



Finding Your Wedding Photographer

Deciding on a wedding photographer is a large part of the wedding planning process. A quick search of the Internet will turn up hundreds of results for your town alone. Prices range from “What’s the catch?” to “Let me just sell my organs on the black market?” and everything in between. With all of that, it can be a daunting task to try to narrow down who is the best fit for you and your wedding! With all that in mind, we at DoubleStar Photography have put together a little workbook for you (I promise it’s not too hard) to help you set parameters and narrow down your wedding photographer search. From style to shots you’re dying for and how to decide how many hours you need your photographer for, you’ll be prepared to find your wedding photographer!

The Details

Budget for photography: _____

Wedding date: _____

My preferred style is:

- ☐ Light and Airy
- ☐ Dark and Moody
- ☐ Clean and classic

We *are* / *are not* doing a first look.

Things that we know we want included in a package:

- ☐ Digital images
- ☐ Prints
- ☐ Wedding album
- ☐ Second shooter
- ☐ Engagement photos
- ☐ Bridal portraits/boudoir photos

Groups that we know we want formal photos of with us:

- ☐ Bride with parents
- ☐ Bride with siblings
- ☐ Bride with grandparents
- ☐ Bride with whole family
- ☐ Groom with parents
- ☐ Groom with siblings
- ☐ Groom with grandparents
- ☐ Groom with whole family
- ☐ Bride and groom with parents
- ☐ Bride and groom with grandparents
- ☐ Bride and groom with whole family
- ☐ Bride and groom with bride's parents

- Other photos we know we want:**

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Calculating how long you need your photographer for:

Having a good idea of how many hours you'll need your photographer for is a great starting place when looking at different packages. If you have a planner or day of coordinator who has given you a detailed timeline, then that will give you the exact number of hours you'll need. If you don't have a day of timeline yet, this will help you calculate a general idea of how long you'll need your photographer for. They may have a different idea of length of time for various parts, but this will give you a good idea.

Ceremony start time: _____ Ceremony length: _____ (Generally, allow 30-45 minutes)

Getting ready and details: _____ (amount of time for your hair and makeup + 1.5 hour)

Family and bridal party photos: _____ (5 minutes per family grouping)

Formal portraits (bride and groom): 30 minutes if at the same location as the ceremony. 1 hour if at a different location (within 3 miles)

Travel time to reception location: _____

Reception start time: _____ Exit time from reception: _____

Reception length: _____

Total hours needed for wedding: _____ (Add an extra 30 minutes to an hour, just in case)

Questions to ask during meeting/inquiries to photographers

- ☐ **What methods of payment do you take?**
- ☐ **Do you offer a payment plan?**
- ☐ **Is the deposit/retainer refundable in case of a cancellation?**
- ☐ **How do you feel about detail shots?**
- ☐ **Are there certain times that you prefer to shoot?**
- ☐ **Are you comfortable shooting indoors?**
- ☐ **Do your packages include digital images? If so, does it include a print release?**
- ☐ **What size images are your digital images? How large can they be printed?**
- ☐ **Is there a way for us to order additional prints or albums after the wedding?**
- ☐ **Do you work with a videographer or have recommendations for a videographer?**
- ☐ **How long is your typical turn around time?**
- ☐ **How would you describe your style?**
- ☐ **Do you have a package that includes an engagement session or bridal portraits?**
- ☐ **How much time do you typically allow for a first look/family and formal portraits?**
- ☐ **How much time do you like for family and formal portraits? For a first look?**
- ☐ **If we need an extra hour or two, how is that billed and how much does that cost?**