



## Wedding Day Tips

\*Don't forget your marriage license!

\*I do not recommend glitter lotion or spray, or glitter accessories. Glitter will look like green or white specks on your skin and also sticks to men's clothing. Glitter removal is subject to an additional retouching fee.

\*The newest trend is glitter sand for sand ceremonies (\*sigh\*). I cannot stress enough how bad this is. The glitter will literally cover both of you from head to toe if there is even a slight breeze. If you are planning a sand ceremony, please make sure there is no glitter in the sand.

\*If you have a dress with buttons, remember to bring a crochet hook. It's super helpful!

\*Avoid drinking red wine or dark colored drinks once you are in your wedding dress. Also, invite friends and family who are standing next to you to be careful if they are holding a dark drink.

\*I recommend to plan to have everyone's hair and makeup done 60 minutes prior to my arrival time. That way, if you fall behind schedule for any reason, you'll still be ready for photography when I arrive. Even the best hair and makeup teams can fall behind schedule due to late arrivals for their scheduled time, or if there are last minute additions to the schedule. Be sure to give this target time to your stylists so they can schedule accordingly.

\*Plan to have a purse or bag handy throughout the day with your touchup makeup including lipstick, powder and/or blotting papers, and designate a dependable friend to be in charge of your bag so I can approach them when needed.

\*Grooms: Have an extra shirt and tie in case you sweat a lot (Florida can be hot!) or someone spills wine on you (happens all the time). It's also nice to have the option to change into a fresh shirt for the reception.

\*Brides and bridesmaids: Be flexible with your hair style. If it's a particularly windy day, you might reconsider wearing your hair down near your face. Falling tendrils of hair tend to blow across the face on breezy days. I recommend walking outside prior to your hair appointment to see if your hair is blowing and adjust your hairstyle accordingly. Keep in mind that photoshopping hair is sometimes not possible, or extremely expensive, especially if the hair is blowing across your eyes and nose.

*\*Most importantly, do your very best to BE ON TIME\**

If we fall behind schedule, I can never get this time back. I will have less time to capture your portraits and this will also limit both creativity and the amount of portraits that are captured. This can also be stressful for the couple and their families and wedding party. Please make an effort to be ready when I arrive so that we will have plenty of time to capture some beautiful images in a relaxed atmosphere.

# Unplugged Ceremony

I highly recommend (I don't require) having an unplugged ceremony! Many couples are embracing the trend of having their friends and family unplug (put away phones and cameras) during their ceremony so they are fully present with them.

In this digital age everyone loves taking photos with their phones and posting them to social media. Beautiful candid moments would be even better without digital devices in the background held by guests standing behind the couple, leaning into the aisle, or holding them in the air. iPads can be especially distracting. Also, it's nice to have guests and family members looking at the couple instead of their phones.

If you love the idea of an unplugged ceremony, here are a few things that you can do to tastefully request that your friends and family refrain from photography during the ceremony:

1. Have the officiant make an announcement at the beginning of the ceremony.
2. Include a request in your program.
3. Display a sign that guests will see when they arrive to your ceremony site. There are a variety of printable signs available to choose from on Google images, or you could even create your own.

## Sample Wording for Programs & Signs

*Credit for wordage (I have made a few edits): OffBeat Bride ([www.offbeatbride.com](http://www.offbeatbride.com))*

\*We would love for you to enjoy our wedding ceremony, feeling truly present and in the moment with us. We have hired an amazing wedding photographer who will be capturing the way the wedding looks, and we invite each of you to sit back, relax, and enjoy how the wedding feels. We are respectfully asking that everyone consider leaving their cameras and cell phones off. Of course we will be happy to share our wedding photos with you afterward.

\*We would love for you to be able to relax and have fun with us today. With this in mind, we invite you to put down all of your favorite devices and just be present in the moment with us. Please leave your camera in your bag (we've got photography covered), and put your cell phone on mute (we promise they'll call back). We're happy to share our professional wedding photos later, but the greatest gift you can give us today is just being fully here with us in this sacred and special moment.

## Sample Wording for Officiants

\*General: (Couple's names) have asked that you share in their wedding fully and emotionally and not through the lens of a camera or cell phone. The professional photographers will be capturing the ceremony in its entirety. Please sit back, relax, and enjoy the emotion of the ceremony.

\*Spiritual: (Couple's names) respectfully request that all guests honor the sanctity of their wedding ceremony by turning off their cell phones and cameras. The professional photographers will be capturing the ceremony in its entirety.

\*Emotional: (Couple's names) invite you to be truly present at this special time. Please, turn off your cell phones and put down your cameras. The photographers will capture how this moment looks and (couple's names) encourage you all to capture how it feels with your hearts, without the distraction of technology.

**Thank you so much and I look forward to working with you and your friends and family on your special day!**