

# Wedding Tips

Helpful tips and tricks  
to make your day a  
little easier

*Salty Oak* PHOTOGRAPHY









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My name is Jacyntha-lee and I am the business owner and founder of Salty Oak Photography.

I absolutely love doing everything I can to provide my clients the best possible service to ensure their valuable memories are preserved in the best possible way, so I have put together this guide in the hopes it will give you some little tips and tricks that you may not have thought of yet to make your very special wedding day a little less stressful!

*Jacyntha-lee*

# About this guide

Planning a wedding can be an exciting yet overwhelming experience, filled with countless decisions, details, and emotions. But fear not! This wedding guide is here to offer guidance, inspiration, and practical tips to ensure that your journey from "Yes" to "I do" is nothing short of extraordinary.

I've compiled a wealth of knowledge, insights, and practical advice to help you navigate the wedding planning process with ease and confidence.

welcome

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# FIRST THINGS FIRST

1. *Determine your budget early on and allocate funds to different aspects of the wedding, such as venue, catering, decor, and attire. Stick to your budget throughout the planning process.*
2. *Start planning well in advance to ensure you have enough time to make decisions, book vendors, and handle any unexpected challenges.*
3. *Make a comprehensive checklist to keep track of all the tasks and deadlines leading up to the wedding day. This will help you stay organized and ensure that nothing is overlooked.*
4. *Use a wedding binder or digital tool to store important documents, contracts, and contact information. This will help you stay organized and easily access information when needed.*





# BUDGET TIPS

Planning a budget-friendly wedding requires careful planning, resourcefulness, and prioritization.



# TOP 5 BUDGET TIPS

1. Determine the aspects of your wedding that are most important to you and allocate a larger portion of your budget to those areas
2. Be mindful of your guest list size, as it directly impacts various wedding expenses such as catering, venue space, and invitations
3. Embrace DIY projects and personal touches to add a unique flair to your wedding while saving money. Create your own centerpieces, design and print your invitations, or craft wedding favors.
4. Consider scheduling your wedding during off-peak seasons or on weekdays. Venues and vendors often offer discounted rates during less popular times, allowing you to secure better deals.
5. Research and compare prices among different vendors before making a final decision. Seek recommendations, negotiate contracts, and explore more affordable options without compromising on quality



# WHAT TO BOOK FIRST

When it comes to planning a wedding, there are several key elements that should be booked early on to ensure availability and to lay a strong foundation for the rest of the planning process. Here are five important things to book first for a wedding:

1. **Venue:** The venue sets the stage for your entire wedding day, so securing a venue should be one of your top priorities.
2. **Caterer:** Food is a central component of any wedding celebration. Consider scheduling tastings to sample their menu options and finalize a catering contract that suits your requirements.
3. **Photographer/Videographer:** Capturing the precious moments of your wedding day is essential. Find a professional photographer and/or videographer whose style resonates with you and whose portfolio showcases the quality and aesthetic you desire.







4. **Officiant:** If you plan to have a ceremony that is more personalized or non-traditional, finding an officiant/celebrant who shares your vision and values is crucial.

5. **Wedding Planner/Coordinator:** Hiring a wedding planner or coordinator can be immensely beneficial, particularly if you're working with a busy schedule or have limited experience in wedding planning.

Remember, every wedding is unique, and your priorities may vary based on personal preferences and specific circumstances. However, by securing these key elements early on, you'll have a solid foundation for the rest of your wedding planning and can focus on the finer details as your special day approaches.





## CHOOSING A VENUE

Before you start searching for venues, have a clear vision of your desired wedding style and budget. Consider whether you want a rustic, modern, garden, beach, or formal wedding ect. This will help you narrow down your options and find venues that align with your aesthetic preferences and your financial state.



*Schedule visits to multiple venues to get a sense of their ambiance, layout, and available amenities. Walk through the spaces, envisioning how your wedding will flow within each venue. Take note of any restrictions, such as noise regulations, vendor restrictions, or decor limitations.*

*Think about the time of year you plan to get married. Consider whether the venue offers indoor and outdoor options or has suitable backup plans in case of inclement weather. If you have a specific season or date in mind, book the venue well in advance to secure your desired date.*

*Remember to thoroughly review contracts, ask about payment schedules, and clarify any questions or concerns you may have before signing any agreements.*







## GETTING READY

- Wake up early and give yourself ample time to start the day without feeling rushed. This will allow you to relax, enjoy the process, and set a positive tone for the rest of the day.
- Start your day with a healthy and satisfying breakfast to fuel your energy levels. Choose foods that won't cause bloating or discomfort throughout the day.
- Drink plenty of water to keep yourself hydrated. Consider having a bottle of water nearby throughout the morning to sip on.





- Avoid trying any new skincare products or treatments on the morning of your wedding. Stick to the products and routine that you know work well with your skin to minimize the risk of irritation or unexpected reactions.
- Make sure your getting-ready space is clean, clutter-free, and well-lit. Play some relaxing music or create a playlist that sets a positive and calm ambiance.
- Choose comfortable clothing that can easily be removed without messing up your hair and makeup when it's time to put on your wedding attire. Consider wearing a button-up shirt or a robe that won't interfere with your hair or makeup.



# FOR THE PHOTOGRAPHY

- Steam ALL of the dresses the night before.
- Put all detail shot item in one spot. Typical Detail items are: all 3 rings (engagement and wedding bands--make sure you've cleaned them!), ring box, shoes, veil, earrings, necklace, invitation suites, perfume bottles, special mementos, some spare florals
- Typical Detail items for the guys are: tie, cufflinks, watch, socks, shoes, cologne bottle, small liquor bottle, special mementos, etc.
- Clean the area as you go! Or have someone in charge of keeping the area tidy.





It's always a good idea to have someone on hand that knows how to tie a tie, and put on boutonniere for the men, or at least have them learn how to before the wedding day.

And for the ladies, have someone practice how to bustle your dress, or take a video on how to do it.

# TIMELINE TIPS



*Determine your priorities and goals for the day. What are the must-have elements and events? This will help you structure the timeline around these key moments.*



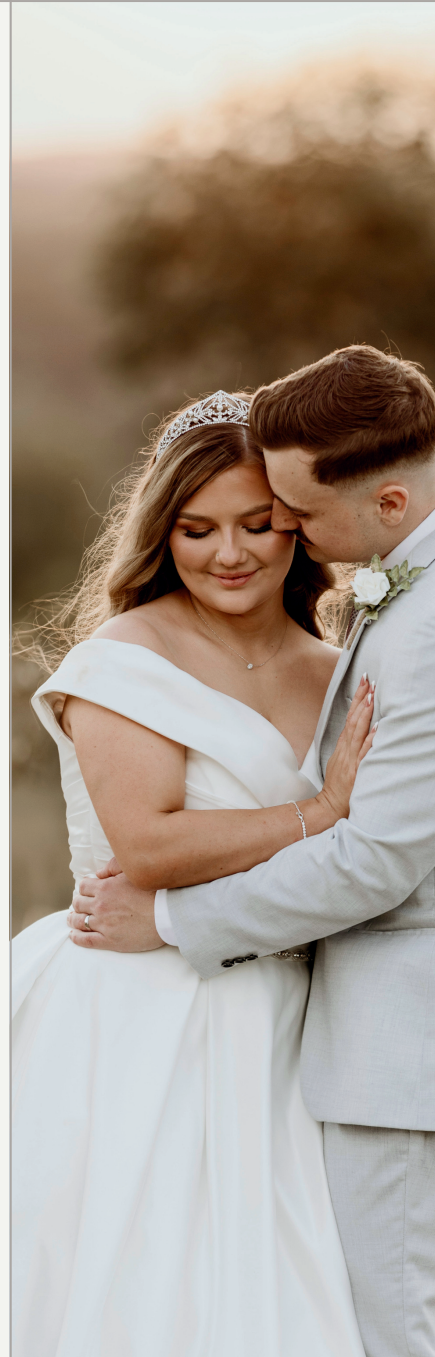
Begin working on your wedding timeline as soon as possible. The professionals you have hired should be able to assist you with this if you are unsure. Make sure you send them all a copy!

Be realistic with timing. It's better to have some buffer time than to feel rushed.

If you have multiple locations for different parts of your wedding day (ceremony, reception, photo session, etc.), factor in travel time between these venues.

Assign specific tasks to trusted friends, family members, or your wedding planner to help manage the timeline on the day of the wedding

And most importantly, make time to take a few minutes alone together to soak in the significance of the day and enjoy each other's company.





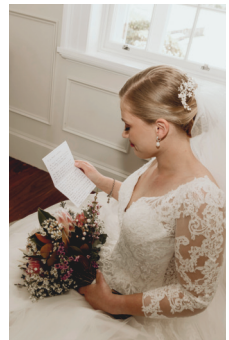
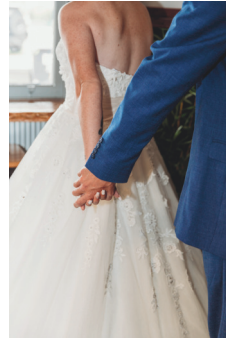
*Consider creating a simplified version of the timeline or schedule to include in your wedding programs or on a sign at the venue. This will help guests know what to expect throughout the day.*

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# FIRST LOOKS

*First looks with your partner or father can be an emotional time. Make sure you and the other person you are meeting are ready and on location on time to ensure this goes smoothly!*

*Don't want to do a first look? That's ok! A heart-felt letter or a first touch are always just as special too. If you want to incorporate these, please let your photographer know so they can be prepared.*







# CEREMONY RECESSIONAL

You've now been pronounced a married couple, how exciting! Some tips for the recessional:

Hold that first kiss for 3-5 seconds to ensure the photographer gets it! You could even kiss a second time. Make sure the officiant knows to jump out of the way first!

Confetti, bubbles, flower petals or rice look beautiful when you are coming back down the aisle. This is a good time to kiss again surrounded by your guests, and again at the end of the aisle with your guests behind you.

Make sure your family knows not to rush off after the ceremony to cocktail hour for their photos. Letting them know who you would like in the photos is a good idea before your day.

Making a detailed group shot list for your photographer works well to ensure you get all the group photos you want.





# YOUR DAY

As you reach the end of this wedding guide, I hope that it has served as a valuable resource and a source of inspiration for your journey towards your dream wedding. Planning a wedding is an exciting and transformative experience, and I am honored to be a part of it.

Just remember this is YOUR DAY.  
Tailor it to suit you!





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