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WEDDING & PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY



5 WAYS TO ELEVATE YOUR ENGAGEMENT SESSION

You're engaged... CONGRATULATIONS!

It's now time to start thinking about your engagement photos so you can announce to the world that you're getting married!

The Engagement Session is the perfect opportunity to get comfortable in front of the camera, to practice some of the poses you will recreate on your wedding day, to get used to your wedding photographer's style and guidance (hopefully that'll be me!), but most of all... it's time to SHINE!

Keep reading, and get my top 5 tips to elevate your engagement session to the next level!

1. Dress it UP!!

This is your chance to do it up!

Remember: there's no such thing as "too dressed up" when it comes to your engagement session, so don't be afraid to have some fun! Dresses and skirts tend to look most stunning on camera because they really flatter the female body. I recommend choosing long, flowy dresses or skirts because they're flattering on all body types, look amazing on camera, and bring extra movement and dimension to your photos. Maxi (or floor length) skirts and dresses will give us the best "twirl factor," add more romance to your walking photos, and look especially gorgeous when juxtaposed with nature, like the desert, forest, fields or beach.



When selecting an outfit for photos for him, the most important part isn't the price. It's the fit. For men, it's important to have a jacket that fits snugly (but not too tight), and pants that are the correct length and don't have too many breaks. Just like high heels make women look taller than they are, bunched up fabric stacked on top of a man's shoes makes him look physically shorter than he really is.

2. Style Your Session



If you want your engagement session images to look and feel a little more editorial, I recommend bringing a few small simple props with you, like fresh flowers to hold or a blanket to sit on. If you want to set up a picnic or incorporate another special element into your session, that's amazing! Maybe you have access to some larger props that have a real “wow” factor, like a boat, classic car, vintage bicycle, or hot air balloon. This is the time to dream a little bit and decide what really feels like you!

3. Pick the Perfect Location



The location of your portrait session is as important as your outfit! You want to make sure it reflects who you are as a couple, and you'll have tons of options to choose from here in New England. Are you sports fan? Maybe a session near Fenway is the perfect spot for you.

Are you outdoor lovers? A beach session or a field with wildflowers is what speaks to you. Do you prefer a session in the city? Those are perfect too. The most important thing is to pick an outdoor, open-air location. I love shooting in wide-open natural spaces because the light is divine, especially during golden hour!



4. GO PRO: Hair & Makeup

Professional hair and makeup should be at the top of your list for your engagement session! It looks amazing on camera and removes the stress of getting ready on your own. You'll have these photos forever, so this is the time to pamper yourself! Whether it's lash extensions or blown-out hair, professional hair and makeup will give you an extra boost of confidence in front of the camera, and it always photographs like a dream.

If you're working with a makeup artist, have her apply your makeup in natural light (if possible) so that it looks fresh and not too heavy. Plus, that's the type of light we'll be shooting in, so it'll give you the best expectation of how it will translate on camera.



5. Make a DATE out of it!



Every time I've done an engagement session, my couples tell me that it felt like a date (one of my brides told me that she felt they were falling in love all over again!), so why not make it a real DATE? After your session, you'll feel over the moon with the experience, and since you're all looking amazing, why not go out right after?

You're going to be married for a very long time, so why not enjoy your short engagement period? :)

Email me at hello@gloriagreenfield.com and get your engagement session on the calendar!