

# Wedding Photography Shot List + Cam Settings

## Pre-Ceremony

### Shots:

- Bride getting ready (hair, makeup, dress, shoes, accessories)
- Groom getting ready (tie, cufflinks, shoes, watch)
- Details: rings, bouquet, invitation, perfume, boutonniere
- Family candid moments

### Tip

For rings / watches / small items, keep them against the window, let the light flow in as the backdrop.

Alternatively, you can use a fake window light to shine on the objects.

- **Reflection Shot:** Capture the bride looking at herself in the mirror while adjusting her dress or veil—adds a cinematic, emotional feel.

## Camera Settings

- Lens: 24-70mm f/2.8 or 50mm f/1.8
- ISO: 400–800 (depending on lighting)
- Aperture: f/2.8–f/4 for shallow depth, f/5.6 for group shots
- Shutter: 1/125s–1/250s (adjust for movement)
- White Balance: Auto or Custom

# Ceremony

## Shots:

- Venue wide shot (before guests arrive)
- Guests arriving
- Processional (bride walking down aisle, groom reaction)
- Exchange of vows
- Ring exchange
- First kiss
- Candid guest reactions
- silhouette shots

## Camera Settings:

- Lens: 24-70mm f/2.8, 70-200mm f/2.8 (for distant shots)
- ISO: 800–3200 (indoor/low light)
- Aperture: f/2.8–f/4
- Shutter: 1/125s–1/250s
- Focus: Continuous AF for moving subjects
- Consider spot metering on the couple

### Tip

**Silhouette Kiss:** Backlight the couple during the first kiss by exposing for the bright background (like a window or sunset) to create a romantic silhouette.

# Post-Ceremony / Family & Group Shots

## Shots:

- Bride & Groom portraits
- Family portraits (bride side, groom side, full family)
- Wedding party (bridesmaids, groomsmen, mixed)
- Candid fun moments

## Camera Settings:

- Lens: 24-70mm f/2.8 or 35mm f/1.8 for portraits
- Aperture: f/2.8–f/5.6 (group shots need deeper DOF)
- ISO: 400–800 (outdoor), 800–1600 (indoor)
- Shutter: 1/125s or higher

### Tip

**Overhead Group Shot:** If possible, find a balcony or higher vantage point to shoot the entire wedding party from above—it gives a fresh perspective and energy to traditional group shots.

# Reception

## Shots:

- Venue wide shot (decor, tables, lighting)
- Cake cutting
- First dance
- Speeches and reactions
- Bouquet toss / garter toss
- Guests dancing & candid moments
- Details: centerpieces, favors, signage

## Camera Settings:

- Lens: 24-70mm f/2.8, 50mm f/1.8 for low-light
- ISO: 1600–6400 (dim lighting)
- Aperture: f/1.8–f/2.8
- Shutter: 1/60s–1/125s (use flash if needed)
- Consider bounce flash or diffuser for natural look

### Tip

**Motion Blur Dance Shot:** Use a slightly slower shutter (1/30s–1/60s) and pan with the dancing couple to capture movement and energy while keeping them sharp—adds drama and fun to the dance floor shots.

# General Tips

- Keep a backup camera & lenses ready
- Shoot RAW for maximum post-processing flexibility
- Use continuous shooting mode for key moments
- Bring extra batteries & memory cards
- Scout locations for best light in advance

## Tip

**Golden Hour Portraits:** If timing allows, sneak the couple outside near sunset for a soft, warm backlight—always gives magical, cinematic portraits.