



Cardinal  
Photography

HOW TO PLAN YOUR  
**ENGAGEMENT**  
PHOTOSHOOT





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# CHOOSE THE RIGHT PHOTOGRAPHER

Finding the right photographer is key to making your vision come to life. Look for someone whose style matches your vibe—whether it's romantic, candid, or dramatic. Building trust with your photographer ensures you'll feel comfortable and authentic in front of the camera.

**Pro Tip:** Schedule a consultation to discuss your ideas and connect with your photographer.

# PICK THE PERFECT LOCATION

The setting plays a huge role in creating the vibe of your photos. Choose a location that's meaningful to you as a couple or aligns with the mood you want for your session.

## Ideas for Locations:

- City: Urban architecture, coffee shops, rooftops, or downtown streets.
- Nature: Parks, forests, beaches (like Galveston), or wide-open fields.
- Sentimental Spots: Where you had your first date or a place you love visiting together.
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**Pro Tip:** Your photographer can help you choose a location with the best lighting and accessibility.

# PLAN YOUR OUTFITS

Your outfits set the tone for your session, so choose looks that reflect your style and match the location.

What to Wear:

- **Coordinate, Don't Match:** Opt for complementary colors that harmonize rather than wearing identical outfits.
- **Comfort is Key:** Choose clothes that make you feel confident and comfortable.
- **Layers & Textures:** Add depth with jackets, scarves, or flowy fabrics.

**Pro Tip:** Avoid busy patterns and large logos—they can distract from the focus of the photo: you!



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# CHOOSE THE RIGHT TIME

Timing is everything for perfect lighting. Golden hour—the hour just after sunrise or before sunset—offers soft, flattering light that enhances every photo.

**Pro Tip:** Your photographer will recommend the best time of day based on your location and vision.

# ADD PERSONAL TOUCHES

Props and meaningful details can elevate your session and make it uniquely yours.

## **Ideas for Props:**

- A bouquet of flowers or a blanket for cozy shots.
- Champagne for a celebratory toast.
- Items that reflect shared hobbies or interests.

**Pro Tip:** Keep it simple to avoid taking the focus off your connection.

# RELAX AND BE YOURSELVES

The best photos happen when you're relaxed and having fun. Focus on each other, enjoy the moment, and trust your photographer to guide you.

**Pro Tip:** Laugh, play, and let your natural chemistry shine—it's those candid moments that create the most magical photos.



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# COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR PHOTOGRAPHER

Share your ideas, vision, and any specific shots you want. Your photographer is there to help bring your dream engagement session to life.

**Pro Tip:** Create a Pinterest board with inspiration to help communicate your style preferences.



# ENGAGEMENT PHOTOSHOOT CHECKLIST

Use this quick checklist to ensure you're fully prepared for your session:

- Book your photographer and schedule the session.
- Decide on a location and confirm it with your photographer.
- Plan and coordinate your outfits (don't forget accessories and shoes).
- Choose any props or personal touches you'd like to include.
- Schedule your session during the best time for lighting (golden hour recommended).
- Discuss your vision and preferences with your photographer.
- Confirm session details like time, location, and any necessary permits.
- Relax, have fun, and enjoy the experience!