



@TAYLARDAWNPHOTOGRAPHY

✦ **Taylor Dawn** ✦
PHOTOGRAPHY

**YOUR GUIDE TO
KICK ASS
WEDDING PHOTOS**

Getting The Most Out Of Your Experience

THANK YOU & WELCOME

Hey Thank you so much for being here and placing value on your wedding photography! I believe that no matter which photographer you choose for your best day ever, you deserve amazing photographs! This guide can be used to prepare and communicate with your photographer to lead you to beautiful wedding photos!

In this guide, I will explain how to get the most of your wedding photography experience. Ready to make some magic? Let's go!

Xo, Taylar



WHAT'S TO COME



TIPS FROM MY EXPERIENCE AS A PHOTOGRAPHER

The info in this guide comes from years of photographing all kinds of weddings and all personalities of couples, as well as being a recent bride myself!

I hope it serves as inspiration and guidance for having the best time taking your wedding photograph.

Remember one thing as you continue, no two weddings are the same and there is not one definitive way to have your photographs taken. Communication with your photographer is key throughout this whole experience, so start and end with that!



SEARCH FOR CONNECTION AT THE START

THE INQUIRY PROCESS

I know that generally speaking, budget is a huge factor in who you choose for your vendors, but I believe connection is just as important. Your photographer will be spending the entire day with you and more, being present for all the intimate, raw, lovely moments. You will want to be able to turn to this person and confide in them with anything you may need. Make sure you connect with them enough to trust them with your most precious memories.

ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS

Most people aren't naturals in front of the camera, and that's okay! I highly encourage engagement sessions for anyone who's getting married and has invested in wedding photography, because you will have such a more trusting and relaxed experience on your big day if you already know the person that will be taking your photos!

These also help your photographer learn more about you- how you interact with each other, what sorts of activities and styles you like and don't, and what your wedding is going to be like!

A TRIAL RUN, BUT MAKE IT FUN!



ANTICIPATING THE DAY'S EVENTS

The Wedding Day timeline is the golden ticket to having an awesome photography experience and having enough time to get those romantic, candid and emotional photographs you'll love.

I build these with my couples about 6-8 weeks before their wedding day, and it allows us to work through unexpected travel, creating time for a first look, and other important aspects of the wedding day.

TIMELINE PLANNING



SAMPLE TIMELINE

A DAY WITH ONE PHOTOGRAPHER, A FIRST LOOK, AND NO TRAVEL



sample 8-hour timeline

- 11:00 – Details / Bride Getting Ready
- 11:30 – Bride in dress
- 12:00 – First look Dad
- 12:30 – Bride Groom First look
- 1:00 – Family Photos / Bridal Party
- 2:00 – Bridal Portraits
- 3:00 – Prepare for ceremony
- 4:00 – Ceremony
- 5:00 – Dinner / Speeches
- 5:45 – Champagne Tower
- 6:00 – Sunset Photos
- 6:45 – First Dances
- 7:00 – Coverage Ends

ALL IN THE DETAILS



THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING ALL YOUR DUCKS , EH JEWELRY IN A ROW

The first thing a photographer is generally focusing on when they arrive on your day is your beautiful details. Outfits, jewelry, invitations, love notes, bowties, doggy bandana; we want it all, because it helps us fully capture your story.

Take time the week before your wedding day to gather all of your details and put them all in a box! That way all the important things are in one place when your photographer arrives! The less time your detail photographs take, the more candid your photographer will be able to capture!

THE FIRST LOOK



A BEAUTIFUL MOMENT THAT LEADS TO EVERLASTING MEMORIES

When couples opt for a first look, they're choosing the first look to be with just each other instead of an entire guest list. Just think of the pressure relief that must be. The magic and emotions don't go away, ether. If anything, seeing each other before the ceremony creates the comfort to release all those happy tears because you don't have to "hold it together" until your person walks down the aisle, and then continue to keep the emotions in because it's the ceremony.

Speaking logistically though, this approach just makes the most sense for getting the most out of your photographs. If you take care of your portraits and formals before the ceremony, when you can better control your surroundings and know where everyone is, you're more likely to get more portraits together and more relaxed group photos.

CONSIDER LIGHTING



GOOD LIGHT REALLY DOES MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE.

Opt for the bistro lights over your reception table, and get ready in rooms with lots of window light, and don't schedule your ceremony too close to sunset. Lighting is an often overlooked aspect of the planning process, but it helps to create a beautifully warm atmosphere that will make your photographs look incredible!

BEING PRESENT



TAKING TIME TO ENJOY EVERY MOMENT TOGETHER

Your wedding day is going to be the best day of your life, and I believe you should be fully present for it. You already have your timeline of events, but make a mental note of stepping back and taking it all in.

I always recommend to my couples to make time for a private sunset photo session with just the two of you! Gives you both a chance to step away from everyone and soak in some newlywed bliss and relax!

Plus sunset is the BEST time for photos!

AFTER THE WEDDING



BACK UP YOUR IMAGES

To be safe, keep your images in three locations - cloud, hard drive, and off-site hard drive.



SHARE WITH GUESTS

Invite loved ones to revisit your special day through your photographs. Galleries are easy to send and allow guests to find and purchase photos of themselves as well.



ORDER AN ALBUM

There really is no better way to experience your memories than through print. See available options through my store here.

ONE FINAL NOTE



YOU'VE GOT THIS, AND YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE AN AMAZING DAY!

You now have the considerations to make your wedding day picture perfect. Trust in your photographer and make a conscious effort to be fully present and really take in the magic that unfolds around you as you partake in your newly wedded adventure together! It's going to be the best day ever!

No, Taylor Dawn