

our shot-lists

Below are detailed lists of shots that are ideal for a perfect wedding video!

This information may be useful to share with your wedding coordinator.

–preceding ceremony–

Ideally your videographer will arrive 1-2 hours+ before your ceremony begins and you will be able to get a lot of fantastic shots of you and your spouse getting ready, the venue, and maybe some interviews.

The shots below are really good ideas to add to your checklist if you chose a more cinematic video style for your wedding. A lot of the shots are B-roll (secondary shots to overlay the main shots), and will help bring the wedding video together nicely.

Here is the breakdown of some important things to get on video:

- **Bride & Bridesmaids Getting Ready**
 - Bridesmaid or Stylist doing brides hair
 - Bride getting her makeup done (closeup and farther away)
 - The wedding dress hanging by itself in scenic location
 - Adjusting the wedding dress while it is on
 - Surrounded by bridesmaids (laughing/getting ready)
- **Groom & Groomsmen Getting Ready**
 - Groom adjusting his jacket
 - Father or groomsman adjusting grooms tie
 - Groomsmen putting on shoes and jackets
 - Groom hanging out with groomsmen
- **Photo Shoots**
 - Interactions of the groom and groomsmen between photos being snapped
 - Interactions of the bride and bridesmaids between photos being snapped
 - Solo shots of the bride and groom laughing and looking into the camera
 - Great for introducing each person on the video

- The first look
- If not doing a first look then take a shot of the couple near each other but not seeing each other
- Location shots
 - Inside of empty venue before guests arrive
 - Inside of location as guests arrive
 - Guests being escorted to their seats
 - The outside of the venue
 - Shots of your decorations
 - Programs
 - Pictures
 - Signs
 - Any signs outside the venue with your names on it
 - Ex: "Congrats Bob and Dan" on the venue's outdoor sign
- Florist setting up flowers
- Any location-unique items
 - Nearby farm tractors, river, bell-tower, etc.
- Interviews
 - Can be with wedding party, parents, grandparents, officiant, or any extremely talkative guest. Interviews help tremendously with the flow of a wedding trailer.

Just remember that photo time shouldn't only be for the photographer. Filming the taking of photos should be on your wedding videographer checklist because there are priceless reactions and interactions between the couple and their wedding party in between photos that are excellent B-roll for your wedding trailer.

–ceremony–

The shots you get during the ceremony will be pretty straight forward if you have 1 camera. The cameraman will have to be getting a shot of the main action, your ceremony, from the best vantage point possible. If you have 2 cameras, you can have the second cameraman be a little more creative.

It is always important to make sure your videographers are following church and venue rules.

Here is the breakdown for 1 and 2 cameras:

1 Camera

- The Main Action
 - Your Entrance
 - Your Ceremony
 - Your Exit

There isn't a whole lot extra that can be filmed with just 1 camera. This camera has to be focused on the main action of the ceremony and not on the smaller details, or some of the ceremony will be missed. Great footage can still be taken with 1 camera, but you will miss out on some of the details.

Make sure you are allocated a good enough spot for your videographer to get your walk down the aisle as well as a good vantage point of the ceremony.

This may require some moving around for the videographer.

2 Cameras

- Camera 2 gets detail shots
 - The rings being placed on the fingers
 - The reactions and closeup of faces
 - Close-ups of wedding party
 - Audience members reactions

Camera 1 should always be recording everything from more of a stand-still position, and camera 2 should be moving around, still staying out of people's way, but zooming in, getting different angles, and capturing all the detail that can be cut into your ceremony in the editing room to provide a fully immersive and beautifully edited piece.

-half-time-

The time between your ceremony and reception is the very rushed period where you are trying to cram as many photos into an hour as you can before you either go off to have a quick drink or head to the reception. This is a good opportunity to get some B-roll shots checked off the list.

The shots your videographer gets here are likely to be more laid back and candid as there are no events going on, and most of your time will be spent taking pictures. Be sure to have fun interactions with your spouse and be happy between photographs. That is when the videographer will get the best reaction shots for your wedding trailer.

- Interactions between photos again
- Getting on the bus/ in limo
 - If you have multiple videographers you can have some shots on the bus
- Bride and groom interacting
 - Kissing
 - Walking and holding hands
 - Laughing together
 - If there is time, a spin around kiss where you kiss and the videographer circles around you

–reception–

The time for the party has finally arrived! Your videographer will mostly be filming the reception events as they happen, along with a little dancing. Again, if you have a second videographer they will be able to get more close-ups and details of the event.

Make sure to utilize your videographer to the fullest. Instead of having them stand there filming dancing from a tri-pod after the main events, make sure they get the camera off the tri-pod and travel around the room a little bit. Have them get right in the middle of the dancing, talking to guests, and getting an update from you and your new spouse on how the night is going.

Expect the footage to be loud in the background, but the point is to capture the fun and festive atmosphere, not to get perfect audio.

Shots to get:

- Arriving at the reception hall

- Entering the reception hall
- Bridal party eating dinner/ enjoying cake
- Decorations & Atmosphere
 - Any pictures you have around
 - People signing the guest book
 - A pan shot (sweep) of the room
 - Centerpiece close-ups
 - Cake Close-ups
 - Any other cool snacks you have set up
 - Popcorn bar
 - Candy bar
 - Milk and cookie bar
- Events
 - Cake cutting
 - Cake smashing (or hopefully nice feeding)
 - First dance
 - Father/Daughter dance
 - Mother/ Son Dance
 - Dollar Dance
 - Anniversary Dance
 - Shoe Game
 - Garter Toss
 - Bouquet Toss
 - Speeches/ Toasts
- Interviews
 - Wedding guests
 - The newlyweds giving an update
- Dancing
 - Shots from different angles of the dance floor
 - Taking the camera off tri-pod and moving around the dance floor.