

# Wedding GUIDE

THE NARRATIVE



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2024  
**Client Guide**



[info@thenarrativeweddings.com](mailto:info@thenarrativeweddings.com)

[@thenarrativeweddings](https://www.instagram.com/thenarrativeweddings)

# so you're about to TIE THE KNOT



**welcome**

I'm ecstatic for you! This guide is packed with helpful tips that is aimed to assist you throughout the entire process of your wedding planning. My goal is to be so much more than your photographer.

I'd love for you to consider me your friend because we'll be spending a lot of time together on your wedding day! Over the years, I've picked up a few tricks that will help me ensure that your images are simply stunning since you deserve nothing less. Allow me to give you the lowdown on what you may expect.

# your journey

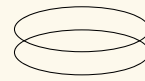
✦ STARTS HERE ✦

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## WHERE TO START

# where do YOU START?



## GET THE VISION FOR YOUR BIG DAY

It's your wedding day! You get to plan the wildest and most gorgeous celebration you can think of — the sky's the limit! OR the coziest backyard shindig that feels like home. Now that you have the opportunity to plan the wedding of your dreams, begin by keeping a journal or note in your phone dedicated only to your dream wedding. Make a note of every little detail you can think of so you have a quick reference and don't forget any of your brilliant ideas! Perhaps some fireworks and a spectacular entrance to get your guests' attention or maybe you have hand written notes for each guest leaving them with lasting memories? What mood do you wish to convey? What do you want to feel and experience as the bride and groom on the most important day of your life?

## SET A WEDDING BUDGET

Now that you have a vision for your big day, you're already halfway there with your budget. Making a budget will assist you in keeping track of all of your costs and seeing the bigger picture. Budgeting will also guide you in planning the remainder of your wedding as you determine what you want and don't want, where you want to spend and where you want to save a little money. This brings us to your must-haves: the things you will establish as your non-negotiables will receive the majority of your budget so that you can bring your dream wedding into reality.

*Pro Tip:* create a wedding email address so you can easily keep all things *wedding* organized



# PLANNER

VS.

# COORDINATOR

While a wedding planner helps design, plan, and manage your wedding from start to finish, a day-of coordinator focuses on executing your well-laid plans on the big day.

For weddings with over 20 guests, I **require** that you have at least a day-of-coordinator. They ensure everything runs smoothly and on time, freeing you to fully enjoy your special day without worrying about logistics. This also allows me, as your photographer, to focus entirely on capturing your beautiful moments without taking on the additional role of coordinating events.

Speaking from experience, having someone to ensure vendors arrive on time, all decor is properly displayed, dinner is served promptly, and the venue is cleaned up at the end of the night, is essential!



FOREVER



film



*timeless*



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# money SAVING TIPS

## MAKE YOUR GUEST LIST THE A-LIST

It should go without saying that a smaller guest list is better for your budget as well as your sanity! Even if it's impossible to reduce your list to 20 people, reducing it from 300 to 150 will help you go from being overwhelmed to feeling it's manageable. An intimate celebration, more often than not, necessitates less money and effort — and it comes with a priceless bonus: more quality time with the smaller group of guests you invited!

## FLOWERS AND FOOD IN SEASON

Seasonal and local are two words that will help you save money on catering and flowers. When you buy in season, you obtain food and flowers at their peak of supply when prices are typically lower. Plus, they don't have to be shipped halfway around the world when they're cultivated locally. As a result, you not only save money but also minimize your carbon footprint. Win-win.





## PICK A LOCATION THAT LOOKS GREAT AU NATURALE

You will save money on rentals and decorative items if you choose a wedding venue that does not require much decoration. Allow nature's beauty to do the work for you in outdoor areas with stunning views!



## HAVE YOUR ENTIRE WEDDING AT ONE VENUE

You won't have to stress about the difficulties or additional costs of getting everyone from the ceremony to the reception.

## FIND A VENUE THAT WILL LET YOU BYOB

For many weddings, alcohol is a big expense, so keeping control of the cost-per-bottle is critical to keeping that expense in check. Look for places where you can buy and serve your own alcohol so you can keep tabs on the price.



# the wedding TIMELINE



Start with the ceremony time and work from there. Whether your ceremony is indoors or outdoors, consider the time of the sunset. You can go to [timeanddate.com](http://timeanddate.com) to see exactly when that will be. If you're getting married in the warmer months, you may consider having your ceremony closer to sunset so the heat isn't unbearable, however if you're getting married in the colder months, you may want to have an earlier start time to enjoy more daylight for photos and cocktail hour.

Do you want couples photos at golden hour? As your photographer, I would highly suggest to build at least 15-20 minutes into your schedule where you can escape the party to not only have a moment to yourselves but to also let me capture the love and excitement you are feeling in the best lighting.

Once you have the ceremony start time, cocktail hour typically follows, during which family photos tend to take place. If you have a large list of family photos to capture, consider making cocktail hour slightly longer so you don't feel rushed.

If you are doing a first look, block about an hour on the timeline to get couple portraits done before the ceremony, however if you are not, plan for more time during cocktail hour.

Remember it's your day, so use this as a baseline and customize it to fit your unique plans!

# Sample TIMELINE



8 HOURS OF COVERAGE  
WITH A FIRST LOOK

1:30	Getting ready and detail photos
2:30	First look and couple photos
3:30	Wedding party photos
4:00	Guests arrive
4:30	Ceremony
5:00	Cocktail hour / Family photos
6:00	Grand entrance / First dance
6:30	Dinner begins
7:00	Speeches / Toast
7:30	Golden hour photos
7:45	Cake cutting
8:00	Dance party
10:00	Last dance

*Note: Unless you have a grand exit, you may not want photo coverage of the entire dance party.*



# in the ✦ mood ✦ FOR LOVE

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# the wedding DETAILS

You have probably spent hours and hours carefully picking various details of your wedding and I enjoy photographing them as part of your day's story! Please gather all of your wedding details and have them available for me to shoot when I arrive. After greeting you, I'll begin taking detail photographs while your hair and makeup are being done. I suggest gathering these items in a box ahead of time.

**Quick tip:** If you want clutter-free getting ready images, designate a room or a section of the room as the bag area and keep most of your belongings there.





# Details BOX

## THINGS THAT MATTER



## FOR THE BRIDE

- Shoes
- The rings
- All other jewelry
- Headpieces
- Perfume
- Bouquet
- Garters/handkerchiefs
- Pretty Dress Hanger
- Wedding stationary with envelopes i.e. invitations, programs, thank you cards.

## FOR THE GROOM

- Shoes
- Pocket square / Tie / Bowtie
- Belt
- Socks (If patterned)
- Cologne
- Cufflinks
- Watch

## OTHERS

- Vow Books
- Ring Box
- Any other special details





# Client TESTIMONIALS

MOAB, OCTOBER 2020

**Leslie & Drew**



Absolutely effortless, at organically creating magic. You can't hide talent and that is just what this power team have together. A natural eye for seeing the beauty in all things around them and perfectly capturing and captivating the moment and the story. Be smart and hire someone that can tell your story in the most beautiful way. They stay trending and ahead of the game as well but yet the work is timeless.

It's true art!!!



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# getting READY



I'd like to capture your excitement and emotion while you prepare — those priceless moments with your bridesmaids, mother, sister, or anyone else who is assisting you. These photographs usually end up being my favorites. There's something about the jitters leading up to the wedding, the small moments of "this is it," and the often booze-induced chuckles with your best friends.

This part is primarily candid. However, I try to make sure everyone is mostly ready before I start photographing them. You probably don't want a photo of yourself with half-done makeup or hair.

## what to WEAR

You'll want to ensure that you're getting ready in a way that you'd want to be captured in photos. It's absolutely up to you how you go about doing so. For some brides, having their bridal party wear matching outfits is the way to go. Others would think of it as giving everyone a customized shirt or robe to wear while getting their hair and makeup done. After all, you're not just making memories on your wedding day; you're also preserving them. By the time I enter the room, you should all be looking and feeling fantastic!





# the SPACE



## ✧ **location** LOCATION ✧ **location**

After your venue and ceremony area, the getting ready space is the most important location on your wedding day. It's where you'll spend the morning with your wedding party, get ready and have photographs taken. When picking a location for getting ready, look for an open space with plenty of natural light. Consider renting out a lovely Airbnb or boutique hotel room if the space provided by your venue does not seem to be a suitable fit.

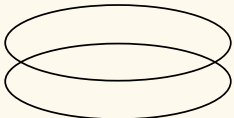




# GRAND DECISIONS



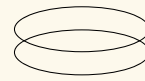
and *small* moments



forever



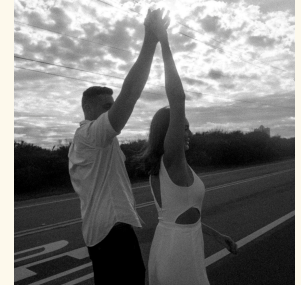
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## THE FIRST LOOK



# First LOOK



Let's face it: your wedding is both the best and one of the most stressful days of your life. I **LOVE** doing a first look with my couples since it allows you to have a quiet moment with your partner before the ceremony. You get to take a break from the hustle and bustle to spend some quality time with each other and leave the nerves before you walk down the aisle.

You want to see that teary, emotional reaction from your partner when you first see each other. However, when you're up in front of a large crowd, it's difficult to concentrate on anything other than the faces staring at you.

What I've discovered is that having a first look gives you a safe space to be emotional and enjoy the moment. After seeing each other for the first time, you can hug, kiss, twirl, and get a good look at each other without feeling rushed. First-look photos give you a moment in your crazy day to tell each other how much you love each other in private.

I'm a sucker for first looks, so it goes without saying that I adore them. But this isn't about me, so if you prefer to stick to the traditional way, that's fine! I never want my couples to feel like I'm pressuring them to have a first look, but I do want you to be informed!

# the couples

# ★ PHOTOS

After the first look, we'll capture some photos of just the two of you. I suggest you ask your friends and family to give you space during this part. Most people find it easier to relax when they aren't in front of an audience. But hey, if you prefer to have your own personal hype team with you, go ahead! We'll do this section straight after the ceremony if you don't do a first look. In either case, you're overflowing with joy and love, and these images will prove it!

## *but we're awkward in photos..*

That's one of the most common worries I hear. When this concern is brought up, it typically means "I've never had professional photos taken before" or "I'm awkward/nervous in front of the camera" and it's one of my favorites to answer because I always say, "It doesn't matter!"

You won't be stiffly posed or nervously standing in an uncomfortable position long enough to wonder what your hands are meant to do. I'm sure you've had enough of that with school photos. Expect to be reminded of the power and beauty of your love story by laughing until it hurts and running around like weirdos. I will never try to change you into something you aren't; instead, I will give you the freedom to be the fullest version of yourself because I believe that's where beautiful imagery emerges. This isn't a photo shoot for Vogue, you're much more interesting than that.

You'll leave with hundreds of photographs capturing your love for each other. Believe me when I say you're going to look amazing!



# schedule in a moment to *YOURSELVES*

Your wedding day is a whirlwind of joy, celebration, and cherished moments, but it's also essential to take a moment for yourself amidst the festivities. Whether you steal a quiet moment after the ceremony, find a secret spot during dinner, or share a private last dance, these pauses allow you to breathe, reflect, and truly savor the significance of the day. Brief interludes not only provide a sense of calm but also create intimate memories that you and your partner will cherish for a lifetime.

You might hear this a lot but it's only because it's true- the day *flies* by! You spend so long planning it and then it's over in the blink of an eye, which is why I am so grateful for my couples who trust me to capture their day for them. If you want me to capture photos of your private moments from afar, please let me know, or if you want your space during this time, I will respect that too! Either way soak in the love surrounding you and build a moment into your timeline for you two.



# Nostalgia ✦ ✦ THAT LASTS

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# the wedding PARTY

It's time for the wedding party after your first look and couple's photos. I'll take some shots of just one partner's side, then the other's, as well as a group shot of everyone. I'll also make sure to grab individual shots of the two of you with members of your party. If you don't want to do a first look, we'll do this portion of photos after the ceremony.

I know you want your wedding to be a blast for all of your best friends. So, like with the couple's shoot, I avoid stiff poses. One of my favorite wedding party prompts is to have the couple kiss while everyone else cheers loudly!

**GET EVERYONE'S BOUQUETS  
READY AND BOUTONNIÈRES ON!**







# the CEREMONY



ceremony



And we're finally here! This is the moment you've been looking forward to. It's easy to get caught up in all the preparations and stress but remember the most important thing is that this is the beginning of your lives together. *Savor this moment!*

The usual ceremony lasts approximately 30 minutes, but if you want to include any specific traditions, I'd recommend giving yourselves an hour.

A few important tips that I have - Ask your officiant to have everyone take a seat after you walk down the aisle and then have them move out of the way before the first kiss so they aren't in the background of the photo. Don't be afraid to hold your kiss longer than usual and/or stop halfway down the aisle for another kiss!



# unplugged WEDDING



When you marry the love of your life, you ask all of your closest friends and family to be there to rejoice with you and witness your union. You want them to be there to share this special moment with you; you want to see their faces, their grins, and their tears of joy and excitement as you walk down the aisle. You don't want to glance back down the aisle and find people taking shots of you with cameras and phones covering their faces.

I've witnessed many situations where a guest's phone is sticking out into the aisle, obstructing not just the moment but also the images I'm capturing as your photographer. I strongly recommend having an unplugged ceremony to avoid phones dangling down the aisle and to allow guests to be more present.

There are a few ways to inform your guests if you decide to have an unplugged wedding. Tell them early through the invite by adding a line that says, "We would love you to be there, but we are having an unplugged wedding, please don't take any photos during the ceremony." You can also request that the officiant make a brief announcement requesting guests to turn off their phones and refrain from taking photos.

# the FAMILY

My goal is for you to have the most enjoyable and efficient family photos possible! While they may appear daunting, I am here to make them go smoothly. Here are some tips:

## LET YOUR FAMILY KNOW

**Make sure the family members who will be in your group shots are aware ahead of time.** You can also have your officiant make an announcement asking family members to meet for photos after the ceremony in a designated location. Don't feel the need to do this directly after the ceremony- enjoy a cocktail and appetizer or have a moment alone and then do photos.

## PREPARE A SHOT LIST

Before your wedding, I will request a shot list so that I can get all of the family photo combinations you want. That way, I can call out who is up next and we won't forget any shots that you listed.





## PERSON IN CHARGE

It can be a huge help to have a friend or family member who knows your families to assist in making sure everyone in the family photos is there and ready to go.



## BIG TO SMALL GROUP

I always start with the largest group and work my way down to smaller groups so that anyone who is no longer required can go enjoy themselves. I also recommend taking photos of grandparents or older guests first so that they can be dismissed earlier as well.

## AVOID PHONE PHOTOS

When a guest takes a photo over my shoulder, it can confuse folks about where to look and slow down the process. Please ask guests to refrain from taking photos with their phones.



# client TESTIMONIALS

DENVER, JUNE 2019

**Kelsey & Taran**



Jarrold and his wife, Taylor, are truly a dream to work with! Jarrold really worked every angle and background to make it look like we spent an entire day shooting. They far exceeded our expectations and we can't thank them enough for giving us beautiful, lasting memories from such an important time in our lives. This couple is seriously amazing - genuine, fun, and experts at what they do!! Book them!



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# the RECEPTION

You've done it! Woohoo! You're married, it's time to celebrate! I'll be there to shoot candid photos during the reception but if you have any special plans like a dress change or surprise dance, let me know so I can be prepared. You have the freedom to make the reception your own and the possibilities are endless!



## HERE ARE THE USUAL RECEPTION EVENTS:

- grand entrance
- toasts
- first dance
- parent dances
- bouquet toss
- garter toss
- cake cutting
- grand exit



TODAY &



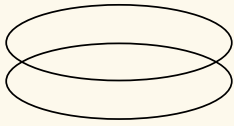
everyday



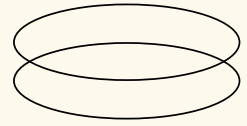
**forever**



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Please write your must have shots here. You can send me a photo afterwards and we can brainstorm!

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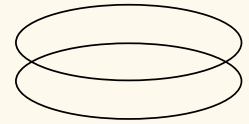
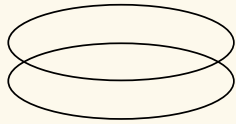
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# ✦ get in TOUCH ✦



Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is anything else I can do to assist you beyond this guide! As a reminder, one month before your wedding, we will have a final phone conversation and walk through everything. In the meantime, happy wedding planning!



[info@thenarrativeweddings.com](mailto:info@thenarrativeweddings.com)



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**cheers**