



MICHAEL SVOBODA
ELITE PHOTOGRAPHY

A Downloadable Wedding Photographer's Checklist

The Pre-Ceremony Photos

The pre-ceremony photos are a very important part of the day. This is where we get, getting ready photos, details, bridal party photos, immediate family portraits, ceremony details. During this time, I typically split up from my 2nd shooter. One with the girls and one with the guys.

- Bride's shoes.
- Bride and bridesmaids getting ready (candid)
- Bride's jewelry.
- Bride's dress.
- Bride getting in dress
- Bride Portraits
- Any sentimental items (handkerchiefs, family rings, and such).
- Groom's getting ready (candid).
- Groom and groomsmen ties and boutonniere.
- Groom portraits
- Bride with Bridesmaids Formal Portraits, individual and group.
- Groom with Groomsmen Formal Portraits, individual and group*.
- Bride with immediate family Formal Portraits, individual and group*.
- While doing Bridal Party/Family Formals, 2nd Shooter is getting Ceremony Details (before guests arrive)

If you choose to see each other before ceremony we set up a first look and are able to get photos of both bridal parties together and this frees up time post ceremony for couples who may want to join cocktail or just want more photos

The Ceremony Photos

This part of the wedding is the most critical and we shoot in a photojournalistic style capturing all the emotions as it unfolds. My goal is for the images to tell the story of the day.

- Ceremony Details

- Guests socializing/mingling awaiting the bride's arrival
- Groom, family, best man, and minister walking into venue.
- Bridal party walking down aisle.
- Bride and father interactions waiting for processional (2nd Shooter).
- Bride and father walking down aisle (front and back).
- The groom's reaction.
- Father of the bride "giving her away".
- Any ceremonial specifics as mentioned by your client (depending on what type of ceremony).
- Any speakers during the ceremony.
- The exchange of rings.
- The kiss.
- Recessional (I stop the bride and groom at the end of the aisle for a kiss).
- Recessional of all bridal party and family (other photographer capturing the celebration of the couple)

Post-Ceremony Photos

After celebration shots and guests have left to cocktail, family and bridal party head back to the ceremony site. (note before ceremony we got the smaller individual immediate family shots)

- Bride and groom plus officiant.
- Bride and groom plus groom's entire family (if too large we break down the extended families, dad's side and mom's side)
- Bride and groom plus bride's entire family (if too large we break down the extended families, dad's side and mom's side)
- Bride and groom plus both immediate families.
- Bride and groom plus both sets of parents
- Full bridal party (at ceremony site and some of other locations at the venue. Formal, stylized and candid shots)
- Bride w/Groomsmen
- Groom w/Bridesmaids
- Bride and groom alone (at ceremony site and different locations around the venue. Formal, stylized and candid shots).
- 2nd shooter all Reception detail photos (we photograph everything that pertains to your wedding)
- Cocktail Party - Details, Candid and Informal Group Photos

Reception Photos

We basically cover anything that happens in the room. We always have a photographer with the couple and this is a good time to get photos with your guests (we'll be getting candid shots as you walk around and greet your guests so at any moment signal us to get a group or individual photo with friends).

- Grand Entrance.
- Bride and groom's first dance.
- Bride and dad's first dance.
- Family members and Guests.
- Groom and mom's first dance.
- Bridal parties dance.
- Toasts.
- Cake cutting.
- Garter toss.
- Groom with whomever caught the garter.
- Bouquet toss.
- Bride with whomever caught the bouquet.
- Candid photos of people dancing, talking, eating, etc.
- Night Photo (Step out of the reception momentarily to capture a dramatic night shot).

This is basic coverage of a wedding day. Each wedding varies and not every shot on this list may pertain. For each wedding, I consult with my clients and customize this list to meet their expectations, traditions and needs. Thank you and I look forward to capturing your **Special Day**:)

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