

10 VALUABLE TIPS FOR PLANNING YOUR DREAM WEDDING DAY

HOW TO MAXIMIZE YOUR DAY FOR ELEVATED PHOTOGRAPHY



BLUSH WOOD

Thank you for downloading this guide with 10 tips for ensuring a smooth wedding planning process and a seamless wedding day. Outlined here are our insights from countless weddings and even days when we wish the circumstances had been different. Our hope is that you will use these tips to maximize your Wedding experience and have the wedding photography of your dreams.

You ready!?



Courtney & Michael had their start in the adventurous and wild world of documentary photography. After a decade spanning the globe they began Blush Wood, shooting Weddings and Editorials across New York, the north east and destinations. Their style centers on beautiful light and editorial imagery, wrapped in a comfortable and fun bespoke experience. Their work has been featured in Virginia Bride magazine, The Knot, Munaluchi Bride, The New York Times, Tidewater & Tulle & more....

10 VALUABLE TIPS FOR YOUR WEDDING

HIRE A WEDDING PLANNER

No. 1

Your Wedding will be full of moving parts, details, arriving guests, important timelines and anticipation. A wedding planner will bring your plans and wedding vision to life. Having their expertise and hands on execution of every part of your day will allow you the space to enjoy the day of your dreams without the stress of handling the logistics. As the photography team when we work with skilled wedding planners we are able to focus fully on our work of crafting beautiful imagery of your wedding day!

The benefits of hiring a skilled wedding planning/coordinating team cannot go unstated.

PLAN YOUR DAY WITH THE SUN IN MIND

No. 2

We're natural light specialists because we believe that natural light, from the sun and its reflections create photographs that feel fresh, timeless and truest to you.

The style of our work is centered on natural light. We prefer to photograph all of the important details of your wedding in natural light for a cohesive and beautiful look throughout. It's important to take into account that the sun sets much earlier during the colder months of the year and much later during the warmer months, so make sure to factor that in when choosing the key events of your wedding (Ceremony, Cocktail and Reception).

We work with your planner to build a timeline around the best, most dreamy light to make sure your day looks beautiful in photographs. A little part of our heart breaks when the most stunning light of the day fades away without an opportunity to photograph you in it.

No. 3 HAVE AN ENGAGEMENT SESSION

Don't miss an engagement session with us! This is a great opportunity for you to get in front of our cameras and for you to get comfortable with us before your wedding day. We are great at putting our couples at ease and photographing you looking your best!

An Engagement session is a wonderful time to be creative, to think outside of the box and create stunning portraits with us that will set the stage for a luxurious wedding experience! We encourage you to think big!

Perhaps it's securing permissions to a location that would otherwise be off-limits, like a private estate, country club, resort, a family ranch, upscale hotel or even a boat or a rooftop view. The sky is literally the limit!

No. 4 CREATE A TIMELINE WITH ROOM TO BREATHE

Delays in a timeline can significantly alter the outcome of your portraiture time prior to your ceremony. Set arrival times 15 minutes early to your family and bridal party. Factoring in buffer times also allows for wiggle room in the event of delays. Give your hair and makeup artists plenty of time before your photography begins to ensure that you are ready for all the pretty getting ready portraiture.



CHOOSE A LOVELY GETTING READY LOCATION

No. 5

The location that you choose to begin your wedding photography sets the tone for your coverage. Your getting ready location will be where the majority of your initial portraiture will take place as well as the location where your details will be photographed. We highly recommend selecting locations that are spacious and flooded with natural light and elegant decor. For the most dreamy, timeless photos, you will want your getting ready location to be full of natural light!

YOUR DETAILS WILL ELEVATE YOUR PHOTOS

No. 6

It's all in the details!! All the beautiful still life photos that you admire require time to stylize and to shoot. Your full paper invitation suites, heirlooms, designer shoes, dress, wedding rings and other details that you would like included in your memories all take time. When planning your coverage account for this time for us to make sure your details are captured beautifully. Consider incorporating heirlooms, antique trays, ribbon, fabric etc that will add an elevated look to your Wedding photographs. Ask your florist to set aside additional blooms for this portion of your coverage.

If you are using unique linens during your reception, order an extra one for your details!!

BRING AN EXTRA WOW FACTOR!!

No. 7

Want your photos to look more editorial?

By incorporating classic cars, ambient light, a reception dress, shoes and an epic entrance or exit during your party, your wedding can have that Vogue-esque style that we love so much, especially in reception coverage!



No. 8 **CONSIDER A FIRST LOOK**

By having all of the majority of your key portraiture taken prior to your ceremony you will open up the evening to enjoy your celebration. Seeing each other before the ceremony also loosens up nerves and allows you to enjoy the celebration together throughout the day. We understand your desire to attend cocktail hour. By having all of your key portraits before the ceremony only your family group portraits will be left for immediately after the ceremony.

No. 9 **CONSIDER AN UNPLUGGED CEREMONY**

Nothing will ruin beautiful and sentimental photographs more than guests leaning into the aisle with a cell phone or point and shoot camera to snap a photo of your grand entrance into your ceremony. Plan to ask your officiant to ask all guests to turn off their phones during the ceremony.

No. 10 ENJOY AND LEAVE THE REST TO US!

Ultimately, your future memories are the most important thing to us, and we want your Wedding to be a time for you to just be in the moment, to enjoy yourselves and all the people who have come to celebrate with you! Have fun together, laugh, cry, eat, drink, celebrate... And we'll take care of the rest!

xx,
Courtney & Michael



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