

Emory
Films

12

MISTAKES TO AVOID WHEN CHOOSING WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHER

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1. INTRODUCTION

Your wedding day is a special moment, and choosing the right photographer is key to capturing those memories. Here's what to consider:

- **Experience:** Look for a photographer with proven wedding expertise.
- **Style:** Ensure their style matches your vision.
- **Portfolio:** Review their past work for consistency.
- **Budget:** Discuss packages that fit your needs.
- **Timelines:** Confirm clear delivery schedules.

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HOW NOT TO LOSE 70K ?

An experienced photographer might cost more, but they bring peace of mind because they know what they're doing. New photographers might charge less, but they might also face problems they don't know how to fix yet.



2. How Can You Avoid Losing 70k?

Choosing your wedding photographer is a big decision. It's not just about price; it's about trust. When choosing a wedding photographer, it's important to understand the differences between a fresher, an experienced photographer, and a seasoned professional.

Understanding the Value of Experience

Style	Fresher	Experienced	Emory Pro
Experience	limited weddings.	several weddings.	premium weddings.
Photography Style	Still exploring styles.	Prefers one style.	Customizes style for each wedding.
Equipment	Basic gear.	Good equipment.	Latest gear with backup.
Attention to Detail	May miss key moments.	Captures most moments.	Captures every detail perfectly.
Backup Plan	No backup plan.	Basic contingency.	Full backup team and equipment.
Post-Production	Basic editing, slow delivery.	Standard editing.	Premium editing, fast delivery.
Client Communication	Learning communication.	Moderate interaction.	Dedicated relationship manager.

Conclusion:

Imagine a fresher photographer missing key moments due to inexperience or equipment failure. On the other hand, a seasoned professional has contingency plans and ensures every moment is captured perfectly, providing you peace of mind.

Example :

To avoid losing your investment, it's essential to hire a photographer with the right experience and backup plans. While freshers and experienced photographers can offer more affordable options, they may not always provide the level of security or attention to detail you need for your wedding day.

3

HOW TO PLAN YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY SCHEDULE?

It's really important to talk about your wedding day schedule with your photographer. This helps make sure they know when all the big moments will happen, so they can get ready to take the best pictures without missing anything.





3. Planning Your Photography Schedule: Key Moments to Capture

Budgeting for wedding photography is more than just knowing the package price. There can be hidden costs that may surprise you later. Understanding what's included and what might come as an extra fee can help you avoid budget issues.

Wedding Photography Roadmap



Real-Life Example:

A couple booked a photographer for 8 hours but didn't ask about overtime fees. When the reception ran late, they ended up paying a significant amount for extra time. Always confirm these details to avoid unexpected charges.

Conclusion:

Understanding the full cost of wedding photography upfront, including any potential hidden fees, will help you stick to your budget and avoid last-minute surprises. Ask for a clear breakdown of all costs to ensure you're prepared.

4

HOW TO CHOOSE YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY STYLE

Choosing the right style of photography is like picking the theme of your wedding. It sets the mood and feel of your pictures, and you want to make sure it fits what you imagine your big day to be.



4. Finding Your Style: The Key to Perfect Wedding Photos

Choosing the right style of photography is like picking the theme of your wedding. It sets the mood and feel of your pictures, and you want to make sure it fits what you imagine your big day to be.

What Style Suits You Best?

Style	What It's Like	Good For	Considerations
Skills	Natural and real. The photographer captures events as they happen without posing.	Those who love genuine moments and real emotions.	May not include many posed shots, which some families prefer.
Traditional	Classic and posed. Each shot is set up to look perfect.	Those who like timeless, structured photos.	Can feel a bit formal or stiff; less spontaneity.
Cinematic	Dramatic and stylish. Makes your wedding look like a film.	Those dreaming of a glamorous, movie-like wedding day.	Requires more planning and can be more intrusive on the day.
Fine Art	Artistic and beautiful. Focuses on composition and lighting.	Lovers of art and unique, visually stunning shots.	Might miss some candid moments due to focus on aesthetics.
Editorial	High-fashion and bold. Planned poses and stylish setups.	Those wanting a modern, magazine-style look.	Needs more time for setup and direction, less natural flow.

How to Choose the Right Style for You

When choosing your wedding photography style, ask yourself these questions:

- Do you want posed or natural shots?
- Are you looking for a dramatic, movie-like presentation, or do you prefer capturing raw emotions as they happen?
- How important is flexibility in your photography style—do you want your photographer to take charge, or would you prefer they blend into the background?

Conclusion:

To avoid regretting your choice, consider what matters most to you. Whether it's the authenticity of Documentary, the emotion of Candid, or the artistic drama of Cinematic, the right style will capture your wedding day just the way you imagined.

5

DOES THEIR STYLE MATCH YOUR VISION?

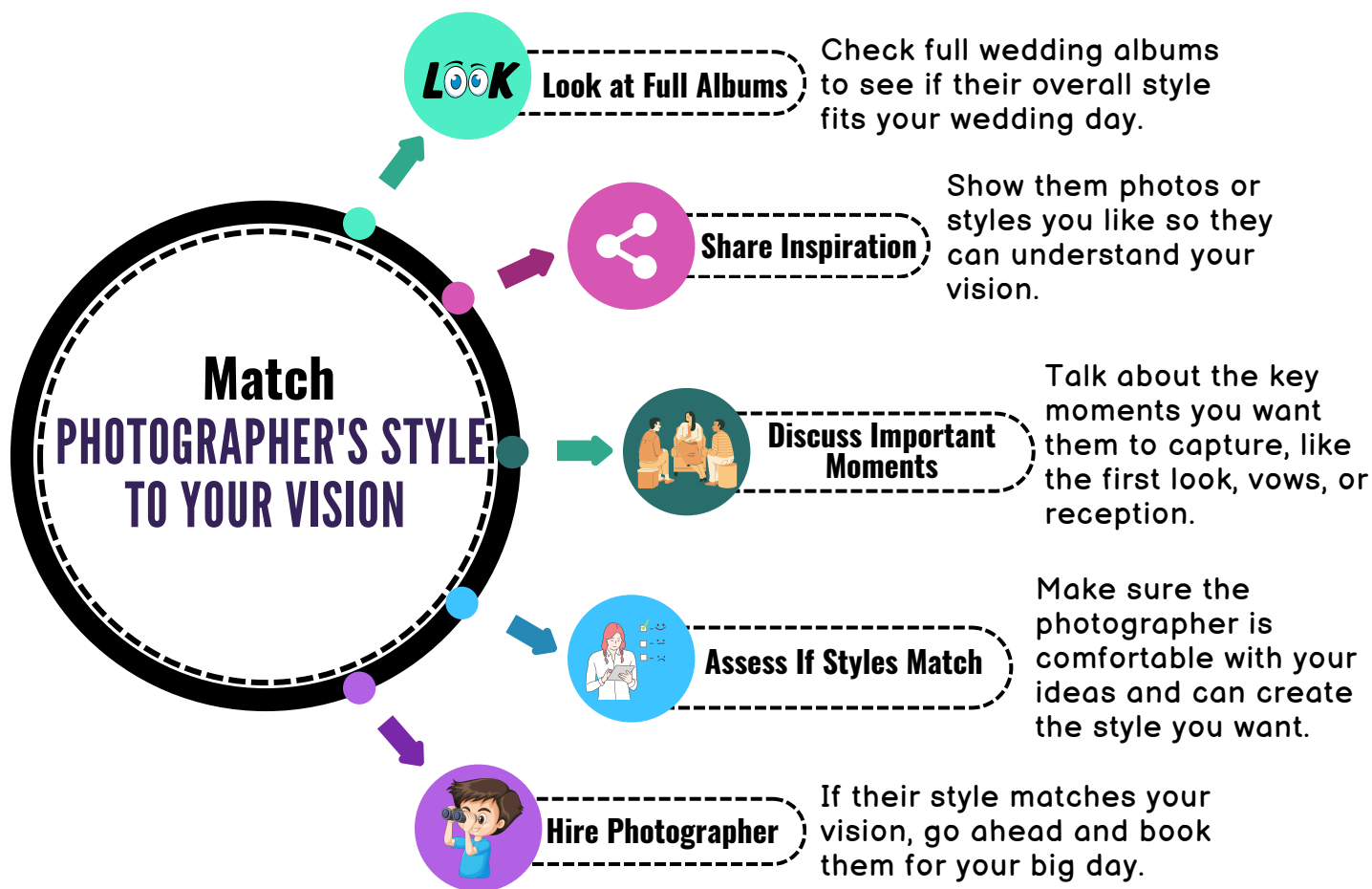
It's really important that your photographer's style and way of working fit well with what you want for your wedding. They will be a big part of your day and you want someone who feels like a good fit.



5. Matching the Photographer's Style to Your Wedding Vision

Your photographer's style is important because it affects how your wedding day will be captured. To make sure the photos match your vision—whether it's romantic, fun, traditional, or modern—you need to check that the photographer's style fits your wedding.

Key Things to Look For :



Real-Life Example:

A couple wanted a relaxed, outdoor wedding with a lot of natural, candid photos. However, they hired a photographer who mostly did posed, traditional shots. They ended up with pictures that didn't match the casual, boho style they wanted. Make sure your photographer's style fits your vision to avoid this issue.

Conclusion:

The style of your photographer should fit your wedding day's feel. By looking at their work, sharing your ideas, and discussing key moments, you can be sure their style matches your vision and captures the day exactly how you want it.

6

SHOULD YOU TRUST A PORTFOLIO ?

A full album tells the whole story of someone's wedding day. By looking through one, you can really see if a photographer is good all day long, in all kinds of situations.



6. Portfolio vs. Full Albums: What You Should Really Ask For ?

When choosing a wedding photographer, it's important to look beyond the highlights in their portfolio. While portfolios showcase the best moments, full albums tell the entire story of a wedding day. Understanding the difference will help you make an informed decision about whether the photographer can consistently deliver the quality you expect.

Why Full Albums Matter:

Aspect	Portfolio	Full Album
Low brand awareness	Best selected photos from different events.	A complete collection of photos from one wedding.
Variety	Shows highlights and key moments only.	Includes all stages of the wedding, from prep to final moments.
Consistency	Focuses on perfect shots.	Shows how the photographer handles a full day's coverage, even in tricky conditions.
Depth	Doesn't show every moment.	Gives a better idea of how well the photographer captures all parts of the wedding, including candid and unexpected moments.
Realistic Expectations	May create unrealistic expectations.	Shows exactly what you can expect across an entire day, not just the best moments.

Questions to Ask:

- Can I see a full wedding album? This will give you a realistic sense of their work from start to finish.
- Do the photos maintain quality across different lighting and environments? A full album helps you see how well they manage varying conditions.
- Are candid moments and lesser-seen parts of the wedding captured well? Full albums show more than just posed shots—they reveal the photographer’s ability to capture genuine emotions throughout the day.

Conclusion:

Always ask to see full wedding albums alongside a portfolio. This ensures you'll know what to expect for your own wedding day and avoid any surprises later on. Remember, a photographer’s ability to tell the whole story is as important as capturing the perfect shot.

7 WHY YOU SHOULD MEET YOUR PHOTOGRAPHER?

Getting to know your photographer personally is crucial because they will be capturing some of the most intimate moments of your life. It's important to feel comfortable and connected with them, as this will reflect in the naturalness and beauty of your photos.



7. Meeting Your Photographer: Questions to Ask

Meeting your wedding photographer before the big day is essential to ensure they understand your vision, style preferences, and expectations. This meeting allows you to assess whether their approach aligns with your wedding day needs.

KEY QUESTIONS TO ASK:

Question	Why It's Important
Can I see a full wedding album?	Helps you understand their consistency across an entire event, not just selected shots.
What's your photography style?	Ensures their style matches your vision (e.g., documentary, candid, or cinematic).
How do you handle low-light situations?	Important for evening weddings or indoor venues with challenging lighting conditions.
Will you be photo graphing my wedding?	Some studios send different photographers, so make sure you're meeting the actual photographer.
How many weddings do you shoot per year?	Indicates their level of experience and how fresh their skills are.
How do you manage group shots and candid moments?	Understanding their approach ensures they capture both posed and spontaneous moments.

Why This Meeting Matters:

- **Clear Expectations:** A meeting helps set clear expectations for both you and the photographer. You can discuss key moments, family dynamics, and any special requests you might have for the day.
- **Comfort Level:** Your photographer will be with you throughout one of the most important days of your life. It's important to ensure you feel comfortable around them and trust their presence during intimate moments.
- **Vision Alignment:** This is your chance to discuss your vision in detail—whether you prefer posed shots, candid moments, or a mix of both—and make sure your photographer can deliver on that.

Conclusion:

Meeting your photographer allows you to build rapport, communicate your preferences, and avoid any surprises on the wedding day. Use this opportunity to ask important questions that ensure you're both on the same page and confident in their ability to capture your special day.

8

HOW TO CHECK REFERENCES AND REVIEWS?

Before you book a photographer, checking their references and reading reviews from other couples can give you a good sense of what working with them is like. It's like getting recommendations for a new restaurant or a movie.





8. Checking References and Reviews: How to Spot Red Flags

Before booking your wedding photographer, it's important to check their references and read reviews. This helps you ensure they're reliable and can deliver the quality you expect. Here's how to spot potential issues and make a confident choice.

4 Steps to Check References and Reviews


READ ONLINE REVIEWS


 Where to Look:
Google, social media, and wedding sites.

 What to Focus On: Consistent client feedback.

STEP 1


ASK FOR CLIENT REFERENCES


 What to Do:
Request contacts of previous clients.

 Why It's Important:
Get direct insights from past couples.

STEP 3

LOOK FOR RED FLAGS


 What to Watch For:
Missed moments, poor communication, or late delivery.


 Why It Matters:
Consistent complaints should be a red flag.

STEP 2

STEP 4

CHECK RESPONSES TO NEGATIVE REVIEWS

 What to Notice:
How the photographer handles criticism.

 Why It's Important:
Professional responses indicate a commitment to quality.

Real-Life Example:

One couple read only glowing reviews online but didn't ask for references. After their wedding, they were disappointed with late photo delivery and communication issues. Checking references directly could have given them a clearer picture of what to expect.

Conclusion:

Checking reviews and references is a simple way to ensure you're hiring a reliable photographer. By looking for red flags and asking past clients about their experiences, you can avoid surprises and feel confident about your choice.



WHAT ARE THE HIDDEN FEES & BUDGET?

Understanding the full cost of your wedding photography upfront prevents surprises later on. It's crucial to have a clear breakdown of what you're paying for, including any potential hidden fees that could pop up.



9. Budgets and Hidden Fees: What to Expect

Budgeting for wedding photography is more than just knowing the package price. There can be hidden costs that may surprise you later. Understanding what's included and what might come as an extra fee can help you avoid budget issues.

Key Things to Look For in Your Wedding Photographer Package

Package Inclusions

- 1
 - 📅 Details: Hours of coverage, number of photographers, photo types (candid, portraits).
 - 🔍 Importance: Ensures comprehensive coverage and clarity on services provided.

Extra Hours Charges

- 2
 - ⌚ Details: Costs for additional hours beyond contracted time.
 - 💰 Importance: Helps budget for unexpected extensions of the event.

Travel Fees

- 3
 - ✈️ Details: Additional charges for travel and accommodation if outside the local area.
 - 🌍 Importance: Necessary for budgeting weddings at distant or special locations.

Editing and Retouching

- 4
 - 🎨 Details: Scope of basic editing included and charges for advanced retouching.
 - ✨ Importance: Clarifies what level of photo finishing to expect and at what cost.

Albums and Prints

- 5
 - 📁 Details: Inclusion of digital photos and costs for physical albums or prints.
 - 🖨️ Importance: Understands additional costs for tangible copies of memories.

Cancellation and Rescheduling Policies

- 6
 - 📅 Details: Terms regarding cancellation fees or rescheduling options.
 - ⚠️ Importance: Prepares for unexpected changes in plans without major financial losses.

Real-Life Example:

A couple booked a photographer for 8 hours but didn't ask about overtime fees. When the reception ran late, they ended up paying a significant amount for extra time. Always confirm these details to avoid unexpected charges.

Conclusion:

Understanding the full cost of wedding photography upfront, including any potential hidden fees, will help you stick to your budget and avoid last-minute surprises. Ask for a clear breakdown of all costs to ensure you're prepared.

10

DO YOU HAVE BACKUP PLANS?

Every wedding should have a safety net. Just like you plan for backup venues in case of weather changes, your photographer should have backup equipment and plans to ensure nothing interrupts capturing your special day.



10. Do You Have Backup Plans? Why They Matter

Backup plans are essential for a smooth wedding day. Every wedding should have a safety net. Just like you plan for backup venues in case of weather changes, your photographer should have backup equipment and plans to ensure nothing interrupts capturing your special day.

What Style Suits You Best?

Issue	Why It's Important	Ask Your Photographer	Emory Pro
Equipment Failure	Cameras or lenses can stop working unexpectedly.	Do you have backup gear?	Backup camera, lenses, memory cards.
Bad Weather	Outdoor weddings may face rain or harsh weather.	What's your plan if it rains?	Weather protection or alternative locations.
Emergency	Illness or emergencies can prevent attendance.	Who steps in if you can't make it?	Backup photographer ready to go.
Poor Lighting	Indoor or outdoor venues may have tricky lighting.	How do you handle low light or power issues?	Extra lighting gear and backup batteries.
Event Delays	Weddings often run behind schedule.	What happens if we're behind schedule?	Flexibility to stay longer (with fees discussed).

Let's Talk About This:

Imagine if on your wedding day, something unexpected happens—like a sudden rainstorm, or the photographer's camera malfunctions. Without proper backups in place, these could turn into disasters. A good photographer will have plans for all these scenarios, ensuring that no matter what happens, your wedding is documented beautifully.

Conclusion:

Having backup plans ensures your wedding day is captured, no matter what challenges arise. Ask your photographer these key questions to ensure they're prepared for any situation. It's better to have contingencies in place than to risk missing those special moments.



WHAT TO EXPECT IN POST- PRODUCTION ?

After your wedding day, the work isn't over for the photographer. The editing process is where your photos really come to life. Knowing what to expect in terms of post-production is crucial.

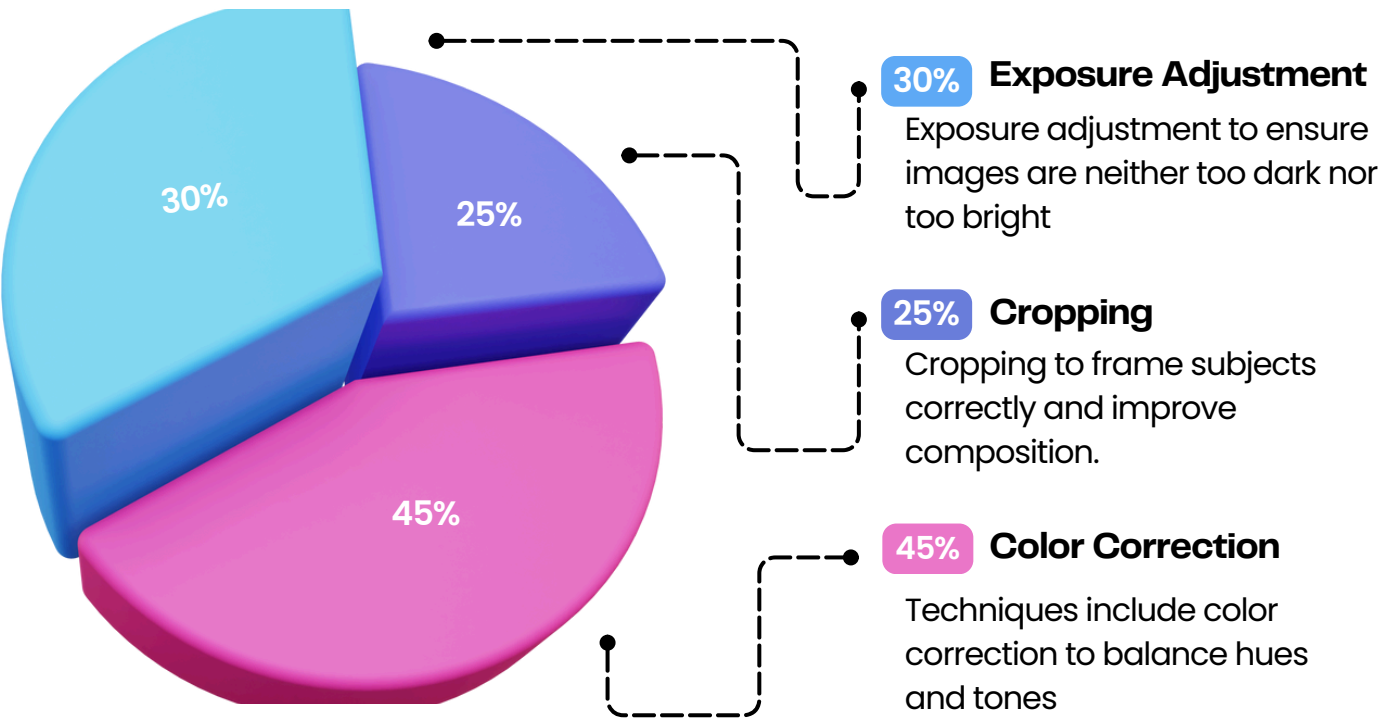


12. What to Expect in Post-Production for Photos and Videos?

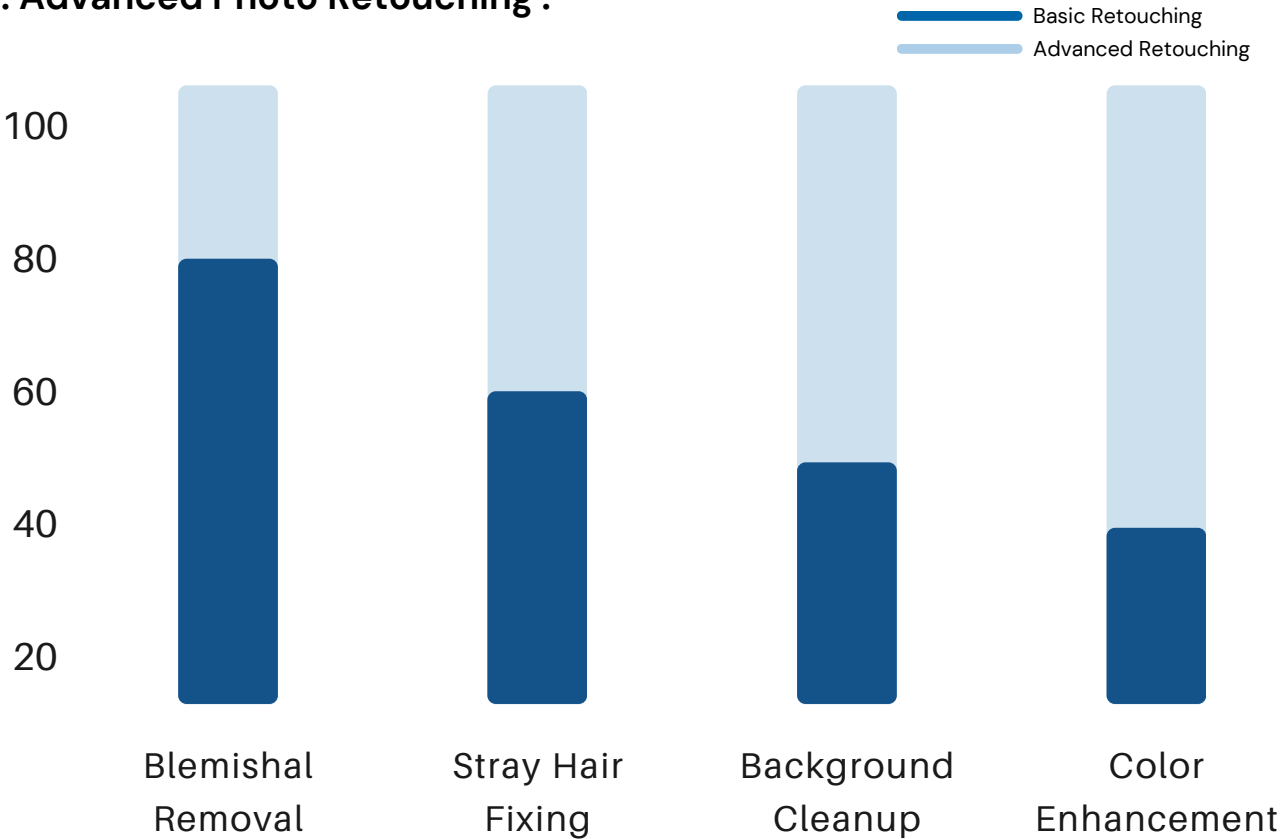
Post-production for both photos and videos is a key part of the wedding photography process. This is when the raw footage and images are edited, enhanced, and turned into polished memories of your special day.

Overview: Post-Production for Wedding Photos & Videos

1. Basic Photo Editing :

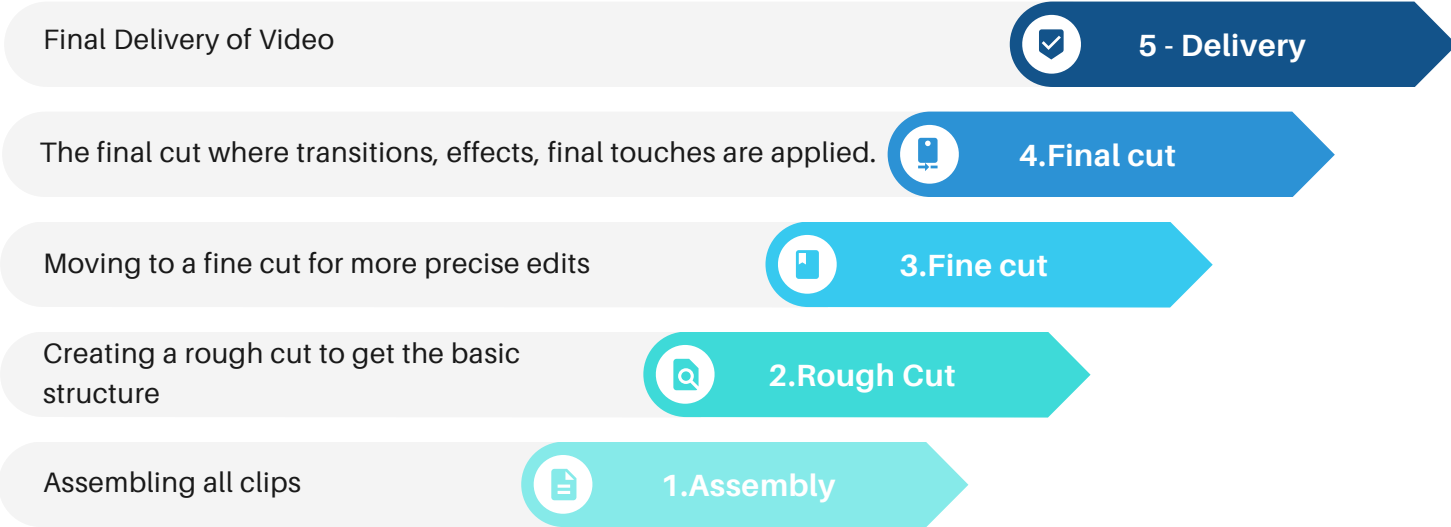


2. Advanced Photo Retouching :

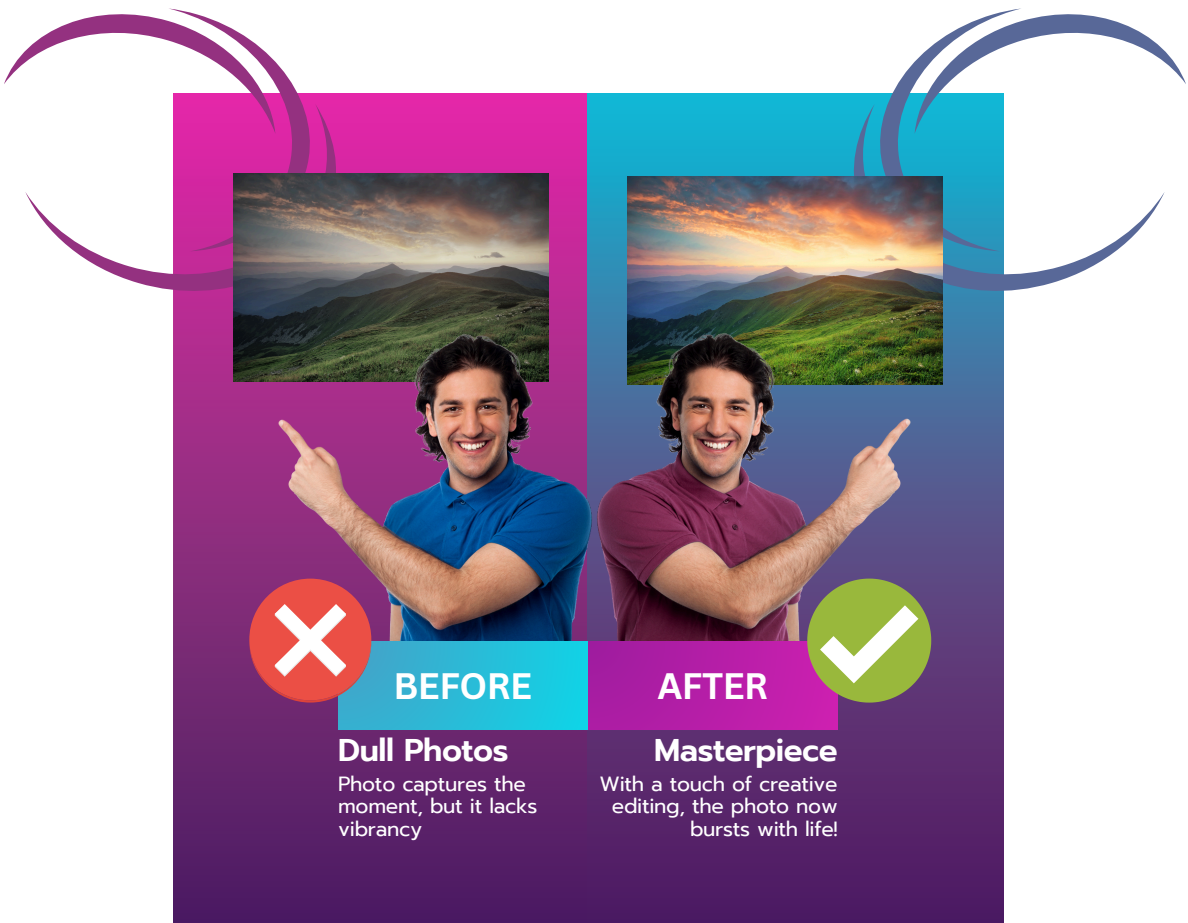


3. Video Editing :

Sequence of video editing steps from raw footage to final cut.



4. Special Effects

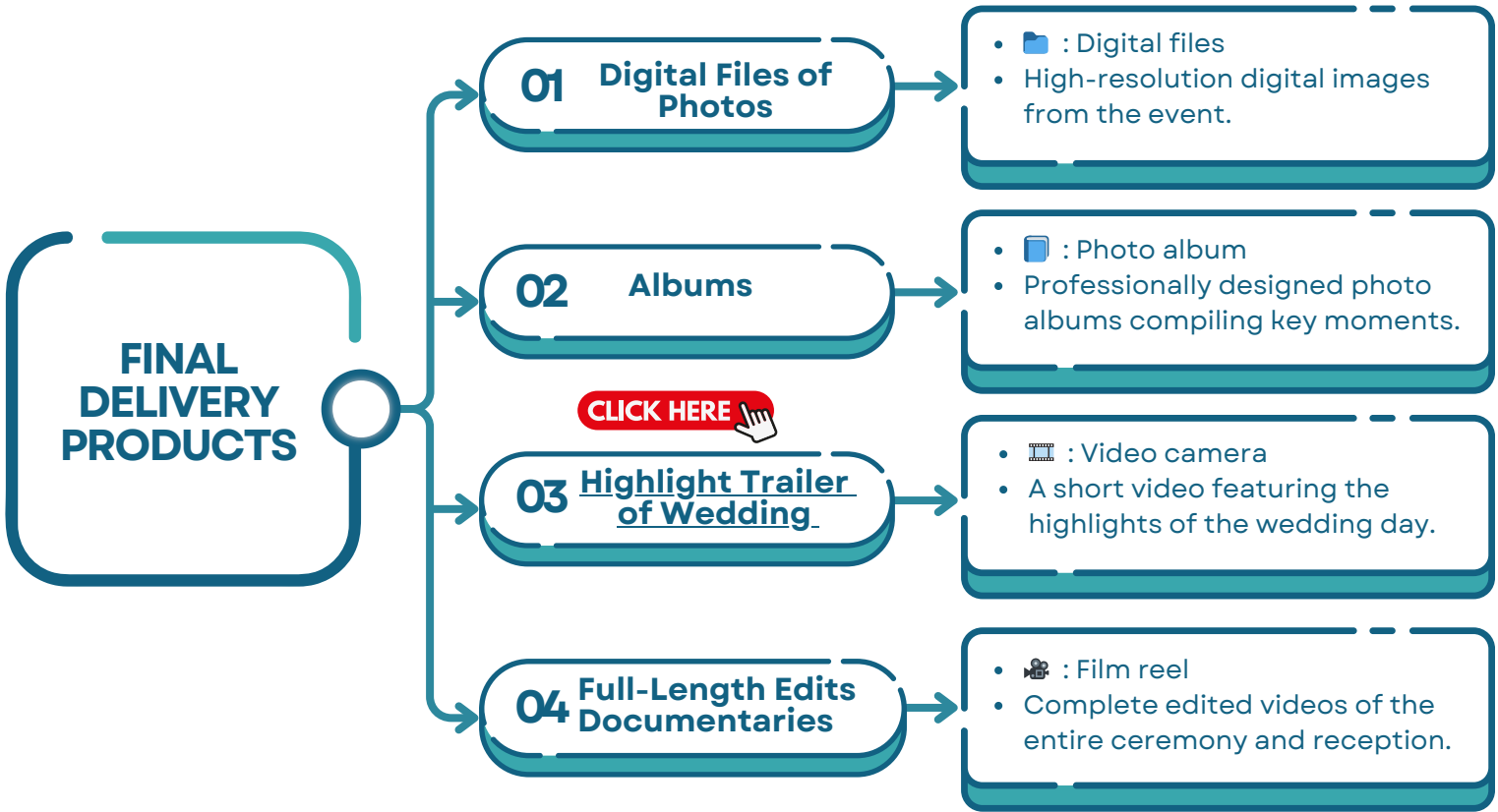


5. Delivery Timeline



- Milestones:**
- Shoot Completion
 - First Draft Submission
 - Final Submission

6. Final Products



12

WHEN WILL YOU GET YOUR PHOTOS ?

Setting a clear timeline for receiving your wedding photos and videos is essential. It helps manage expectations and ensures you know when to expect your cherished memories. After your big day, a professional photographer will provide a defined schedule for delivering your pictures, respecting your eagerness to relive those special moments.



12. When Will You Get Your Photos?

One of the most common questions couples have after their wedding is, "When will we get our photos?" The timeline for receiving your photos can vary depending on the photographer, the time of year, and the level of editing involved. It's important to have a clear understanding of when to expect your images so there are no surprises.

Factors That Affect Delivery Time:

Factor	Why It Matters	What to Expect
Photographer's Workload	Busy photographers with multiple weddings in peak season may take longer.	Delivery can take 4-8 weeks or more during high-demand periods.
Level of Editing Required	Basic edits are quicker, but advanced retouching takes more time.	If you request detailed retouching, expect a longer delivery time.
Package and Photo Quantity	Larger packages with more photos will require more time to process.	More photos = more time; smaller packages are usually faster.
Album or Print Production	If you've ordered physical albums, the production process adds time.	Digital files are quicker, while albums may take extra weeks.
Time of Year	Wedding season (spring/summer) can mean longer waits.	Off-season weddings may result in faster delivery.

Typical Photography Delivery Timeline:

- Sneak Peek: Some photographers offer a sneak peek of 5-10 edited photos within 1-2 weeks after the wedding.
- Full Album Delivery: Digital photos usually take 4-8 weeks depending on the photographer's schedule and editing workload.
- Physical Products (Albums/Prints): If you've ordered albums or prints, these could take an additional 2-4 weeks after the digital delivery.

Questions to Ask:

- When can we expect to see a preview?
- How long will it take to receive the full set of photos?
- Do you offer expedited delivery?

13

DOES EXPERIENCE WITH VENUE MATTER?

Choosing a photographer who has experience with your specific wedding venue can be a huge advantage. They will be familiar with the best spots for photos and how to handle various lighting situations or layouts.



13. Does Experience with Your Venue Matter?

When choosing a wedding photographer, one important factor to consider is their experience with your venue. A photographer who has previously worked at your wedding venue can often capture better shots because they already understand the best locations, lighting conditions, and challenges specific to that site. However, even if they haven't, a skilled photographer can still deliver stunning results with proper preparation.

Why Venue Experience Matters:

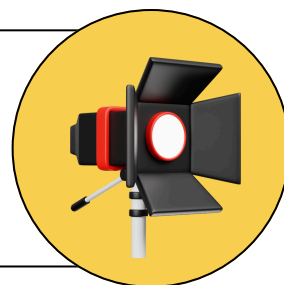


FAMILIARITY WITH THE VENUE:

- Importance: Photographers who know the venue can pinpoint the best spots for photos quickly.
- Expectation: Efficient photo sessions, utilizing key locations effectively.

LIGHTING KNOWLEDGE

- Importance: Venues have unique lighting that may be challenging.
- Expectation: Skilled adaptation to any lighting conditions, whether indoor, outdoor, or mixed.



LAYOUT AND TIMING:

- Importance: Knowing the venue layout aids in seamless movement and timing.
- Expectation: Optimized navigation during crucial moments like ceremonies and receptions.



POTENTIAL CHALLENGES:

- Importance: Venues may have specific photography restrictions or space limitations.
- Expectation: Proactive preparation for any venue-specific issues.



What to Ask Your Photographer:

- Have you photographed a wedding at this venue before? Can you show examples?
- How do you prepare if you haven't been to the venue before?
- Are you comfortable working in tricky lighting environments?

Real-Life Example:

- A couple chose a photographer who had never worked at their venue, which had challenging indoor lighting. Although the photographer hadn't shot there before, they arrived early, tested the lighting, and used additional equipment to capture beautiful images.

Conclusion:

- Key Takeaway: Venue experience is a plus but not mandatory. Discuss how your photographer will tackle the venue's specific challenges to ensure they capture your special day perfectly.

14

WHAT OUR CLIENTS SAY ABOUT US ?

Choosing the right photographer for your wedding is one of the most important decisions you'll make. This guide was created to help you avoid mistakes and make the best choice so you can relive the magic of your day through beautiful photos



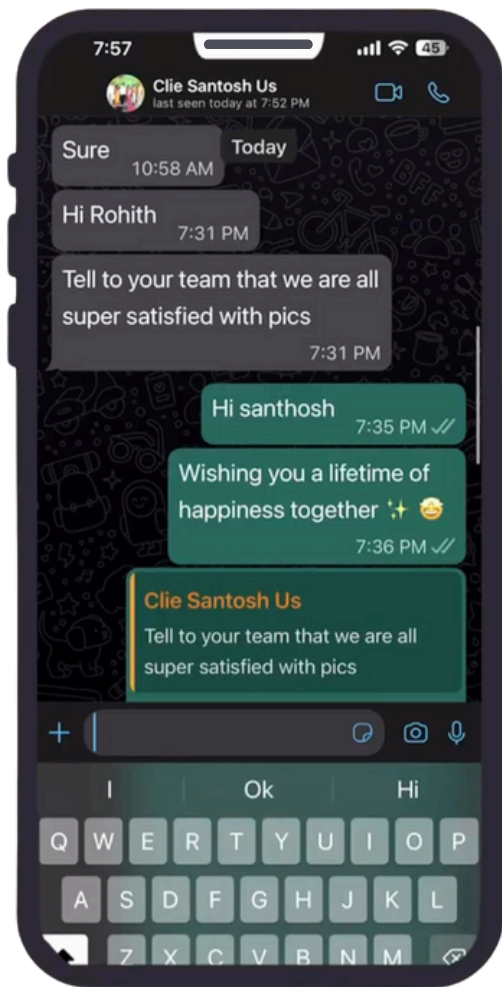
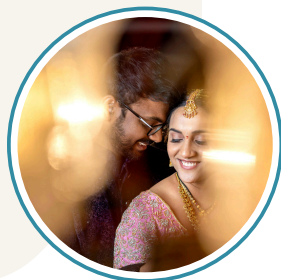


Client Testimonial

Thank you so much for this amazing video! You captured every moment of our special day perfectly. The editing and music are fantastic, and we will cherish this forever !! Very nice and talented team.



Shravanth-Rachana



Because of you people it was possible to capture this beautiful moment which will always be in my memory and will make me to live this moment again and again entire life .. thank you so much I can't explain how much I am happy and satisfied with your work ...

Shalini-Santosh



TESTIMONIAL

15



FAQ

1. What's included in a photography package?

Packages usually include coverage hours, a set number of photos, and basic editing. Always ask for a detailed breakdown.

2. How do I know if a photographer is right for me?

Look at their portfolio, read reviews, and meet them to discuss your vision. Make sure their style matches what you want.

3. How long will it take to get my photos?

Typically 4-8 weeks, depending on the photographer's workload and editing.

4. What if something goes wrong, like bad weather?

Professional photographers always have backup plans, whether it's alternative locations or extra gear.

5. How do I make sure the photographer captures everything important?

Create a detailed photo schedule with your photographer, and discuss must-have shots ahead of time.

By asking the right questions, understanding the post-production process, and making sure your photographer's style aligns with your vision, you'll be confident in your choice.

Remember, the best wedding photos are the ones that make you relive the emotions of your special day every time you look at them. Take the time to choose the photographer who understands your story, your vision, and what matters most to you.

CONCLUSION: MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE

Choosing the Right Photographer for Your Big Day

01.

Choosing the Right Photographer

This guide was created to help you avoid mistakes and make the best choice so you can relive the magic of your day through beautiful photos



02.

We're always here to help!

Feel free to visit our website or check out our Instagram profile for more ideas and inspiration. If you have any questions, you can send us an email or DM us on Instagram



03.

Feedback Invitation

We'd love your feedback on this PDF. Your suggestions will help us improve and create content that helps other couples and photographers. Plus, let us know what topics you'd like to see next!



04.

schedule a 1-on-1 call.,personal consultation.

If you'd like a personal consultation or have questions about booking a photographer, we're happy to help. You can schedule a 1-on-1 call with us by dropping us an email or DM



05.

we're always ready to guide you

At Emory, we're always ready to guide you in choosing the right wedding photographer!



We hope this guide helps you make the right decision!

-  Have questions? Send us an email to “hello@emoryfilms.com”.
-  Drop us a DM on Instagram anytime to @emory_films
-  We'd love your feedback on this guide!
-  Schedule a one-to-one consultation !
-  Visit Our Website “www.emoryfilms.com”