

ALY MATEI PHOTOGRAPHY

5 Tips for a Perfect Wedding Day Timeline

A guide to help you have a stress-free wedding day







I am a wedding photographer proudly serving outgoing couples who value lively & emotive experiences in the Houston and Austin areas! I like to think of myself as your Wedding Day BFF!

Throughout my wedding experience, Aly Matei Couples have the benefit of not only having photos that tell your wedding day story, but also being able to use me as a resource throughout their planning experience.

I like to say that I am a "hands on" photographer. By that I simply mean, that I help my couples from choosing their outfits for their engagement session, creating a timeline, and all the way to the end deciding the best exit option for them! Throughout the planning process, my couples receive a couple of questionnaires that allow me to get to know them on a more personal basis & help them create their best day ever!

The number 1 question that I get from couples is: What time should my ceremony start?

This guide is to help you start to creating a timeline that not only works for your guests and vendors, but also allows you a stress-free wedding day!

Before setting your ceremony time, talk with your photographer to ensure it will work perfectly with what you are wanting for your wedding day!

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When are you getting married?

The number 1 factor that goes into planning your timeline is the time of the year that you are getting married.

If you plan to get married during Day Light Savings time you have the ability to have your ceremony a little later. If you are getting married outside of Day Light Savings, your ceremony will need to be earlier.

The sun is a photographers best friend and worst enemy. There is a prime time for taking photos to ensure that the light is absolutely perfect during your portraits or ceremony.

First Look or Traditional?

The second biggest factor going into creating your timeline is if you are wanting to do a first look or not.

First looks are not for every couple; however, they allow you a few added benefits to your wedding day including:

- 1. You get to spend more time with your spouse on the wedding day.
- 2. It is the only part of the wedding day that is private.
- 3. You can get our your nervous gitters.
- 4. More time for photos without sacrificing cocktail hour.
- 5. We have the ability to get all of the photos done before the ceremony.

If you choose a traditional aisle reveal, your ceremony time will need to be earlier to ensure we can do all the wedding party, family, and couples portraits after the ceremony with the light still out.

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Hire a Hair & Makeup Team

Not only does professional hair & makeup feel like a glam day, but it also ensures that everyone has a similar look and is ready on time.

If you plan to have your bridesmaids' and mothers' hair and makeup professionally done, ensure that your hair & makeup vendor has a team that can serve you best.

Having a team allows for multiple girls to be getting ready at the same time for a timelier morning of the wedding day. Your hair & makeup team should provide you a schedule of who is with each artist at what time.

Hiring a great hair & makeup team can make the day run 100x smoother! I have a list of amazing hair & makeup vendors that I am happy to refer your way!

Hire a Coordinator

Having a great coordinator can make your wedding planning and process run even smoother. I absolutely love when my couples work with an amazing coordinator for their wedding day.

During the planning process, your coordinator will connect with your vendors to help create the best timeline that works not only for you but for your vendor team as well.

When my couples choose to work with an amazing coordinator, I know that the day will be stress-free for the bride and vendors. Hiring a coordinator allows your vendors to focus on what they do best and allows you to sit back and enjoy every moment of your wedding day!

Consult your Photographer

Every photographer is different. We all have our favorite times of the day that we consider "prime time" for shooting portraits.

It is important to connect with your photographer to go over the above things to ensure that they can help you choose the best ceremony time and create the timeline that will make your day stressfree.

When in doubt, just ask! Your photographer will be so happy that you are thinking about these things!

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I hope that this guide was helpful for you! My biggest piece of advice when choosing a photographer is to ask them about their involvement in the planning process!

You will want to make sure that you hire someone that can not only deliver an amazing gallery, but also assist you with the stressful part of creating your wedding day timeline!

