

On your wedding day, you'll want to make sure your photographer captures those essential details you worked so hard on. To help him or her out, provide a list of "must-take" wedding photography shots. Check off your essentials below, and add any of your own creative ones. This is a rather comprehensive list, please don't feel like you have to check off everything and also feel free to add anything that is important to you! This is only a guide to assist in your planning. Don't forget, the more involved the list, the less time for creative license.

These are part of the standard 4-5 hour package.

Wedding Photography Shots At the Ceremony

- Outside of ceremony site
- Guests walking into ceremony site
- Bride and father entering ceremony site
- Parents being seated
- Grandparents being seated
- Maid of honor walking down the aisle
- Bridesmaids walking down the aisle
- Flower girl and ring bearer walking down aisle
- Groom waiting for bride
- Ceremony musicians
- Officiant
- Altar or canopy during ceremony
- Close up of bride, just before she makes her entrance
- Bride and father walking down aisle
- Groom seeing bride for first time
- The back of bride and father walking down the aisle – with the groom waiting in the distance
- Bride's father and Bride hugging at end of aisle
- Shot of the audience from the bride and groom's point of view
- The unity ceremony
- Close up of bride and groom saying the vows
- Wide shot of bride and groom saying the vows
- Exchanging the rings
- Close up of hands
- The kiss
- Bride & Groom walking up the aisle
- Receiving line
- Bride & Groom outside on steps
- Guests throwing confetti/rose petals/birdseed
- Bride & Groom hugging guests, laughing, getting congratulations
- Bride & Groom getting in car
- Bride & Groom in back seat

Posed Wedding Photography Before the Reception

- Bride & Groom with flower girl and ring bearer
- Bride & Groom with entire wedding party
- Bride with bridesmaids'
- Bride with groomsmen
- Bride with Maid of Honor
- Groom with bridesmaids'
- Groom with best man
- Groom with groomsmen

Wedding Party Leaves then...

If extended family present and portraits requested then...
(extended family defined as brothers, sisters, Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, Cousins)

- Bride with entire family requested
- Groom with entire family requested
- Entire family requested

Extended family departs for Reception then

- Groom with parents
- Bride with parents
- Bride & Groom with parents

Parents depart for Reception and then...

- Bride alone (full length)
- Bride & Groom together

During the Reception (to help your photographer, you may wish to list these shots in the order they will happen at your reception)

Guests the photographer shouldn't miss: (provide a seating chart, if possible, so that they can be easily identified)

- Outside of reception site
- Bride & Groom arriving
- Bride & Groom greeting guests
- Table centerpieces
- Table setting
- Bride & Groom's table (head table)
- Musicians or DJ
- Guest book
- Place card table
- Close up of bride and groom's place card
- Wedding cake
- Groom's cake
- Gift table
- Decorations (specify which _____)
- A shot of bride & groom with guests at each table
- Bride with college alums
- Groom with college alums
- The buffet or, if having table service, a dinner serving
- Bride & Groom's first dance
- Bride & Father dancing
- Groom & Mother dancing
- Guests dancing
- Bride & Groom cutting the cake
- Bride & Groom feeding each other cake
- Toasts (specify who is giving them: _____)
- Bride & Groom drinking champagne
- Signing the marriage license
- Bride throwing bouquet
- Groom retrieving garter
- Groom tossing garter
- Garter/Bouquet dance
- The getaway car
- Bride & Groom leaving party
- Bride & Groom driving away

Wedding Photography Shots Before the Ceremony

There are additional charges for these services; they are not part of the standard 4-5 hour package.

Brides place of preparation

- Wedding dress lying over a chair
- Zipping up or buttoning the wedding dress
- Mother of the bride fastening the bride's necklace
- The bride's garter
- The bride's veil
- Brides fingernails noting no wedding band
- A close up of the bride's shoes peeking out from under the dress
- Bride looking into a mirror
- Bride looking out window
- Bride and bridesmaids putting on makeup
- Bride pinning corsage/boutonniere on mother/father
- Bride hugging parents
- Bride touching up
- Bride and parents leaving for ceremony

Grooms place of preparation

- Groom tying tie
- Groom looking into mirror
- Groom looking out window
- Grooms hand, noting no wedding band
- Groom pinning corsage/boutonniere on mother/father
- Groom hugging parents
- Groom and parents leaving for ceremony

