one focal point that "wows" instead of spreading the budget elsewhere.
- Dual-purpose decor: maybe you choose to have an epic, well-styled entryway at your reception. Turn this into a photo booth later in the evening once the party has started!
- Avoid spending money on tiny details. Customized favors, personalized M&M's, etc. It all adds up, but in the end, tiny details are easily overlooked by guests. So often I see party favors left on the tables at the end of the night.

In the end, do what you love! These are suggestions for the budget conscious couple, but if you're planning to splurge, I am here for it! It will ALL photograph beautifully!



A romantic couple is seated on an ornate, teal-colored sofa with gold-colored metalwork. The woman, on the left, is wearing a white lace-trimmed spaghetti-strap dress and has her eyes closed, leaning her head against the man. The man, on the right, is wearing a dark suit jacket over a checkered shirt and is looking down at her. They are outdoors, with a calm body of water and a line of trees in the background. The lighting is soft and warm, suggesting late afternoon or early morning. The overall mood is intimate and serene.

LIGHTING & THE SEASONS

When taking photos in the sun or under trees I position my couples to avoid harsh shadows and sunspots (light peeking through leaves). On sunny days, I position my couples with the sun behind them and use reflectors to illuminate their faces.



Portrait & Timing Tips for WINTER, SUMMER, FALL & SPRING

WINTER

Winter weddings are gorgeous! However, they do require some additional forethought in terms of bridal portrait planning. The sun sets around 4pm. This means that all of your portraits need to be finished before then. This isn't a problem if you're having a daytime wedding. However, if you're having an evening wedding, you may want to consider a first look and have portraits before the ceremony.

SUMMER

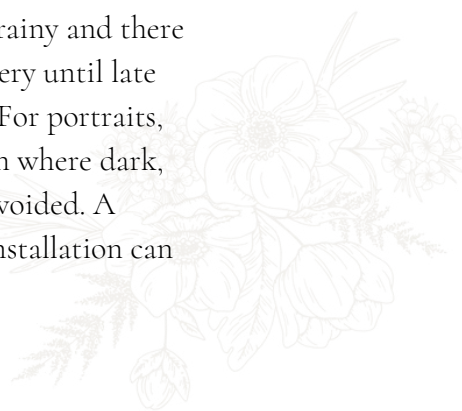
Summer weddings book quickly I love that there is so much daylight to work with, sometimes even as late as 8:30 p.m. So if you're having a summer wedding, you'll want to set up out of your reception for a few minutes for some amazing sunset portraits. You will NOT regret doing this. and they typically happen right after dinner or open dancing. Most people won't even notice that you've slipped out for a bit.

FALL

Fall weddings are my favorite! The milder temperatures and amazing colors leave me speechless. Daylight disappears rapidly later in the season, so your portrait time will depend on your wedding date. Many couples hire me for my fine art editing style, but if you prefer a more rustic, warm tone palette, I can adjust. My couples get to choose their editing style!

SPRING

Spring weddings are amazing, but here in Ohio, the early spring weddings can lack blooms or greenery outdoors. This season can be a bit cold, rainy and there is very little greenery until late April / early May. For portraits, scope out a section where dark, leafless trees are avoided. A beautiful flower installation can help with color.





PRE-CEREMONY





*To Our Beautiful Daughter,
Alexa, on Your Wedding Day*

our arms wrapped around you providing comfort, support, and love. We knew. Our embraces expressed our unspeakable pride in you, the love of our lives. Today and forever, your arms will provide comfort, support, and the best love he can. Through each season of life, for you are a perfect gift, the one we treasure. Alexa, as you embark on this exciting new path, respect each other, and always, always laugh. As we watch you take your wings we present this as a reminder of three things:



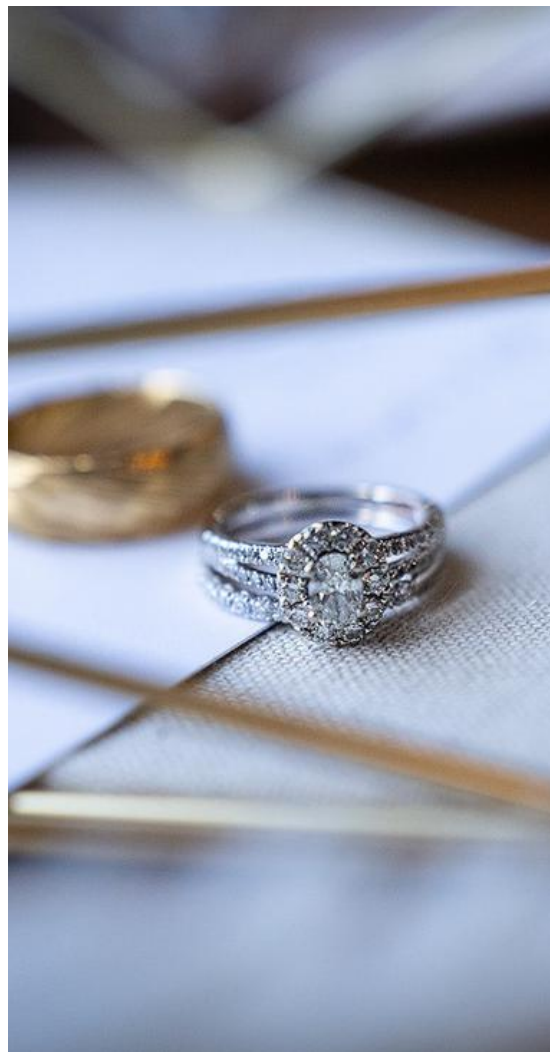


WHY I PHOTOGRAPH ACCESSORIES

Your wedding accessories and fine details are important ingredients that set the stage for your entire wedding album! Details are what elevate a standard wedding album into a "fine art" style heirloom that you will cherish forever! Before the ceremony begins, capturing the rings, the shoes, and the flowers is one of my favorite parts of the wedding day. This allows me to prepare and get my creative side warmed up for the rest of the day.

Bring this!

Tip! The best way to organize your small details for photos is for the couple to assemble a "details" box. Doing this also allows your photo team to capture photos before the ceremony and reception, and stay organized!

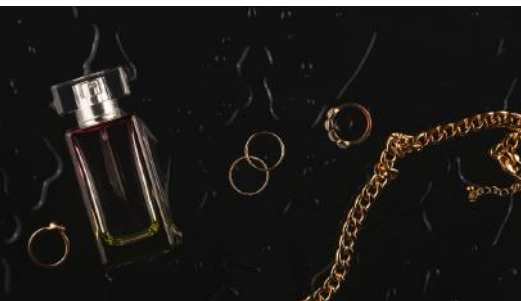




WEDDING DETAILS BOX *for the bride*

IDEAS FOR THE BRIDE'S BOX FOR DETAIL PHOTOS:

- ☐ Choose the brightest room possible for getting ready shots
- ☐ Bring a full invitation set (including envelopes)
- ☐ All 3 rings (should be with the bride)
- ☐ Bouquets + some loose florals and greenery
- ☐ Fancy hanger for dress (for dress shots)
- ☐ Dress & veil
- ☐ Jewelry & shoes
- ☐ Pretty perfume bottle
- ☐ Small sentimental items or heirlooms (old, new, borrowed, blue)
- ☐ Champagne & Glasses for a toast
- ☐ Cufflinks
- ☐ Vow books & gifts to each other



WEDDING DETAILS BOX *for the groom*

IDEAS FOR THE GROOM'S BOX

- ☐ Choose the brightest room possible for getting ready shots
- ☐ Cuff Links
- ☐ Shoes
- ☐ Watch
- ☐ Any Military Detail
- ☐ Belt
- ☐ Socks (if specialty)
- ☐ Groomsmen Gifts
- ☐ Small sentimental items
- ☐ Bourbon, highball glasses
- ☐ Boutonnières
- ☐ Vow books & gifts to each other

These are common detail that I have seen the groom and groomsmen bring for detail shots, but by no means are they mandatory. I do ask that we have a brightly lit room with natural light or a window. We will stage most of these shots and I come to the room after I shoot the bridal getting ready shots.

GROOMSMEN PHOTOS

What to expect

Here is the thing:

We know photos can be a drag at a wedding. Especially for the guys. BUT NOT US! We have a blast!

While we do need to get a few formal shots with everyone smiling and looking at the camera - it's not all pretentious here. We WANT you all to relax and be yourselves and have a great time.

As the groom, you set the tone for the entire day. So if you tell the guys you want them to be themselves, WE want that, too!

As you can see from our example photos, we love to capture the details for those "magazine-worthy" shots.

But, we know how to capture the FUN and the personalities of the friendships you have spent a lifetime making. So we are ALL about formal posed shots mixed in with hysterical moments that your buddies have planned for you.

Doing this helps lighten the mood, ease the nerves, and allow you to look your happiest and best on this important day.

Bring your creative ideas to me, and we are totally game!



My arrival time:

Since you hired me as your photographer, this means that you likely want photos of your accessories as well as "getting ready" shots for a fine art look. This elevates your entire wedding album!

To capture the details, schedule me to arrive around 30 minutes before the bride's hair and makeup are finished so I can photograph your invitation suite, the rings, the shoes, and all of the pretty details.

Once complete, I will then start photographing the bride-to-be for staged "getting ready" shots. What you may not know is most getting-ready shots are staged, and very unobtrusive. The bride will have privacy as she gets ready and my team and I respect that! We only want to photograph you when you feel your best!



FLOWERS & RINGS

All rings should be with the bride, first. Flowers should be delivered to the room where the bride is getting ready. For 1st look, be sure he is wearing his boutonniere.

TRAVEL TIME

Think about the travel time and the traffic between your getting ready location and your venue. I like to leave before the bride & bridesmaids to the venue.

HAIR & MAKEUP

Getting ready shots are typically staged, and the ladies will all want their hair and makeup finished when I arrive. I shoot details before I shoot getting ready shots.

GROOMSMEN PREP

Staged shots of the groom take around 20 minutes. Rings should be delivered to best man during this time since I will be done shooting the bridal box details.

TIMING TIPS



MOMS & GRANDMOTHERS

Common shots are moms helping their daughters get ready. We stage these preceremony and after I get plenty of shots of the bride getting her hair & makeup done.

BUILDING IN CUSHION TIME

The most rushed part of the day are the detail shots and getting ready photos. Build in a bit of extra time during these pre-ceremony photos will alleviate any worry and we won't miss a shot!

TIMELINE PLANNING

Sample Timeline

Bridal Details 30 minutes



Fine art photography includes the pretty details. You've toiled for months deciding on the aesthetics, and I honor this hard work by capturing it all in an artistic and beautiful way.

Think flowers, rings, shoes, hairpieces. Something borrowed, something blue.

Getting Ready 45 minutes



Girls: Once the bride has her hair and makeup almost finished, I begin capturing her looking her best. Photos include her with her bridesmaids, moms, and grandmothers all looking amazing.

Guys: I then visit the groom's side and we stage photos of him getting ready.

First Look 15 minutes



A first look allows the bridal party to witness the couple seeing each other for the first time. You both look fresh and beautiful. I take this moment to capture candids of the couple and the group.

Dad first looks add around 10 minutes each but are equally amazing!

Tip 1

When planning your timeline, I tell my couples to work backwards from the end of the day.

- 6 Think about the most important "last" event they'd like me to capture. A good example is a fireworks exit, or the cutting of the cake. Then, roll the clock back to the getting ready photos, I typically arrive right as the bride has her hair and makeup done and her bridal party is already finished. If you'd like more detail photos and flatlays for a fine art album, have me arrive 30 minutes before the bride's hair and makeup is finished.

Couple's Portraits 30 minutes



After the bride and groom take their time with the First Look, I will begin taking a few romantic portraits of just the two of them. If there is no First Look, these portraits will need to happen immediately after the ceremony. As we shoot the portraits the bridal party can stand by for bridal party portraits.

Bridal Party Portraits 30 minutes



Now it's time for bridal party shots! If there is a first look we can accomplish all of the bridal party shots before the ceremony, and reserve the family shots for after the ceremony.

Bride in Hiding 30 minutes



We hide the bride before the ceremony so she isn't spotted by the guests. If we are able, we can continue portraits. But I typically slip out to the altar to position myself for the ceremony.

If we missed any bridal party portraits we can get them after the ceremony.

THE TIMELINE CONTINUED...

Ceremony *30 minutes*



It's time to get married! Most ceremonies are between 15 and 30 minutes. If yours is longer than 30 minutes, we'll make adjustments to the timeline. Cherish these moments, your ceremony will pass by so quickly!

After the ceremony I grab candid photos of friends and family congratulating the couple.

These are some of the best candid photos of the day!

Reception Decor *20 minutes*



If the reception is in the same location as the ceremony, I will grab time periodically to shoot the reception decor during pre-ceremony photos before guests arrive. If the ceremony and reception are in different locations, I recommend having a cocktail hour outside of the main reception area if possible so that I can grab great shots of your reception before the night begins and the guests start laying down purses and coats on their chairs.

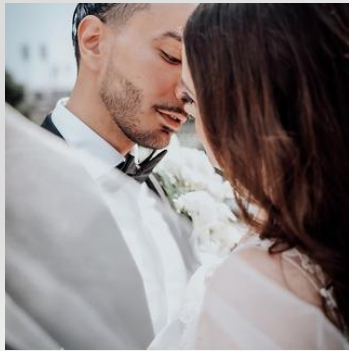
Family Portraits *30 minutes*



We will need about 30 minutes for family formals (by now we should already have bride and groom with the wedding party). I will send a questionnaire before the wedding. I highly recommend outdoor photos for this part of the day!

Family formals normally take place immediately following the ceremony. It's when everyone is there, so it's best to do this right after the ceremony since some people don't always attend the reception.

*"Just Married"
Portraits
20 minutes*



If there is not a first look, then we need a little time right after the ceremony for couples portraits. I love having a few extra minutes with the bride and groom to take a few "Just Married" portraits right before or after the family formals.

These are the most important shots of the day!

*Reception
Begins!
Several hours*



This is when the bridal party lines up for introductions and the party begins! By this part of the day my timeline isn't as strict, I work off of the natural light and so after the sun is set, my portrait time is over and I begin focusing on the FUN!

I am yours for any creative shots you have in mind from this point forward!

*The Exit
10:00*

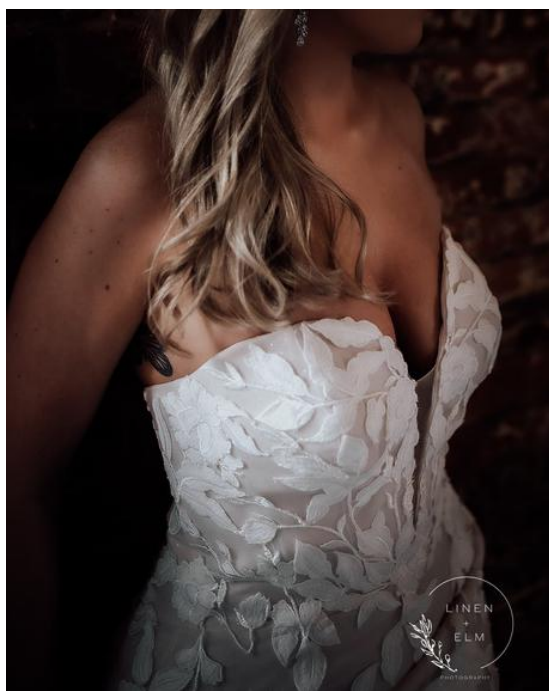


I include 8 hours in my GOLD package. If you have an important exit that you'd like me to capture that extends beyond 8 hours I am happy to add it onto your package.



THE CEREMONY

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THE UNPLUGGED CEREMONY

You've chosen your vendors, you've invested a lot of time and money and your venue looks like a dream. Then it's time for the ceremony to begin - but everyone pulls out their cell phones so they can capture the moment. And this is what you see.

What is an "unplugged" ceremony?

An unplugged wedding ceremony allows the couple to have creative control over their wedding photos. With everyone taking photos and videos on their phones and cameras, it can be difficult for the professional photographer to get clear shots of the ceremony. This can result in poor-quality wedding photos, which can be disappointing for the bride and groom. By requesting an unplugged ceremony, the bride and groom can ensure that their professional photographer gets clear and uninterrupted shots of the ceremony, resulting in high-quality wedding photos.

An unplugged wedding ceremony can help to create a more intimate and emotional atmosphere. When guests are glued to their phones, they are not fully present in the moment and may miss out on the emotions and special moments of the ceremony. By asking guests to put away their devices, the bride and groom can create a more intimate and emotional atmosphere, allowing everyone to fully engage with the ceremony.

An unplugged wedding ceremony can be a great way to create a more intimate, emotional, and seamless wedding ceremony. By requesting that guests turn off their phones and cameras, the bride and groom can ensure that their professional photographer gets clear shots, that everyone is fully present in the moment, and that the ceremony runs smoothly.

A romantic wedding scene featuring a bride and groom in a rustic ceremony space. The bride, wearing a white lace dress and a floral crown, is being dipped by the groom, who is in a grey suit with a red tie. They are kissing passionately. In the background, guests are seated on wooden chairs, some clapping. A large, ornate floral arrangement hangs from the wooden beams of the ceiling. The floor is made of light-colored wood and is scattered with white rose petals. The overall atmosphere is warm and intimate.

Options for notifying guests that your ceremony is

UNPLUGGED

- 1. Signage: have a simple sign that guests see as they are entering the ceremony site*
- 2. Speakers: have your officiant politely request that cell phones are put away*
- 3. Program: assure guests in the program that they will be able to see your full wedding album*

CEREMONY WORKFLOW



By now, I have been with you most of the day. One thing to know about me - I am ALWAYS staging and shooting details and decor shots between portraits of people! Ideally, I want photos of the ceremony venue BEFORE people arrive fully decorated, then again during the ceremony itself.

Then, 30 minutes before the ceremony begins, my second shooter, the videographer, and I all find our positions. I position myself near the bride's family at the aisle. I take photos of the clergy and the guests. During the processional, I snap 1-2 photos of each member of the bridal party as they come down the aisle. Then finally! I grab photos of the groom's reaction to seeing his bride for the first time (if there was no first look).



Once the bride and groom meet at the altar, I move to the outer corner near the bridesmaids and snap a few more. I then move to the main aisle and move closer for key ceremony moments, and the kiss! .



Ceremony Shot List

- Altar Decor
- Bridal Party Entrance
- Groom's Reaction
- The Bride!
- Handfasting / Binding
- Artistic Shots
- Ring Exchange
- Wide Angle of Congregation
- Parents' Reactions
- THE KISS
- Processional
- Family Formals (after)

If there isn't a first look, then we photograph the couple & the full bridal party after the ceremony

What makes a veil... *Fly*?

Not all veils have equal flying power! And that's okay! Not every bride is looking for this type of shot. BUT. It's true. Some veils do not fly. If this is important to you, I don't want you to be disappointed on your actual wedding day to find this out because you selected a veil that has too much detail and is weighted down.

So, if a flying veil shot is a very high priority, here are some tips for selecting a veil that can easily go airborne and is extra photogenic!

1. Heavy beading will weigh down your veil
2. One layer is best! Multiple layers of tulle are hard to toss
3. Off-white is best. Pure white can photograph as blue and can be very hard to edit out
4. Fine tulle flows best. More rigid tulle is a little more rigid



A full-page background image of a wedding couple walking away from the camera on a rooftop terrace. The groom is on the left, wearing a dark suit and holding a pair of glasses. The bride is on the right, wearing a white lace wedding dress with a long, ruffled train and holding a bouquet of flowers. They are holding hands and looking back over their shoulders. The terrace has a black metal railing and potted plants. In the background, there are city buildings and a sign that says "SOUTH".

4 TYPES OF POSES
To remember

HOW TO POSE

It's always a bit intimidating getting your picture taken...especially on your wedding day! We all want to look nice, make sure nothing is in our teeth and that our hair is behaving! Over the next few pages, I'll be providing tips for posing, outfits, handling nerves and recommendations that will make your wedding portraits amazing!



tips for looking your best

POCKETS | Empty your pockets! Literally. You don't want to have key chains or phones showing through your pockets. This is for the guys especially!

TIME OF DAY | Be mindful of what time sunset will be on your wedding day. The sun sets quickly, especially if your shoot is not in the summer months.

RING CLEANING | Make your rings sparkle! Clean the ring! I love to shoot a few ring shots while you change your outfits. The cleaner and more sparkly, the better.

OUTDOOR SUN | Bright sun will always be behind you, or we will look for solid shade (no dappled light). Cloudy days offer more diffused lighting and is perfect for photos.

4 CORE POSES | You'll quickly learn my 4 core poses and before you know it, you'll be pros! A slight lean towards the camera is often very slimming and I will tell you when to do this as a couple.

MODEL FACE | A model face is a more serious look, but should not look angry. Pressing your tongue to the roof of your mouth slims the face. Practice makes perfect!

HAND PLACEMENT | Hands can rest around shoulders, her waist, her hand or gently support her elbow. Thumb should peek out when hands in pockets. Fingers together but relaxed.

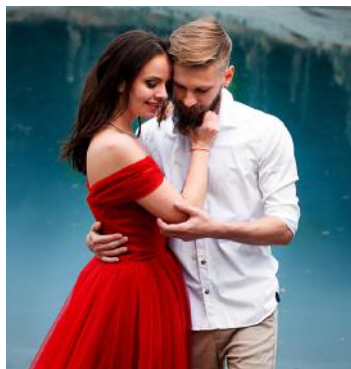
LIP COLOR & HAIRSPRAY | If you have a bold lip color try to have a matte finish so it won't transfer to your partner. Hairspray is always a must!

FLIP FLOPS | If you're wearing heels, wear heel guards for grassy shots so you don't sink. Also, bring comfy shoes as we walk to different locations for your wedding portraits.

BRIDESMAIDS BECOME STYLISTS | Having a go-to bridesmaid (or all of them) to make sure your hair and makeup look their best is SO helpful! Designate 1-2 people as your main helpers to make sure you always look great!

1 SIDE LINKED

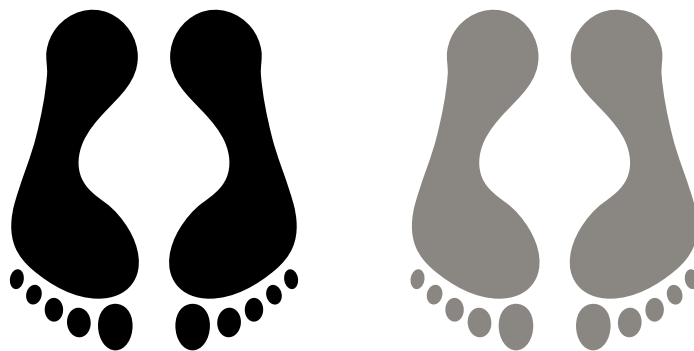
One person faces forward and the other faces them. We will do this both forward and backward. There are a variety of looks we can achieve in this formation! We can do this standing or sitting. One can even sit with their legs across the lap of their partner.



[More Ideas on Pinterest](#)

2 SIDE BY SIDE

Both have their feet facing the same direction, standing or sitting!
Visit my Pinterest for more variations of this pose including staggyard walking (she leads him), the look back. I will teach you all of this!

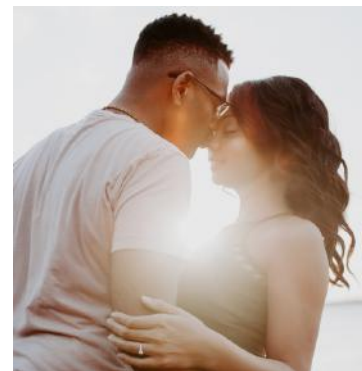
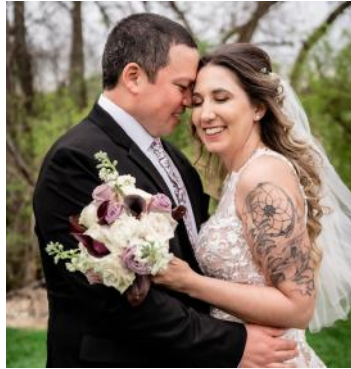


[More Ideas on Pinterest](#)

2 FACE TO FACE

Both have their feet facing the same direction, standing or sitting!

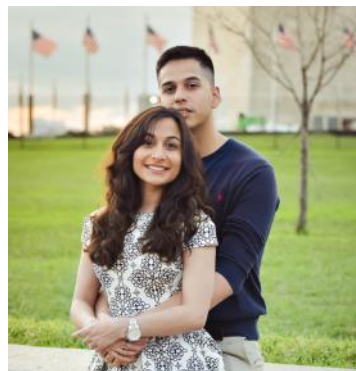
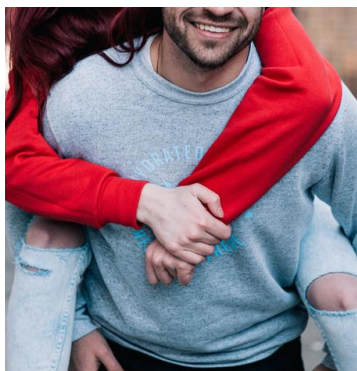
Variations include: the dip, lifting her up, the whisper, the kiss.



[More Ideas on Pinterest](#)

4 PROM POSE

One stands behind the other. Can be standing or sitting. Lots of options for this one for up close and cropped, more intimate photos



[More Ideas on Pinterest](#)



WEDDING WORKFLOW

my typical day



FULL SHOT LIST

General flow of a full wedding day

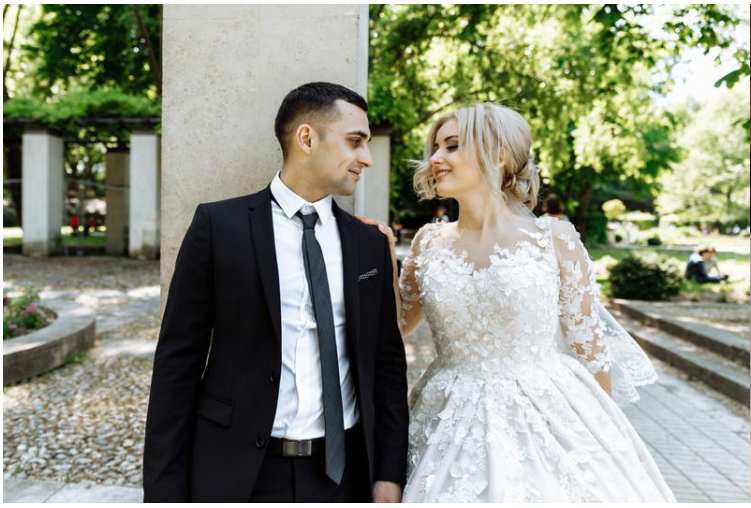
The Venues

- Exterior shots of the venue
- Let nature peek into the shots
- Capture doors, architecture
- Signage created for the event

Ceremony

- A wide shot of the ceremony at different distances and angles
- The arch & arch flowers
- Chairs in the aisle and floral decor

I will capture both horizontal and vertical shots throughout the day. I love symmetrical shots, and creative angles.



The Couple

- Brides: full-body, quarter, and close up shots from the front and side
- Grooms: full-body, quarter, and close-up shots from the front and side.
- Groom with and without his jacket
- Close-ups of the bride's hair and makeup from multiple angles
- Close-ups of any jewelry or accessories (belts, headpieces, veils)
- The bouquet at multiple angles with close-ups
- Close-ups of the boutonniere
- The kiss and the couple walking down the aisle
- The couple at the reception table, have them sitting and standing
- Wedding party individually with couple if time allotted
- Wedding party formal and informal shots





Extended Family

- Couple with immediate family on both sides
- Parents of each (individual / group)
- Grandparents of each (individual and group)
- Siblings with couple and with siblings only
- Children of the couple
- Pets of the couple
- Couple to submit a list to me 2 weeks prior to wedding





The details

- A shot of the dress (wide shot and details)
- Bouquet / boutonniere
- Invitation suite
- Place card names or menu
- Rings/Jewelry
- Shoes
- Any signage
- Vow books
- Groom accessories
- Mix and match - shoes with the ring, shoes and bouquet, ring with invitation
- Get creative with flat lays and add florals/greenery





Tables & Centerpieces

- A wide shot of the full table
- Multiple place setting shots that includes glassware & flatware - at multiple angles and perspectives
- Shot of the chairs
- Place cards or menus
- Table details like linen design or candles
- Close up of the flowers
- Centerpiece(s) shot - at multiple angles





Artistic Shots

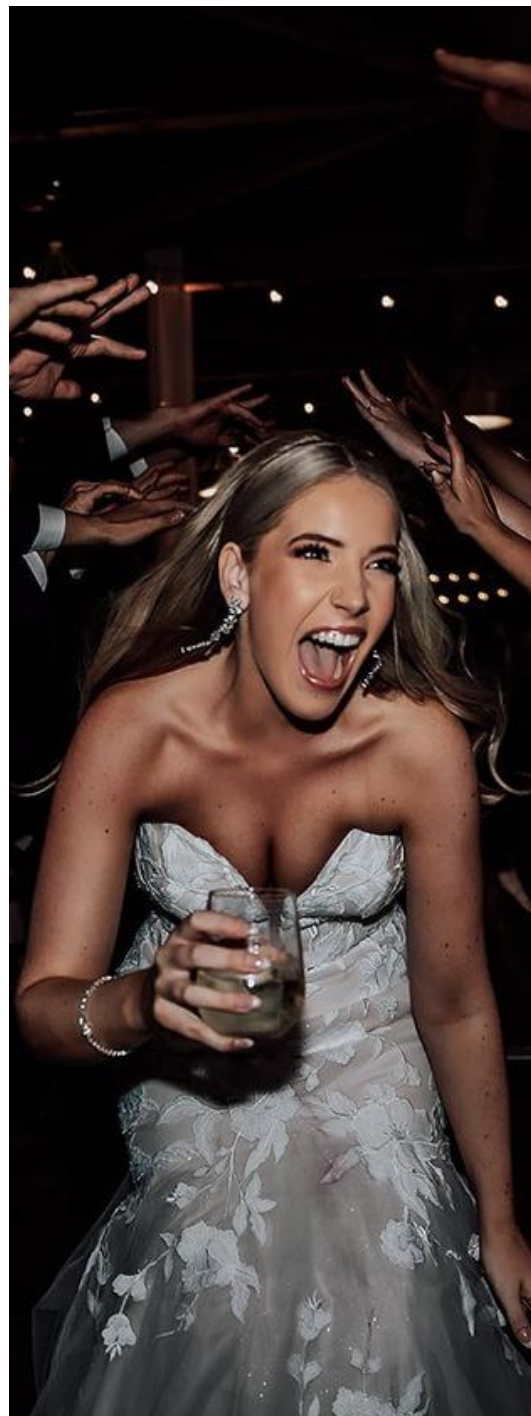
- Pinterest board from couple including shots they'd like
- Signature cocktail - closeup of just the drink by itself or on the bar and in someones hand
- Cake/Dessert - one large shot of the cake display then cake/dessert by itself and close up details
- Lounge - shoot each piece of the lounge and plenty of wide shots from different angles





AFTER THE CEREMONY





RECEPTION DETAILS



Early in the day before the ceremony, I slip out to check your venue as it's being decorated and capture decor photos. Photos like these are such a testament to all of the hard work you've put into your day to make it all perfect for your guests. During the reception, my day becomes less structured. I work very closely with the DJ in terms of the timing of the bridal party introductions. I also coordinate with the videographer for lighting and positioning so we avoid being in each other's shots. I coordinate with catering to make sure I can get a few images of the food displays. And the venue coordinator so I don't miss the cake-cutting and coordinated exit. After all the key moments are captured, the 2nd photographer goes home for the day.



Most reception detail photos happen in between group shots, or right before introductions of the bridal party. Some of the key moments that I capture:

- Bridal Party Intros
- Couple First Dance
- Parent Dances
- Anniversary Dances
- Catering Details
- Memory Dances
- Religious Dances
- Toasts & Speeches
- Cake Cutting
- Bouquet & Garter Toss
- Large Group Photos
- Tables with guests
- Sunset Photos
- The Exit

MY GEAR

Items I bring to make your photography spectacular

- Sony a7III with 3 lenses
- Backup Camera
- Reflectors
- On camera flash
- 2nd Shooter
- Pinterest list from couple
- Acrylic risers
- Prisms for special effects
- Wood spools
- Fancy scissors
- Calligrapher pens
- Ring boxes
- Cloth Ribbon
- Double sided tape
- Stamps
- Acrylic prisms
- Colored linen cards
- Agate



“

I focus on capturing little details throughout the day. Things you won't want to forget!



Thank you!

Please don't hesitate to reach out
if you have any special requests or
questions!



PHOTOGRAPHY & CREATIVE SERVICES