

THE ULTIMATE
— *Wedding* —
GUIDE

dennapaige
PHOTOGRAPHY



“SHE HAS A SEEMINGLY NEVER-ENDING STREAM OF FRESH IDEAS FOR PHOTOS AND HER PASSION FOR HER WORK IS INTOXICATING.”



contents

- 2 INTRODUCTIONS
- 5 ENGAGEMENT SESSION
- 7 MAKING THE BEST OF YOUR DAY
- 9 TIMELINE
- 12 SHOTS LIST
- 13 ALL ABOUT FIRST LOOKS
- 16 FOR THE LADIES
- 17 FOR THE GENTS
- 20 KEEPING TRADITIONS
- 21 EXPERIENCED OPINION
- 24 F . A . Q



SOMEONE TOLD ME YOU WERE GETTING MARRIED
oh wait, it was you!

CONGRATULATIONS + THANK YOU

You're getting married! It's a BIG deal and I am so excited to be part of your day! I am committed to providing exceptional services that will last a lifetime. I will capture the love and joy shared by you and your special someone, and the emotions and well wishes of those invited to be part of your day. Each wedding, just like each couple, is so unique – and that's exactly why I do not take what I do lightly. Your wedding day is one of the greatest days of your life. I want to make sure your passion is reflected in each image you receive. So, let's create something that captures your love story, to enjoy with family and friends, and share with generations to come. I can't wait to be a part of your love!



OH, *hello*

ABOUT ME

My husband and I met in college when he came to pick up my roommate for a date. I wasn't interested though, since I was engaged to another guy! After what seemed like a never ending friendship. I decided to give him a chance and realized I'd fallen in love with my best friend. We married in 2015 and still like each other, so we'd say it's going well.

We decided to upgrade from dog parents to real parents by adding a perfect little boy in 2019. We liked him so much we decided we needed another and welcomed a beautiful baby girl in 2021.

I absolutely love my job and I cannot wait to capture your big day. The best thing you can ever do is marry your best friend and I am honored that you chose me to be a part of that very thing.



WHAT TO *expect*

MY STYLE

Just like personalities, all photographers come with their own expertise and their own style; Dark + moody, light + airy, staged or candid, and many more. As a photographer I am true to colour and warm. My goal is to give you a high-quality pop of color that won't go out of style. Totally timeless and classic. I prefer to give you both candid and posed images throughout your day, to snap your special moments and treasured memories. I like to truly get to know my clients, and your wants and needs, so I can produce images unique to your love story!

BOOKING

I love getting to know all about you and your love story! We can talk on the phone or meet in-person to see if we're a good fit. I want to give you the BEST experience possible, and spending quality time together helps me do just that. After we decide which investment is best for you, I'll give you access to an online folder where you can view our contract and invoice information. A 20% deposit is required to hold your date and secure your package. The remaining balance is due 30 days before your special day – gives us another chance to go over all the details of your package.

ENGAGEMENT *session*

LOCATIONS

Most people think of engagement sessions as standing in a picturesque field, or flirting through a park; and if that's what you want, it can be! Something to consider is making your engagement session personal to you. Think about your favourite places to go, how you met, or moments you like to spend together.

If you're huge hockey fans, let's shoot at an ice rink.

Are you great at cooking, or love to game? Maybe an at home session would truly show your relationship.

You guys love hiking? To the mountains we go.

Maybe you're both obsessed with Chick-Fil-A – let's get some chicken and shoot a session!



OUTFITS

Planning outfits is always fun! You can wear neutral tones, your wedding colors, or colors chosen specifically to celebrate your engagement. A few things to consider: think about the location, the season, and what you want to do when you get there. I always suggest two outfits – one casual and one a little more dressy. This allows us to get a variety of images and moments not limited by one specific look.

OUTFIT
inspiration
CAN BE FOUND AT ;

deannapaigephoto.com/couples



**“HER WORK IS
ABSOLUTELY
PHENOMENAL
BECAUSE OF
ALL THE TIME
AND LOVE SHE
PUTS INTO
WHAT SHE
DOES!”**



MAKING THE *best* OF YOUR DAY

THINKING AHEAD

With careful planning of your whole day, there are ways to elevate and make the most of your day. First, hire a professional make-up artist and hair stylist. This not only impacts the quality of your finished images, but this also allows you to relax and stay on schedule on a busy day. Want to keep that boutonniere in place? Using strong magnets or getting a pin back can allow you to enjoy the day and save you from worrying about the little things.

Break in your wedding shoes before the big day – brides, grooms, bridesmaids, or groomsmen – wear your new shoes around the house to avoid getting them dirty and avoid blisters and bruises. Bring a pair of backup shoes – for having something to dance in, stay comfortable between photos, or leaving the night, it always pays to have an extra pair on hand.

TIPS + TRICKS

- Natural light is our best friend! The quality of photos in natural light cannot be replicated in the studio. Keep in mind the time of day when you're planning out your wedding timeline. Harsh light can mean squinting eyes, and the hot sun blazing down on you. Most people think photoshoots at sunset are ideal, but this leaves shooting time after dark when there is no light. Aim for your ceremony to begin two or three hours before sunset.

- 'Unplugged' weddings are a great idea! Asking guests to leave their phones alone and enjoy the day with you, is a special way to honor your day. You've hired me to capture your photos, and I've got you covered.

BE *true*
TO you

Social media can make us feel like we need to have elaborate weddings or include moments from someone else's love story. Have the wedding day the best way – your way! Don't feel guilt or pressure from anyone for how you choose to celebrate your love!

- Ask your wedding officiant to move to the side during the ceremony kiss, to elevate this romantic moment.

- Set aside specific time for just the two of you to be photographed during that 'golden hour' – trust me, this is not an experience you want to miss!

- Type or write out your vows so that you can save them as keepsakes (and this looks better in photos than having your phone out during this intimate moment).

- Try to think of something fun as your end of the night 'get-away'. From bubbles, flower petals, sparklers, smoke bombs or glow sticks – get your guests involved for a big send off and capture photos full of laughter and love.

- As an alternative to a traditional guestbook, instead try something you can hang in your home, that becomes a central memory of your incredible day. Check out my **blog post** for fun ideas!

- When looking at wedding décor, think of items that you can reuse as home décor after the wedding, or décor as thank you gifts for your guests or bridal party. Explore flea markets, thrift shop and facebook marketplace for unique pieces on a budget.

TAKE YOUR TIME

Take a deep breath and slow down! Hug a little tighter, look a little deeper, and kiss a little longer. Enjoy your celebrations. Soak up all the minutes of your day – the longer you do, the more moments I can capture.

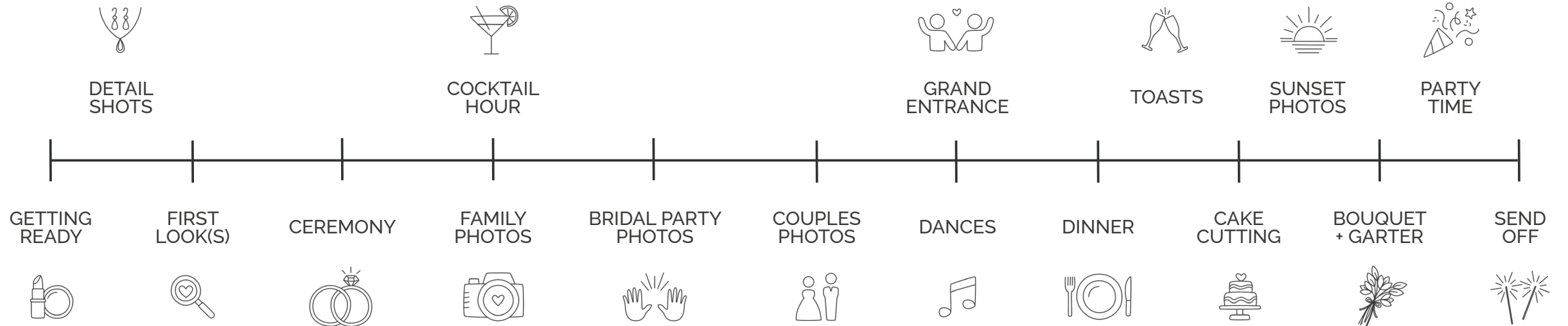
food FOR THOUGHT

Weddings are A LOT to take in, often couples don't get time to relax and enjoy a moment alone together. It's a great idea to have a private meal together! This way you get time and you actually get to eat before heading back out to party!



Timeline

One of the biggest days of your life is your wedding dont squish so much into it that you can barley breathe. Don't rush throught the day! Your wedding day is about the two of you so, do it your way! If you dont want any first looks, dont like dancing or you dont want cake, then DON'T. What is important to you two? Make those the moments we'll have the most time to capture together.





"IT'S MORE THAN A JOB TO HER, SHE WENT OUT OF HER WAY TO GIVE US THE BEST EXPERIENCE!"

shots LIST

This is a more simple version of the checklist I send to you before our 30-day countdown call! Just to give you an example and allow you to think about shots you might want on your big day;

PRE-CEREMONY

- Details ; rings, invitations, shoes, etc. + Decor
- Brides gown + bridesmaid dresses
- First look(s)

CEREMONY

- Processional / Recessional
- Bride escorted down aisle
- Grooms reaction
- Exchanging or rings / vows
- Guests watching ceremony
- Distant ceremony site
- First kiss (from officiants veiw +/-or end of aisle)

FORMAL PORTRAITS

- Brides side - all
- Brides side - grandparents/ seperate + together

- Brides side - parents/ siblings
- Brides side - siblings
- Brides side - parents/ seperate + together
- *repeat with grooms side*

- Full bridal party
- Bride with bridesmaids/ seperate + together
- Groom with groomsmen/ seperate + together
- Bride + groom!

RECEPTION

- Grand entrance
- First dance / Father + daughter / Mother + son
- Toasts
- Cake cutting
- Garter / Bouquet
- Send off



ALL ABOUT *first looks*

In the last few years, one wedding trend has become so popular – the first look – and I am obsessed! A first look is traditionally when the wedding couple see one another for the first time on their wedding day. However, it has slowly evolved into so much more – and I'm here for it! If you want to wait for the aisle to see the love of your life, if you want to capture the first time your parents see you all dressed up for your big day, maybe you want to surprise your bridesmaids, grandparents, or other special people in your life. It's always an incredible intimate moment shared between you and those you care for the most.

WITH DAD

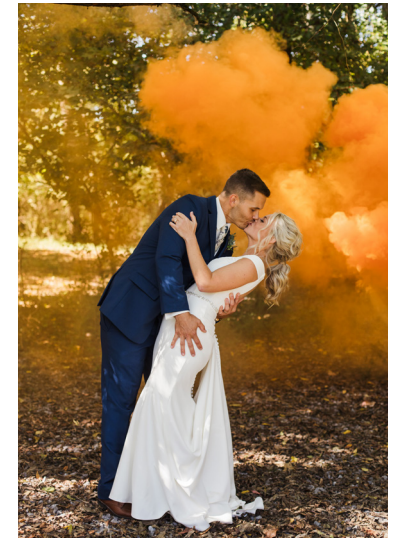
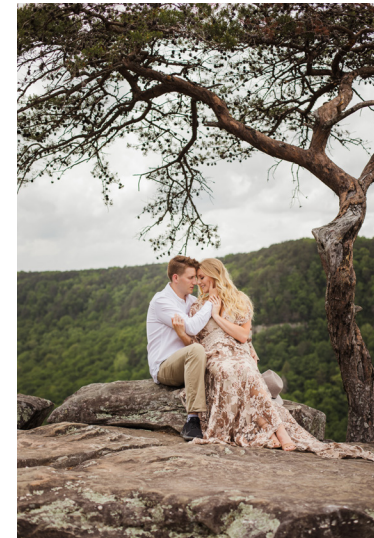
Where possible, I always encourage a first look with Dad as a special way to honour him, moving into this next chapter of life. These moments are always incredibly emotional, and a cherished memory for life. Dads and daughters have an incredible bond.

WITH BRIDESMAIDS

Your closest friends have been loving and supporting you throughout the wedding process and have been by your side. It's always incredibly fun to surprise your girls seeing you all dolled up as a bride and capturing that raw emotion.

WITH YOUR PERSON

This moment will be an incredibly intimate and romantic moment, often with shared tears and pure joy. Emotions run high, and the meaning of the day hits. If you want to stay traditional, maybe a 'first touch' moment is for you – this way you don't see each other, but get that intimate moment together captured. Sometimes, couples will share notes or private vows before sharing their day with those they love most. This moment is about portraying your true love story, and I want to make this happen.





FOR THE *ladies*

FRESHEN UP; *style on point!*

Are you planning on going to a spa to relax before the wedding? Don't do it the day before! When you're working with new products especially with facials or waxing you might not know how your face and skin will react. The last thing you'd want the day of your wedding is red markings or uninvited bumps.

If you're planning on having your nails done, two to four days before is best you'll still have a great looking set with natural growth allowing them to look great but not too far grown out.

HAIR + MAKE-UP; *feel comfortable and relaxed.*

If you've never had your hair and make done before then I suggest you do a trial run (you can do the trial for your engagement session!) This way you can see what you like or don't and how it lasts as the day goes on. If you do it for your engagement session, then you can also see how it photographs and allow yourself time to make changes you'll love on your wedding day!

When it comes to coloring your hair don't try anything new that will take time to adjust, you want to feel like your best self the day of your wedding not regretting a new color or style. I recommend getting your hair dyed and styled two to three weeks beforehand to really settle in and give you time with your new hair.

DETAILS; *little things make the biggest difference.*

Shoes – heels are great but wearing them all day might not be. Bringing a back up pair for comfort

Hangers – if you want shots of all the dresses lined up wooden is always better than plastic. (If you forget, don't worry about it, I've got you covered!)

Ring boxes - you don't have to buy a ring box specifically for your day unless you want to (you won't use it again) I keep tons with me so you don't have to worry about it.

Glasses – consider an anti-glare pair of lenses for the day, or contact lenses, so you don't miss any special moments, and we get the best from all your photos throughout the day

Perfume – wear some: your fiancé's favourite scent, or something new he will smell and associate with your wedding day everytime you wear it

Delegate – have a bridesmaid that isn't family (but knows your families) in charge of gathering groups together for family photos, to make the process easier

Appreciate – you are AMAZING! Planning a wedding isn't always easy, take a moment to see all that hard work coming together.



FOR THE *gents*

GROOMING;

go the extra mile - it's worth it!

Get a tidy trim about a week before the wedding to keep it fresh (long or short hair). The week of your wedding is not the time to have a major hair change; too early and your hair will not look fresh, too late and it won't look natural - your hair needs a week to grow out and settle. If you have facial hair, go to a barber who knows what they're doing and specializes in facial hair services. It makes all the difference having clean, straight lines, and shaped beards / staches.

ATTIRE;

it's your wedding day too, stand out.

A clean black tux is classic and timeless. As a groom you want people to know it's your special day, give yourself a pop! Whether it's a colored blazer, velvet jacket, suspenders, a complementary coloured vest, or special tie / bow tie, give yourself something that makes you smile and shine. Don't forget about your groomsmen; this is an opportunity to connect to the men who mean the most to you. From a small detail shared only between the boys, to a shared item of clothing everyone can enjoy on your day.

DETAILS;

try to think about the little things.

Shoes - match your belt or suspenders

Tie + Pocket Square - patterns or textures are great, and they add dimension

Socks - wear something fun or sentimental; this is an easy way to add your personal touch

Watch - instead of a modern apple watch, try something classic and timeless. Consider a sentimental memento from someone you love.

Cuff Links + Tie Clip - you can customise these with your wedding date and names, a significant icon that is meaningful to you, or a special keepsake to gift and share with your groomsmen

Glasses - consider an anti-glare pair of lenses for the day, or contact lenses, so you don't miss any special moments and we get the best from all your photos throughout the day

Cologne - wear some: your fiancé's favourite scent, or something new she will smell and remember your wedding day each time you wear it

Delegate - help the bride by assigning groomsmen tasks before the big day. Ask what needs to be done before and on the day and recruit help so you can concentrate on the moments and details that matter

Appreciate - as your bride is walking down the aisle, take a deep breath and think of how much effort went into this demonstration of your love, and the stunning bride walking towards you.



**“WE FELT SO
COMFORTABLE
AND RELAXED.
SHE MADE THE
SESSION FUN
AND FULL OF
LAUGHTER..”**



ITS ALL IN THE *details*

While you relax and get glammed up, this is when we shoot those sweet little details of important letters, vows, invitations, and things like ;

SHOES | DRESSES | FLOWERS | JEWELRY | TIES | RINGS

Have these items available in the bridal and groom suites, or in a specified area – this will make it easy for us to capture these details without adding pressure to your day.

FUN FACT | You can count on me to bring hangers, ring boxes and other essentials.

KEEPING *Traditions*

SOMETHING OLD;

originally, this section was said to have referred to securing protection of the bride's fertility.

Today, this is a great way to incorporate and honor tradition and culture in your wedding day. Dig through your family history, find an heirloom (brooch, handkerchief, locket, or image of your parents/grandparents you can tie into your bridal bouquet). If your family isn't the 'keepsake' kind, try adding something from your maid of honour or special person's past – what a special way to honor that special relationship in your life.

SOMETHING NEW;

offers optimism for the future. You're about to enter into a new chapter in life.

This can be really easy - your dress, or ring, a new pair of earrings, or your wedding shoes. If you want, you can use that new last name! Monogram your new name on a handkerchief, inside your dress, engraved on your ring or even a custom piece of jewelry.

SOMETHING BORROWED;

brings you two good luck. By borrowing something from a happily married friend or relative, this ensures a little of their good fortune rubs off on you guys. (So choose a good couple!)

Think of which of your loved ones emulate the kind of love you respect! Does your sister have a gorgeous bracelet? Did a bestie wear a stunning veil at their wedding? What about earring your mom wears for special occasions? What about that necklace Grandpa gave Grandma while they were dating? Borrowing jewelry or a treasured item is a great way to show a family member or friend some extra love by honoring them on your wedding day.

SOMETHING BLUE;

the color blue stands for love, purity and fidelity—three key qualities for a solid marriage.

Often blue is incorporated into a piece of jewelry or on your garter. However, there are SO MANY fun ways to add a hint of blue, especially if blue isn't one of your wedding colors. Take a blue dress shirt from your dad, grandfather, fiancé, or brother – cut out a heart and have this sewn inside your dress. Another memorable way to add a little blue is to have your parents or special person write a note to you in blue ink on the soles of your shoes or paint the underside of your wedding shoes blue – making them even more valuable.



EXPERIENCED *opinion*

PRIORITIES

Weddings can be expensive - there are tons of things to consider; attire, food, cake, venue, flowers, details, and SO much more. You don't need everything and you don't need to go into debt to have a magical day.

Start with a budget. Make a list of each item ranked by importance to you. Those will be the things that you'll have the biggest budget for, down to things that happen, if they happen.

SAVE A PENNY

Invitations - You can go all out for these but keep in mind that they don't need to be extravagant. They will eventually end up in the trash for most of your guests.

Guests - Only invite people that you truly want there. Seriously, if you don't talk to them they don't need to be there - even if it's family. The best way to explain this is by saying you're only having your closest family and friends, to keep things small. "When planning for food and space, expect less people to come than you invite."

Wedding Favors - I can't tell you how many weddings I've been to where guests didn't touch the favors. Often people forget to grab them. If you don't have the cash don't worry about it, people are just excited to celebrate with you!

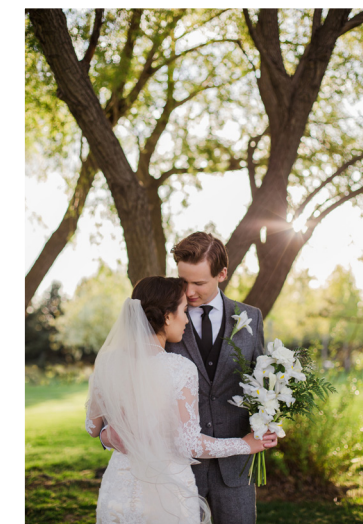
Send Off's - Send off's are a blast but you don't have to spend extra money on them. You can do your own eco friendly confetti or even simple spirit fingers are fun.

Food - As decadent as 5 course meals are, people are happy to celebrate with pizza. You don't have to do anything too fancy!

Cake - Fake cakes are a great way to save. You can get styrofoam layers and just one real tier to cut for the cake cutting. Publix cakes are a great price and they do simple designs.

ENJOY THE MOMENT

It's wedding day, whether it's raining or you're running around so much you're sweating bullets. Maybe the catering is late or your delicious cake just melted. Take your day for what it is! It's not going to be completely perfect and that's okay! You're getting married to your best friend with family and friends that love you, there to celebrate. Laugh through any issues and know that it's no longer in your hands. Enjoy the day as it is!





"SHE TOOK THE TIME TO GET TO KNOW MY HUSBAND AND I, WHAT PICTURES WERE IMPORTANT TO US, AND MADE US FEEL AT EASE IN FRONT OF THE CAMERA."

f . a . g

WHEN IS THE BALANCE DUE?

The retainer is due the day you book, to hold your date (this is a 20% deposit for your chosen package). The final balance is due 30 days prior to the date of your wedding day. A \$15 fee will apply each day the payment has not been made in full after this deadline passes.

DO YOU WORK FROM A SHOT LIST?

I do work from a shot list – but we create it together. I have a basic list, then you can add anything that you specifically want.

DO YOU BRING A SECOND SHOOTER?

Yes – all my packages come with a second shooter. They capture things from a different angle and can be other places capturing moments, while I am with you. The second shooter is an extension of DeannaPaige Photography, and all images will be used to elevate your final product.

HOW MANY IMAGES CAN WE EXPECT?

I average 40-50 images from each hour.

WHEN SHOULD WE EXPECT OUR PHOTOS BACK?

You will receive a sneak peek within one week of your wedding day, and then the full gallery will be available in an online gallery within eight weeks.



LET'S GET YOU
married!



deannapaige
PHOTOGRAPHY

DEANNA PORT

www.deannapaigephoto.com | [@deannapaigephoto](https://www.instagram.com/deannapaigephoto)
(210) 844 - 9951 | Knoxville, TN + Beyond

