

A GUIDE OF WEDDING VENDORS BY EMILY HANCOCK



#### We love...



Marriage
Best friends for 15
years & married for 5



Charleston, SC
We take 5+ trips a year
& feel like the locals



The Pups
Our \*big\* fur babies



Football Season She's a Hokie He's a Flame

#### She loves...



Succulents
I have a slight
obsession



All Things British
Oi! Fancy a
cuppa?



All the Details
I love to talk all things
planning & details



Pink Peonies

My favorite flowers in

my bridal bouquet

#### He loves...



Media
He is proficient in photo & video



Apple
He knows all the latest tech



Coke
He has a coke with a
lime every meal



Twenty One Pilots
His favorite band
& concert



Hello There!

We're Emily and James and we're the husband and wife team that make up Emily Hancock Photography! We believe that getting to know our clients is the number one way to ensure a fun experience and photos that reflect our couple's unique personalities.

#### So we'd love to tell you a little about us!







- We have been friends since 6th grade and are high school sweethearts!
- We've been married since 5.16.15 (Best. Day. Ever.)
- We live in Lynchburg, Virginia but we love to travel!
- We don't have children (yet!), but we do have two spoiled pups, Kimber (our mudblood rescue) and Phoebe (our pureblood rottweiler).
- James and I started the business together in 2015 while we were just newlyweds in college.
- We love creating beautiful images but more importantly, we love serving couples on the greatest day of their lives!!

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## HOW THE VENDORS WERE CHOSEN:





This FREE resource was put together by yours truly with the help of my lovely Emily Hancock Brides! One of the most common questions I receive from new #emilyhancockbrides is what vendors do I recommend? I hope that this guide will help you in finding the perfect vendors that fit your wedding day needs!

I asked my past EHP couples their opinions on the vendors they hired and of course, I have my opinions working with these vendors on the wedding day. In addition to this insight, James and I have worked with several vendors over the years and have learned who gives our clients the best experience on their wedding day.

We think it is so important to find vendors for your day that will not only offer the best service but also the best experience.

These businesses are in this booklet based on past experiences so no one is paying to be in this guide. As a bonus, I also included some tips on why you should consider hiring these vendors in each category along with bonus tips and fun facts!!

And if you skipped all that... basically these wedding professionals did not pay for their names to be mentioned. They are in this guide because they are truly AWESOME!!



#### DRESSES

(FOR YOUR ENGAGEMENT SESSION)

# SURPRISE BONUS SECTION!



One of the first things my brides ask me for is where on earth do you get the perfect engagement session dress?! Our couples receive a complimentary engagement session with their wedding experience. When we plan this session I always encourage my couples to bring a dressy outfit and a more casual fun outfit.

This session is a special occasion celebrating this amazing life ahead with each other so wearing something that is a little more fancy gives your photos a unique high end look! We love this opportunity to get to know our couples before their wedding day and it's a huge part of the secret to beautiful wedding day photos!

I know it's always nerve racking to order a dress online but according to my past brides, these companies offer a great experience for their customers if you need to return anything or need a different size. So if you are looking for a beautiful flow-y engagement session dress check out these sites!

VICI DOLLS

**REVOLVE** 

**LULUS** 

MORNING LAVENDER

BHLDN

**AMAZON** 

)

#### PLANNING



This is the first vendor that is usually overlooked because everyone has "a friend or family member" that can help them. I know that this free help sounds enticing but if their experience was a wedding they helped with 5+ years ago that may not be the best help for you.

Most of the time that "friend" doesn't have the knowledge to save you money throughout the planning process, be an unbiased opinion, work your entire wedding day, and keep you stress free throughout the entire process. The world of weddings changes so much and trends change! You need someone that has adapted with the times.

Unfortunately, when there is no planner or coordinator, that role is left on my shoulders, your wedding photographer. Which means this can take away my focus on providing beautiful images and capturing candid moments! Please consider having someone coordinating your day so that you, your family, and bridal party can all relax and enjoy the day! JULIE RUPERT EVENTS

CARLEY ELIZABETH WEDDINGS

ALL THE DAINTY DETAILS

ONE FINE DAY EVENTS

BOUNDLESS LOVE EVENTS

GARDEN ROSE EVENTS

TINA LANE EVENTS

#### VIDEOGRAPHY



11











12

Videography is one of the other key vendors that can be overlooked because of the budget. James and I unfortunately didn't have a videography team on our wedding day and I have to say that that is the only regret I have from our wedding. If I could go back in time I would invest in a videographer and so that is why I recommend this to our couples!

If you are looking to invest in a video team it is important that you hire an experienced team that knows what they are doing. We encourage our EHP couples to consider hiring a well seasoned videographer (usually investing in \$2,000+) to capture their wedding day!

Hiring a videographer for less than \$2,000 usually results in a less experienced vendor which can create problems on the wedding day. These videographers I have listed have the incredible skills and knowledge to capture your wedding day perfectly. They offer a personal and fun client experience and we love working with them every chance we get!

ABBEY DILLARD VIDEO

MICHAEL'S VIDEO

IRON & IVY FILMS

FILM AND FLOURISH

MNF PRODUCTIONS

DELE ROCKSON MEDIA

## BRIDAL SHOP











Bridal shops have changed so much since I was a bride. The client experience has evolved to be a truly unique bridal experience!

It's not just browsing the racks aimlessly looking for a dress that is in your size. No matter which shop you stop by, all of these bridal shops have excellent client experience!

You know how I know that?? My brides talk to ME, their photographer, about how amazing they are! That doesn't always happen with all their vendors. So I highly recommend these boutiques.

ASHLEY GRACE BRIDAL

STUDIO I DO BRIDALS

MILK & HONEY BRIDE

CELEBRATION BRIDAL

CHANTILLY LACE BRIDALS

CHURCH STREET BRIDAL

#### FLORAL











Some brides often want to save money in this category. I know that floral departments in grocery stores or craft stores like Michaels seem like a cheap alternative but I have seen so many of those bouquet wilt or fall apart even before the ceremony!

I highly recommend getting at least your bridal bouquet professionally done by a florist so that I can use it for your bridal detail photos!

As a bonus, I even included the best faux flowers company I have worked with. These sisters are based in Arizona and offer stunning faux bouquets and bouts!

LOVE BLOOMS BY DOYLES

PETAL FLOWER CO

CULPEPER WEDDING FLORIST

FLOWERS BY GLORIOSA

CARA CAIT CREATIVE

ROSE & BEE ORGANICS (FAUX)

#### MUSIC



If reception and dancing photos are important to you, then choosing a good DJ or Band is crucial!! These talented gentlemen and bands have years of experience and know how to read a crowd.

This vendor is also responsible for guiding you and your guests through cocktail hour and the reception. They make sure the party keeps going without any awkward lulls.

I know that if any of these vendors are at your wedding, your dance floor will be packed all night long!

#### BANDS

SAM HILL ENTERTAINMENT

THE DELOREANS BAND

DJ'S & MUSICIANS

FREDDY MAC

BOBBY HASH

RSP ENTERTAINMENT

GUYTON MOBILE DJ

STRING QUARTET NOVA

HARPIST: VANESSSA PUTNAM

## CATERING











Catering is for sure one of the most expensive parts of a wedding. However, this is one of the biggest things you and your guests will remember! We highly recommend these talented chefs and companies to all of our brides.

Each caterer specializes in their own thing too, so check them all out!! Their category is catering but really their work could pass as art!

Guests always rave about these talented chefs and I have only heard great things about their service.

MISSION BBQ

PURPLE DOOR CATERING

BLUE RIDGE CATERING

PUMPERNICKEL PICKLE
CATERING

A SHARPER PALATE

FARMHOUSE CATERING

## CAKES











I know that some wedding magazines and blogs say cake is old school but these talented bakers will beg to differ! These bakery artists have crazy imagination and experience to create a modern take on wedding cakes, cupcakes and more!

There is a reason I recommend these ladies because their cakes are made from scratch and are so delicious. Don't miss my desserts recommendations next, this section is just for cake ya'll!

#### ANGELA HUDSON CAKES

**BUBBLE CAKE** 

SUGAR BLUSH BAKERY

BARRISTER'S BAKERY

CASEY'S CAKES

PRICELESS CUPS & CAKES

## DESSERTS & COFFEE













I LOVE sharing these vendors because my favorite dessert is actually ice cream and cookies! I am also loving the movement in the wedding world to include fun and unique desserts like donuts, coffee, specialty cookies, and ice cream trucks!!

I know you've seen some amazing dessert displays at weddings and on pinterest and you may want to do that for your wedding day. I have seen amazing work like that in person by these vendors!!

Some of them have the cutest food trucks that come to your reception and serve your guests in style! Every wedding that has had food trucks there have been a huge hit.

Bonus tip: Save money on favors and offer these sweet treats as your favors instead!

THE MUSE COFFEE CO

MAMA CROCKETT'S
CIDER DONUTS

HILLTOP COOKIE SHOP

ROOKIES ICE CREAM SHOP

SWEETS BY STEVIE

PASTEL CREATIVE CONFECTIONS

#### HAIR & MAKEUP











Hair & makeup is another thing that a lot of brides like to DIY. I cannot stress enough that hiring these pros is so important. These wedding professionals know that wedding days have timelines and they keep your bridal party on track to be ready for photos. This is especially true for larger bridal parties!

It is also a good idea to hire someone for hair & makeup so that you and your bridal party look fresh and beautiful for the entire day. DIY makeup never lasts and most of the time curls fall out before the ceremony... I know you and your girls don't want that!

Bonus Tip: Some stylists include a trial so you can test out your bridal look with your engagement session or bridal portraits.

HAIR BY EMILY MILLER

MANES BY LYONS

LOCKS AND LASHES

IN YOUR FACE MAKEUP ART

LACI FORE MAKEUP ARTISTRY
(AIR BRUSH)

MAKEUP BY SUMMER

#### PAPER & ART







These vendors are the ones with design skills that are out of this world. Whether it is art for your guest book, art for your new home together, beautiful invitation suites, menus, or other wedding paper needs, these talented ladies got you covered!

Ceremony painting is becoming a very popular trend and it is such a unique way to showcase this special moment in your home. Bekah Kinne put this painting up on display during the reception so their guests could see Chad & Mehgan's ceremony at Glass Hill Venue. It was a huge hit and now hangs in their home!!

Fun fact: We used Ms. Kyle at our wedding and used her artwork as our wedding favors! Our friends and family LOVED this idea and I know from experience wedding guests love this unique gift so much.

INVITATIONS: LINDSEY NICOLE LETTERING

INVITATIONS: DESIGNS BY ALLISON RENE

CUSTOM ART: JULIA M. PHILLIPS ART

CARICATURE ARTIST-KYLE EDGELL

CEREMONY ARTIST: BEKAH KINNE

CEREMONY ARTIST: SINCERELY SARAH STUDIOS

DECOR & SIGNAGE: HEART OF PINE DESIGN CO

CUSTOM CLAY JEWELRY: CLAY TREASURES

BOUQUET ART:
BLOSSOM AND RHYME DESIGNS

STYLING & RING BOXES: THE STYLING RESERVE

## PRINTING & ALBUMS









These are the companies we use and recommend to our couples! My couples are able to order professional prints online right through their online gallery. We make this process of ordering prints so easy and the prints will be shipped directly to our couple's home!

Our Wedding Experience with an album can be fully customized to share this special heirloom with your friends and family for years to come! These albums are the highest quality products with the paper that never fades. The leather, suede, and linen options are simply beautiful and our couples love having this high end heirloom to display in their homes!

Fun Fact: Minted keeps your address book saved on your account to use for future mailings such as thank you notes and Christmas cards!

KISS BOOKS
(OUR ALBUM COMPANY)

MILLERS PROFESSIONAL IMAGING

INVITATION ORDERING-MINTED

#### MISCELLANEOUS



These vendors are often forgotten but SO so needed on the wedding day. They don't have a category really but I added this fun miscellaneous section as a bonus for you!

I also included my favorite travel agent who does an excellent job planning fabulous honeymoons! So definitely check out these businesses for your wedding day.

Fun fact: James and I use Pets Spoiled Rotten to watch our pups when we are out of town for weddings. She is wonderful!

SEAMSTRESS: SEW RIGHT LLC

SEAMSTRESS: SEW SAVANNA

RENTALS: HAPPILY EVER AFTER RENTALS

RENTALS: FESTIVE FARE RENTALS

TRAVEL AGENT: ERIN LAFOON

TRAVEL AGENT: CONNOISSEUR TRAVEL

FIREWORKS: VIRGINIA SKYPAINTERS

PHOTOBOOTH: MOXBOX

PET SITTING: PETS SPOILED ROTTEN

SPRAY TANNING: SUNKISSED BY BETHANY

TRASNPORTATION:
EMERALD LIMOUSINE SERVICE

FAIRYTALE DREAMERS: CLASSIC CARRIAGE VA

## THANK YOU!

I'm so glad you grabbed this free resource for your wedding planning!

:) My hope is that this guide will help you bring your wedding day
vision to life and form your very own dream team! Make sure to let

them know I sent ya because we love working together!!

Enjoy this season of engagement and get excited about your BIG DAY because it's going to be fabulous! Plan and prepare but always remember that at the end of the day, you're marrying the love of your life and that's all that really matters.

Congratulations on your engagement and I look forward to hearing how I can serve you & your fiance on your wedding day with wedding photography! Be sure to visit my <u>BLOG</u> to view my most recent engagement sessions, weddings, and more free education like this guide!

Shify

