

# Simple considerations to ensure you love your wedding day experience and photos!!!

# TIMELINE

The most important part of the wedding day is planning a smooth timeline! We always suggest over budget your time versus under. We have seen many times where the hair and make up has taken longer than expected and has caused the bride to stress and not have as much time for photos beforehand like she planned or in some cases, cause her to be late to the ceremony. Coordinate with your wedding planner on this to help create a smooth timeline. Please make sure to share it with us once you have it nailed down!

# **FIRST LOOK/ PRAYER**

Many couples love this moment and we believe it can be one of the most beautiful ones of the entire day! Just make sure you account time for this in your timeline. Generally the prayer doesn't take too long maybe 5-10 minutes. Usually a first look is longer and it can incorporate bride and groom photos after! Also, it is best to do this in a place where you all can be relatively alone so you can enjoy the moment completely wrapped up in each other. If based on your venue location and size that is not possible, it's always nice to have a little space for yourselves we can usually help coordinate this as well :)

# FAMILY OF PHOTOGRAPHERS?....Ask for an UNPLUGGED Ceremony

We all have that family member(s) with a camera and they know how to use it! :) But...when it comes to your wedding, it's a great idea to ask them to put their cameras, cell phones , and tablets away during the ceremony. Something a simple as a decorative sign prior to entering the ceremony site usually does the trick and DJ's can also make announcements just prior to starting the ceremony. Without getting to philosophical, it's nice to have your loved share in the

moment and be present without vs watching the entire wedding through their iPhone screen, but it also helps avoid situations where moments can be ruined because an iPad is blocking someone important's face, or people are starting to crowd the aisle because they want to get that perfect cell phone picture. If you already know who this family member/members are kindly let them know, they have no need to worry. You'll be able to share these photos with them via the link we will give you to your online gallery and we always operate with a 2 (or more) person team at weddings so we are covering every angle and making sure we capture every moment!

# FAMILY PHOTOS/ TRADITIONAL PHOTOS

For your formal/traditional family photos, we highly suggest letting all the people you want in these photos know to stay put once the ceremony is over. This will help shorten the amount of time we are shooting because we will not be searching for Aunt Lucille and Uncle Bob. Also, please try making us a list to go off of (or your wedding planner to go off of) so we can go through the combinations quicker and make sure we get every combination you want. We traditionally do your bridal party, parents, grandparents, and immediate family, but if you have other combinations you want, just let us know! Also, please note, we will give our professional advice on the best place to take these photos based on the space and lighting. Often times the place with the most picturesque setting or background may have bad lighting, and the best lighting may be in a place that isn't ideal in terms of look. So, we will take them where you would like, but we will always try to give you options so that you get the photos you desire!

# **BRIDE & GROOM PHOTOS**

In our experience, the majority of the amazing couples we work with value these photos the most! This is the time we get to take you guys aside, go to all your favorite spots, get romantic and capture the absolute magic between you both. 2 suggestions, we always recommend doing these photos during the golden hour (1 hour prior to the sun setting) and try to set aside at least 20 minutes for these and more **if you are comfortable.** As previously stated, we always work with a team of two so aim to get different angles and different looks within the same spot which helps to maximize your time and ensure you'll get the looks you want! We suggest this time of the evening as this is when the lighting is just perfect and you will get the best results for your photos!

# YOUR EXIT

If you plan on having a organized exit, we suggest staging it if possible. We have seen many times brides and grooms have to nix their exit because everyone left before the end of their wedding. Try to do it a little earlier if you anticipate this happening and then go back in to party after. This will make for way better photos when you have a crowd with sparklers or bubbles vs 10 people :)

# **MESSAGE TO OUR AMAZING CLIENTS & THOSE SOON TO BE**

We wanted to write this after our first year full time as we started to notice a lot of trends from wedding to wedding that were consistent no matter what couple, venue, or setting. It's nearly impossible to go through a wedding day without something being a little off whether that be the schedule or the weather. All of the above tips are based on our years of experience and having worked with many different couples across the southeast at many different venues with a host of

variables mixed in! Our promise to you is that we will ride the wave and make your wedding day the best possible experience we can while capturing amazing memories along the way!