

PLANNING YOUR
WEDDING
DAY



SAMPLE TIMELINE

Here's the page that can be somewhat intimidating! The TIMELINE! I know this isn't the most exciting aspect of the wedding day, but this is the one thing that can make or break the flow of your day! These next few pages will outline an ideal wedding day working off of a 5pm ceremony time frame. This ideal timeline is also based off of a wedding day that includes a first look. Many of our couples choose to do a first look, and you can read more about that option in our full magazine! Remember that all wedding days are different, and your timeline may differ due to travel times and unique situations.

Details & Prep 11:30-1:45



When we arrive in the morning the first thing we will do is capture detail photos (dress on a pretty hanger, invitation suite, perfume, shoes, both rings, jewelry, etc). After that we typically head to your partner's suite to capture some getting ready photos of them. If you are exchanging gifts or reading letters, this is a good time of day to do so. This is also the perfect time of day for any fun "getting ready" photos like robe shots, champagne toasts, etc. Be sure to let your hair & make-up artist know their hard deadline to finish (1:45 in this case) so that your

25 timeline doesn't get pushed back.

Bridal Prep 1:45-2:45



After the details have been photographed, it's time for the bride to get into her dress! This is a big moment! I usually ask the mother of the bride and all of the bridesmaids to be dressed by the time the bride is ready to get into her dress. This ensures that everyone will look nice in those images. After the bride is in her gown, she can put on her jewelry, veil, shoes, etc and I will shoot some additional bridal portraits!

First Look 3:00



This is one of my favorite parts of the wedding day! I will find the perfect location for my couple's First Look prior to the getting ready portion of the day! Don't stress about that one bit! I will make sure the location is private and as secluded as possible.

Portraits 3:15-3:45



After the bride and groom take their time with the First Look, I will begin taking a few romantic portraits of the two of them while the initial excitement is still present! I will find the locations for these shots as well! Remember, the LIGHT determines where we shoot and so I typically don't decide on portrait locations until the day-of. As we shoot these portraits, the bridal party can start making their way to us for Bridal Party portraits!

Bridal Party Portraits 3:45-4:15



Now it's time for Bridal Party shots! I buffer in extra time throughout the day just in case we have some unexpected things that hold us up! One way to make sure we stay on schedule for bridal party portraits is to have someone put the boutonnieres on the guys BEFORE they arrive for portraits. During Bridal Party portraits, Bobby and I will make sure to take some.....



4:15-4:45 Relax & Recoup

... great shots of the guys and girls both separately AND together! After bridal party portraits are complete, the couple will go into hiding so that early guests don't sneak a peek and the ushers will begin their duties.

THE TIMELINE CONTINUED...

Reception Details 4:15-5:00



If the reception is in the same location as the ceremony, we will use this time to shoot the reception decor UNTOUCHED. 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 we can grab some great shots of your reception before the night begins and guests start laying down purses and coats on their seats!

Ceremony 5:00-5:30



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

Family Portraits 5:30-6:00



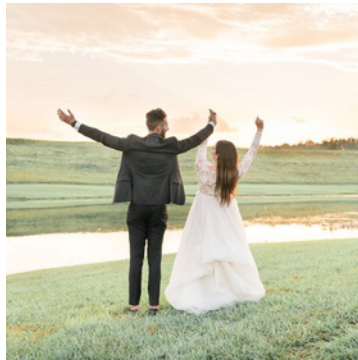
Family formals normally take place immediately following the ceremony. It's best to save all of the family formals until after the ceremony because ALL family members will be present at that time. We'll need about 30 minutes for family formals and I will send a questionnaire before the wedding where you can list out the shots that you want. I recommend sticking to 10-12 groupings immediately after the ceremony. If you have a large family we can do more groupings at the reception.



Reception Begins!

6:30

This part of the day is very flexible on our end. Typically your DJ will have some recommendations as to how they run the evening events. We usually recommend this order: First Dance, Cut Cake, Dinner, Speeches, Parent Dances, Dance Floor Opens! Between 6-6:30 we are setting up our lights for the reception, checking in with the DJ, and capturing any last minute reception details we didn't get earlier in the day. We also use this time as a buffer in case things run over. If all goes as planned you're able to enjoy the second half of cocktail hour with guests and make your rounds before the reception starts!



Golden Hour Portraits 7:30ish

After you finish eating, its always a great time to take advantage of golden hour while your guests are still eating. This time can fluctuate, but almost always makes for our couple's favorite photos of the day

APPROXIMATE TIMES:

DETAILS & PREP : 1.75 HOURS
FIRST LOOK & PORTRAITS : 45 MINS
BRIDAL PARTY : 30-40 MINS
FAMILY FORMALS : 20-30 MINS
GOLDEN HOUR: 15-20 MINS



The Exit 10:00

Our most popular package covers 10 hours so that we can be present for the main events of the reception and most of dancing! If you're interested in having your exit photographed and your reception ends after 10, there are several options for this! You can either add additional coverage or plan a controlled exit with just your bridal party! We have had GREAT success with this and the party never stops!

TIMELINE

Example of a 5:00 Ceremony with First Look & Everything in One Location
(10 hours of coverage)

GROOM

11:30 BP Arrives for groom prep

BRIDE

12:30 BP heads to bride prep

1:45 Fun getting ready photos (HMU hard deadline)

2:00 Wiggle Room

2:15 Bride gets into dress

2:30 Bridal getting ready portraits

2:35 Additional first looks (dad, bridesmaids, etc)

2:45 Letters/Gifts/Wiggle Room

2:55 Head to first Look

FIRST LOOK/ PORTRAITS

3:00 First Look

3:15 B&G Individual Portraits

3:30 B&G Couple Portraits

3:45 Bridesmaids Photos

3:55 Groomsmen Photos

4:05 Full Bridal Party Photos

4:15 Wiggle Room/Touch-ups/Relax (BP sets up & Gets details)

CEREMONY

5:00 Ceremony

5:30 Family Portraits

RECEPTION

5:30 Cocktail hour

6:00 B&G join cocktail hour

6:30 Grand Entrances

6:35 First Dance

6:45 Parent Dances

7:00 Dinner

7:45 Golden Hour

8:00 Speeches

8:15 Cut Cake

9:30 BP Coverage Ends

11:00 Reception Ends

OTHER EXAMPLES

Example of a 1:00 Religious Ceremony with no first look & portraits after ceremony

BRIDE

10:00 BP Arrives for details & dress shots
11:00 Hair & Make-up to finish (HARD DEADLINE)
11:15 Fun getting ready photos (robe champaign, etc)
11:30 Bride gets dressed
11:45 BP Heads to Groom Prep/Ceremony

GROOM

12:00 BP sets up at ceremony
12:15 Groom Prep at Church
1:00 Ceremony Starts

CEREMONY

1:00 Ceremony
2:00 Family Photos
2:30 Drive to Portrait Location

PORTRAITS

3:00 Bridesmaids Photos
3:10 Groomsmen Photos
3:20 Full Bridal Party Photos
3:30 B&G Individual photos
3:45 B&G Couple Photos
4:15 Drive to Reception

RECEPTION

4:00 Cocktail Hour
4:45 Join Cocktail Hour OR Relax/Touch-ups
5:25 First Dance
5:30 Parent Dances
5:45 Speeches
6:00 Dinner
7:00 Cake Cutting
7:30 Golden Hour Photos
10:00 Reception Ends

Example of a 4:00 Ceremony with a B&G First Look & Portraits before Ceremony

GROOM

10:00 Groom Detail Photos
10:25 Groom getting ready photos
10:45 BP Heads to Bride
(Dress down relax until 1st look)

BRIDE

11:00 BP Arrives for details & dress shots
12:30 Hair & Makeup to Finish (Hard Deadline)
12:45 Fun getting ready photos (robes, champagne, etc)
1:00 Bride gets into dress
1:15 Bride dress portraits

FIRST LOOK/PORTRAITS

1:30 First Look
1:45 Couple Portraits
2:05 B&G Individual Portraits
2:15 Bridesmaids Photos
2:30 Groomsmen Photos
2:45 Full Bridal Party Photos
3:00 Relax/Wiggle Room (BP head to ceremony to set up)

CEREMONY

4:00 Ceremony
4:30 Family Photos

RECEPTION

4:30 Cocktail Hour
5:45 Grand Entrances
5:55 First Dance
6:00 Parent Dances
6:15 Speeches
6:30 Dinner Served
7:30 Cake Cutting
7:45ish Golden Hour Photos
10:00 Reception Ends