



www.gc2photoclub.com

The Photographers Knowledgebase

First - Words of Wisdom and Warning

If you are going to shoot a wedding we recommend you attend several wedding shoots alongside an experienced wedding photographer before doing one on your own, it is not as easy as some may have you believe – it's a very stressful day for a photographer and requires many more skills than just photography.

Wedding photography is a specialized subject and, again, we recommend that you don't take on such a task unless you have a sound grounding of what is required of you and a plan of where you'll be, at what time and what you'll be photographing at each point during the day.

If you're going to do it then good luck, just remember, there are no second chances here, if you get it wrong on the day there is no chance of doing it all again! **You have been warned.** Getting it wrong will spell disaster and possibly the end of a friendship.

The first and most important thing you must do is plan your day as the photographer, along with the Bride and Groom - plan, plan and plan some more - well in advance. If you fail to plan you plan to fail, trying to wing it will get you in big trouble.

Visit each location approximately 2 weeks in advance, that way you'll know roughly where the sun will be, which way the shadows will fall and which direction people should face – plan your shots carefully.

Please use this list as a guideline to common shots taken during a wedding day shoot. This is not a definitive list by far, however it will help the inexperienced wedding photographer ensure the basics are covered.

Stay sharp throughout the day and keep an eye out for any photo opportunity. For every great shot you get there will be many you'll miss, this is expected – you can't be everywhere at once.

This list is provided as a helpful guide only, to assist the inexperienced photographer, and GC2 Photo Club, Geoff Cable and Gary Crouch accept no responsibility for anyone attempting to photograph a wedding without the relevant knowledge, equipment, skills or experience.

Good luck.



www.gc2photoclub.com





The Photographers Knowledgebase

WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHY CHECKLIST

Wedding Date ____/____/____ Start Time _____

Start Location _____

At the Brides Home

Mother/Chief bridesmaid adjusting veil	
Bride putting on garter with bridesmaid/s looking on	
Bride in bedroom mirror getting ready	
Corsage being pinned on mother	
Corsage being pinned on father	
Portrait of mother and bride	
Portrait of father and bride	
Brothers and/or sisters and bride	
Group shot of whole party	
Bride with individual bridesmaids etc.	
Bride leaving house with parents and bridesmaid/s	
Father helping bride into car	
Shot of bride in back of car from the front seat looking back	

At the Church Prior to Service

Groom waiting	
Groom and best man	
Groom, best man and page boys	
Best man adjusting grooms tie	
Groom and best man shaking hands	
Groom with father	
Groom with mother	
Groom and best man at front of church waiting	
Guests arriving at the church	
Bride arriving in car	
Bride exiting car father helping	
Bride kissing father on the cheek	
Bride with mother and father looking on	
Bride and bridesmaid/s group shot in church garden or vestibule	





The Photographers Knowledgebase

During the service

Bridal party coming down the aisle	
Bridesmaid/s, flower girls etc. coming down the aisle	
Bride and father coming down the aisle	
Father giving bride away	
General shots of ceremony (wherever allowed)	
From rear of church looking down the aisle at couple	
Above from organ area or balconies	
Ad hoc shots of guests/church	
Breaking of glass/jumping of broom etc.	
Soloists	
Readers	
Ring ceremony	
Kissing	
Exchanging of vows	

After the Service Inside the Church

Bride signing the register	
Groom signing the register	
Bride and groom signing the register	
Best man signing the register	
Maid of honour signing the register	
Bride and groom coming back down the aisle	

After the Service Outside the Church

Groom kissing bride full length	
Groom kissing bride ¾ length	
Groom kissing bride close up head shot	
Bride and groom looking at ring	
Bride and grooms hands with rings and flowers	
Bride and groom with vicar/registrar etc.	
Bride, groom and bridal party	
Bride with bridesmaid/s and flowers	
Bride with best man and groomsmen	
Groom with bridesmaid/s	
Bride and groom in church door	
Bride and groom leaving church	
Bride, groom, bridesmaid/s, best man and groomsmen outside church	
Group shots (to be arranged as per the family)	
Bride and groom with bride's parents	
Bride and groom with groom's parents	
Bride and groom with bride's immediate family	
Bride and groom with groom's immediate family	





The Photographers Knowledgebase

Bride with her mother	
Bride with her father	
Bride with both parents	
Groom with his mother	
Groom with his father	
Groom with both parents	
Bride and groom with both sets of parents	
Bride and groom or either with special members of family/friends	
Couple getting into wedding car	
Shot of couple from front seat or through sunroof etc.	
Shot of car with couple and church in background	

Special Shots (couple and photographer only)

Various shots at a predetermined destination	
Couple sitting with dress train spread out	
Couple on bridge looking at water	
Couple next to a tree	
Couple walking in woods	
Couple walking on beach	
Couple in ruins of old building	
Close ups of hands and rings	
Any other special shots	

At the Reception

Note: When photographing children get down to their level

Detail shots of the hall/tables/name cards/bottles/glasses etc. before guests arrive	
Wedding cake	
Receiving line	
Couple greeting guests that were at ceremony	
Children playing in the hall / jumping from stage or steps	
Bridesmaids spinning with flared dresses (get low but ensure no underwear can be seen)	
Evening guests arriving and kissing/hugging Bride/Groom	
Guest book entries (Look regularly throughout the evening)	
Guests actually signing book	
Gifts	
Toasts	
Close up of bride and groom on top table	
Close up of bride and groom toasting	
Various shots of guests during meal/speeches (not while eating)	
Bride's fathers speech	
Grooms speech	
Best man's speech	
Any other speeches	
First dance	





The Photographers Knowledgebase

Bride and father dancing	
Groom and mother dancing	
Other family or guests dancing	
Candid's of any shenanigans during reception (keep it clean)	
Cutting the cake	
Bride throwing bouquet (mock up)	
Bride throwing bouquet (actual)	
Set up of bride and groom leaving	
Actual shot of Bride and groom leaving (if you are still there)	
Shot of decorated car	
Car leaving reception	

Any Other Shots

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Notes

