



**THE**  
*Wedding*  
**EXPERIENCE**

**A GUIDE FOR PIXIE'S PHOTOGRAPHY BRIDES**



# Hello

**You've set the date, chosen your dress, picked out the flowers, and even the gentlemen have their tuxedos ready. It's going to be a magnificent, flawless day. When it's all said and done, you'll want to treasure and revisit every moment through timeless photographs. My approach blends photojournalism to capture the laughter, tears, kisses, and embraces with a fine art style for stunning, well-framed portraits. My photographs are a balance of light and airy with dark and moody elements. I hope you're captivated by what you see and grant me the privilege of capturing your special wedding day.**



**Nicci: 062 377 6778**

**info@pixiesphotography.co.za**

**www.pixiesphotography.co.za**





# Table of Contents

- 4 Engagement Session Intro**
- 5 Engagement Session Prep Tips**
- 7 Engagement Session Outfit Inspiration**
- 10 Preparing Your Groom**
  
- 13 Wedding Timeline Samples**
- 17 My Wedding Packages**
- 21 How to make a booking**
- 22 Wedding Portraits through the Seasons**
  
- 23 Preceremony Tips: Bride getting ready**
- 25 Preceremony Tips: All the little details**
- 27 Preceremony Tips: Groom getting ready**
- 28 Preceremony Tips: The venue & decor**
  
- 29 Ceremonies**
- 33 Family Formals**
- 34 Fun with the bridal party**
- 36 Your Romantic portrait Time**
- 38 Rainy Wedding Days**
  
- 39 The Reception**
- 40 Reception Tips**
- 41 Night Shoot**
  
- 42 FAQ**





# YOUR *Engagement* SESSION

Now that you've selected a date, secured a photographer, and a venue, it's time to celebrate! Next up is the exciting part - your engagement session! Engagement sessions are crucial to the overall process. They provide an opportunity for you to become acquainted with me, my shooting style, and how I manage posing and lighting. This session will significantly influence the flow of your wedding day. By then, I will have a good understanding of how you both interact, your best poses, and how to capture you authentically.

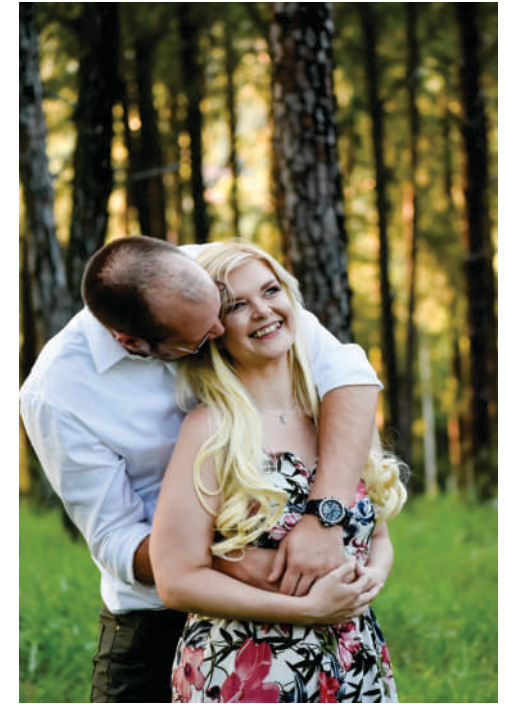
You can schedule your engagement session at any time before your wedding day. To minimize stress, I typically recommend booking it at least two to four months before the wedding.

When planning your engagement shoot, you'll begin to think about locations. I always appreciate when a couple selects a place that holds special or sentimental value for them.



# Engagement Session

APPROXIMATE START TIMES



## SUMMER

DECEMBER - FEBRUARY

5:30AM - 7:30AM

17:00PM - 19:00PM

## AUTUMN

MARCH - MAY

6:30AM - 8:30AM

16:00PM - 18:00PM

## WINTER

JUNE - AUGUST

7:00AM - 9:00AM

15:30PM - 17:30PM

## SPRING

SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER

5:30AM - 7:30AM

16:00PM - 18:00PM





# Engagement Prep

**Having your picture taken can often be daunting. I understand that getting ready for an engagement photo session might seem overwhelming. Below are some tips on selecting outfits and accessories to simplify the process.**



**Gone are the days of monochromatic outfits in just white or black. The key to great style is layering, adding texture, and employing the rule of three: select three colors, including two neutrals (such as black, white, tan, denim, or grey) and one accent color (like pink, green, or blue), and create outfits that coordinate, not match. Steer clear of logos and large prints on clothing unless they're integral to your theme (like a rockstar or Big Brother shirt). Enhance your look with a vest, jacket, sweater, or scarf for added visual interest. Wear flattering pieces; for instance, if you're self-conscious about your arms, avoid sleeveless tops. Consider your surroundings as well. Opt for outfits that complement the setting and enhance the overall vibe. For example, if you're aiming for an urban backdrop, choose clothing that reflects an urban style.**



# Outfit Inspiration





# Outfit Inspiration





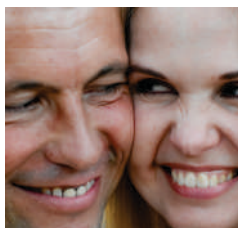




# PREPARING YOUR

# Groom

If you're a bride feeling anxious about how your groom will react to the idea of a photoshoot, rest assured, you're not alone. I receive numerous emails from brides concerned that their groom won't be enthusiastic about it, but I have great news for you – you're both more photogenic than you realize! The most frequent reaction from grooms after a photoshoot is, "That wasn't as bad as I thought. It was actually fun." When the groom admits he enjoyed taking photos, I know I've done my job well. Your engagement session should be enjoyable and relaxed, not stiff or uncomfortable. As you get ready for your shoot, there are a few things you can do to help your groom set his expectations. First, sit down with him and show him some of your favorite engagement sessions that I've captured. This will give him an idea of what to expect. Make sure to allow ample travel time to the shoot location. Nothing is worse than a couple arriving late after arguing in the car, which will undoubtedly affect your groom's mood. Lastly, remember to be patient with him and don't assume he won't enjoy himself. You might both be pleasantly surprised at how much fun you'll have during your session with me!











Your Wedding Day



# Sample Photography Timeline

## FOR A 12 HOUR WEDDING PACKAGE

10:00	Photographer Arrives	16:45 - 17:05	Family & Friends photos session
10:00 - 11:00	Bride & Bridesmaids Outfits, Accessories & Flowers	17:05 - 17:30	Bridal party photo session
11:00 - 11:45	Grooms & Groomsmen Outfits & Accessories	17:30 - 18:15	Bride and Groom photo session
11:45 - 12:45	Venue Shots + Ceremony & Reception area decor (if ready)	18:15 - 18:30	Bride & Groom enter reception + MC Welcome + Prayer
12:45 - 13:30	Hair, Makeup & Posed fun shots (+Video messages)	18:30 - 19:30	Reception - Starters and Speeches
13:30 - 14:00	Groom getting dressed	19:30 - 20:30	Reception - Dinner (Table Photos with guests while queuing for buffet)
14:00 - 14:15	Groom Portraits - Alone and with family or groomsman	20:30 - 20:45	Reception - First Dance/s
14:15 - 15:00	Bride getting dressed	20:45 - 21:00	Reception - Games
15:00 - 15:15	Brides Portraits - Alone and with family or bridesmaids	21:00 - 21:15	Reception - Bouquet & Garter Toss
15:15 - 15:30	Photographer goes to ceremony area	21:15 - 21:40	Reception - Bride & Grooms Night Shoot
15:30 - 16:15	Ceremony	21:40 - 22:00	Reception - Any "last few" photos
16:15 - 16:25	Big group photo	22:00	Photographer leaves
16:25 - 16:45	Mingle with guests and Cutting of cake		

# Sample Photography Timeline

## FOR A 9 HOUR WEDDING PACKAGE

12:00	Photographer Arrives		
12:00 - 12:40	Brides Outfit, Accessories & Flowers	16:25 - 16:45	Mingle with guests and Cutting of cake
12:40 - 13:10	Grooms Outfit & Accessories	16:45 - 17:05	Family & Friends photos session
13:10 - 13:50	Ceremony & Reception area decor (if ready)	17:05 - 17:30	Bridal party photo session
13:50 - 14:10	Hair, Makeup & Posed fun shots	17:30 - 18:00	Bride and Groom photo session
14:10 - 14:25	Groom getting dressed (Posed Session - Groom should already be dressed)	18:00 - 18:15	Bride & Groom enter reception + MC Welcome + Prayer
14:25 - 14:40	Groom Portraits - Alone and with family or groomsman	18:15 - 19:15	Reception - Starters and Speeches
14:40 - 15:05	Bride getting dressed (Posed Session - Bride should already be in her dress but no accessories on)	19:15 - 20:15	Reception - Dinner (Table Photos with guests while queuing for buffet)
15:05 - 15:20	Brides Portraits - Alone and with family or bridesmaids	20:15 - 20:30	Reception - First Dance/s
15:20 - 15:30	Photographer goes to ceremony area	20:30 - 20:45	Reception - Games
15:30 - 16:15	Ceremony	20:45 - 21:00	Reception - Bouquet & Garter Toss
16:15 - 16:25	Big group photo	21:00	Photographer leaves



# Sample Photography Timeline

## FOR A 7 HOUR WEDDING PACKAGE

14:00	Photographer Arrives	16:45 - 17:05	Family & Friends photos session
14:00 - 14:20	Groom getting dressed (Posed Session - Groom should already be dressed)	17:05 - 17:30	Bridal party photo session
14:20 - 14:35	Groom Portraits - Alone and with family or groomsman	17:30 - 18:00	Bride and Groom photo session
14:35 - 15:00	Bride getting dressed (Posed Session - Bride should already be in her dress but no accessories on)	18:00 - 18:15	Bride & Groom enter reception + MC Welcome + Prayer
15:00 - 15:15	Brides Portraits - Alone and with family or bridesmaids	18:15 - 19:15	Reception - Starters and Speeches
15:15 - 15:30	Photographer goes to ceremony area	19:15 - 20:15	Reception - Dinner (Table Photos with guests while queuing for buffet)
15:30 - 16:15	Ceremony	20:15 - 20:30	Reception - First Dance/s
16:15 - 16:25	Big group photo	20:30 - 20:45	Reception - Games
16:25 - 16:45	Mingle with guests and Cutting of cake	20:45 - 21:00	Reception - Bouquet & Garter Toss
		21:00	Photographer leaves

# Sample Photography Timeline

## FOR A 5 HOUR WEDDING PACKAGE

<b>15:15</b>	<b>Photographer Arrives</b>
<b>15:30 - 16:15</b>	<b>Ceremony</b>
<b>16:15 - 16:25</b>	<b>Big group photo</b>
<b>16:25 - 16:35</b>	<b>Cutting of cake</b>
<b>16:35 - 16:50</b>	<b>Close Family photo session</b>
<b>16:50 - 17:10</b>	<b>Bridal party photo session</b>
<b>17:10 - 17:45</b>	<b>Bride and Groom photo session</b>
<b>17:45 - 18:00</b>	<b>Bride &amp; Groom enter reception + MC Welcome + Prayer</b>
<b>18:00 - 18:45</b>	<b>Reception - Starters and Speeches</b>
<b>18:45 - 19:30</b>	<b>Reception - Dinner (Table Photos with guests while queuing for buffet)</b>
<b>19:30 - 19:45</b>	<b>Reception - First Dance/s</b>
<b>19:45 - 20:00</b>	<b>Reception - Games</b>
<b>20:00 - 20:15</b>	<b>Reception - Bouquet &amp; Garter Toss</b>
<b>20:15</b>	<b>Photographer leaves</b>



# 5 HOUR Wedding Packages

<b><u>Package 1</u></b> <b>Photo Only</b>	<b><u>Package 2</u></b> <b>Video Only</b>	<b><u>Package 3</u></b> <b>Photo &amp; Video</b>	<b><u>Extras</u></b>
<p>5 Hours coverage + 1 Photographer + 250 Digital High Resolution Images on a usb + 100kms Travelling included + A 60min engagement session (Location must be in Pretoria) with 40 digital images + A digital 'Save the Date' card design.</p>	<p>5 Hours coverage + 1 Photographer + Full wedding video &amp; Preview Video + 100kms Travelling included + Pre-meeting 2-4 weeks before the wedding</p>	<p>5 Hours coverage + 1 Photographer &amp; 1 Videographer + 250 Digital High Resolution Images on a usb + Full wedding video &amp; Preview Video + 100kms Travelling included + A 60min engagement session (Location must be in Pretoria) with 40 digital images + A digital 'Save the Date' card design.</p>	<p>Additional Second Photographer @ R300 per hour (minimum of 5 hours)</p> <p>Additional Edited Images @ R20 per image</p> <p>Overtime Rate @ R500 per 30 minutes</p>
<b>R5900</b>	<b>R5300</b>	<b>R8950</b>	



# 7 HOUR Wedding Packages

## **Package 4** **Photo Only**

7 Hours coverage  
+  
1 Photographer  
+  
350 Digital High  
Resolution Images on  
a usb  
+  
100kms Travelling  
included  
+  
A 60min engagement  
session (Location  
must be in  
Pretoria) with  
40 digital images  
+  
A digital 'Save the  
Date' card design.

**R7500**

## **Package 5** **Video Only**

7 Hours coverage  
+  
1 Photographer  
+  
Full wedding video  
& Preview Video  
+  
100kms Travelling  
included  
+  
Pre-meeting 2-4  
weeks before  
the wedding

**R6900**

## **Package 6** **Photo & Video**

7 Hours coverage  
+  
1 Photographer &  
1 Videographer  
+  
350 Digital High  
Resolution Images on  
a usb  
+  
Full wedding video  
& Preview Video  
+  
100kms Travelling  
included  
+  
A 60min engagement  
session (Location  
must be in  
Pretoria) with  
40 digital images  
+  
A digital 'Save the  
Date' card design.

**R11500**

## **Extras**

Additional Second  
Photographer  
@ R300 per hour  
(minimum of 7 hours)

Additional Edited  
Images  
@ R20 per image

Overtime Rate  
@ R500 per 30 minutes



# 9 HOUR Wedding Packages

## **Package 7** **Photo Only**

9 Hours coverage  
+  
1 Photographer  
+  
450 Digital High  
Resolution Images on  
a usb  
+  
100kms Travelling  
included  
+  
A 60min engagement  
session (Location  
must be in  
Pretoria) with  
40 digital images  
+  
A digital 'Save the  
Date' card design.

**R9100**

## **Package 8** **Video Only**

9 Hours coverage  
+  
1 Photographer  
+  
Full wedding video  
& Preview Video  
+  
100kms Travelling  
included  
+  
Pre-meeting 2-4  
weeks before  
the wedding

**R8500**

## **Package 9** **Photo & Video**

9 Hours coverage  
+  
1 Photographer &  
1 Videographer  
+  
450 Digital High  
Resolution Images on  
a usb  
+  
Full wedding video  
& Preview Video  
+  
100kms Travelling  
included  
+  
A 60min engagement  
session (Location  
must be in  
Pretoria) with  
40 digital images  
+  
A digital 'Save the  
Date' card design.

**R14000**

## **Extras**

Additional Second  
Photographer  
@ R300 per hour  
(minimum of 9 hours)

Additional Edited  
Images  
@ R20 per image

Overtime Rate  
@ R500 per 30 minutes



# 12 HOUR Wedding Packages

## **Package 10** **Photo Only**

12 Hours coverage  
+  
1 Photographer  
+  
600 Digital High  
Resolution Images on  
a usb  
+  
100kms Travelling  
included  
+  
A 60min engagement  
session (Location  
must be in  
Pretoria) with  
40 digital images  
+  
A digital 'Save the  
Date' card design.

**R11500**

## **Package 11** **Video Only**

12 Hours coverage  
+  
1 Photographer  
+  
Full wedding video  
& Preview Video  
+  
100kms Travelling  
included  
+  
Pre-meeting 2-4  
weeks before  
the wedding

**R10900**

## **Package 12** **Photo & Video**

12 Hours coverage  
+  
1 Photographer &  
1 Videographer  
+  
600 Digital High  
Resolution Images on  
a usb  
+  
Full wedding video  
& Preview Video  
+  
100kms Travelling  
included  
+  
A 60min engagement  
session (Location  
must be in  
Pretoria) with  
40 digital images  
+  
A digital 'Save the  
Date' card design.

**R18000**

## **Extras**

Additional Second  
Photographer  
@ R300 per hour  
(minimum of 12 hours)

Additional Edited  
Images  
@ R20 per image

Overtime Rate  
@ R500 per 30 minutes



# HOW TO MAKE A *Booking*



Get in touch with me to check if I have availability for your date.

Decide which package is best suited for you from our packages below.

Decide on a location for your engagement shoot. You can have a look on my site for some ideas.



Pay your 30% non-refundable retainer fee and sign the agreement.  
Make arrangements for the balance.

Your wedding is booked!  
Start planning your wardrobe, props, etc for your engagement session.

Shoot Day!  
We all show up on time with our game faces on. You dance, you laugh, you cry happy tears, and we create incredible photos.



After your shoot I upload all your unedited images to an online gallery so that you can choose your favourite photos.

I edit your chosen photos - This takes 10-14 days for engagement shoots and wedding sneak peeks, and 5-8 weeks for full wedding collections from when I receive your list of favourites.

Your digital photos will be ready for collection and you can order your printing.

# Weddings through the Seasons

## PORTRAIT & TIMING TIPS FOR: SUMMER, AUTUMN, WINTER & SPRING

### SUMMER

DECEMBER - FEBRUARY

Summer weddings offer ample daylight, allowing you to schedule the completion of portraits by 7pm. However, you can plan to finish even earlier; we can then arrange a moment during the reception to whisk you away for a brief sunset photo session.

### AUTUMN

MARCH - MAY

Many Autumn brides are concerned about colors. However, just one photo location with vibrant colors is enough to give the impression of Autumn. Sunset times change from March to May, but it's advisable to schedule your portrait session by approximately 6pm.

### WINTER

JUNE - AUGUST

Winter weddings are stunning! However, the challenging aspect of a winter timeline is the early sunset, around 5:30pm. Consequently, all your portraits need to be completed before then.

### SPRING

SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER

Spring weddings offer the ideal temperature and the chance for stunning blooms! Sunset times can differ during these months, but it's wise to schedule your portrait session to be finished by around 6pm.





*Pre-ceremony Tips*



## **LET THE DAY BEGIN!**

**This segment of your wedding day is pivotal in setting the tone for the entire day. In the following pages, I will provide some tips and tricks to guarantee a smooth morning of bridal preparations and stunning portraits.**





## BRIDE *Getting Ready*

**On the morning of your wedding, you should be unwinding with your bridesmaids while getting your hair and makeup done. Cherish this calm before the day's whirlwind of emotions unfolds. We'll capture the detailed makeup and hair preparations, along with the spontaneous moments as everyone gets ready. These are often the most heartfelt and enjoyable times, so it's best not to rush them.**

**Regarding photography in the dressing room, it can be sensitive. If you're self-conscious, feel free to request privacy at any time. Yet, some of the most memorable wedding photos are taken here, particularly when the bride is being assisted into her dress. If I'm asked to step out, you might miss a truly candid shot. Remember, photos can be deleted, but we can't recreate the moment.**

**In the bride's dressing room, a bit of disarray from the festivities is fine. However, to keep the area looking its best, store empty boxes and bags out of sight. Dresses and shoes scattered about add to the ambiance, but packaging materials do not. Similarly, flowers are more appealing in vases than in the boxes they arrived in.**





**ALL THE  
LITTLE  
DETAILS**

**RINGS, JEWELS AND SHOES...**

The day starts with the **DETAILS**. This segment of the wedding day enables me to warm up and get my creativity flowing for the day ahead. To the right, you'll find a list of common details that I capture. I request brides to collect any details they have prior to my arrival, so I can come in, greet everyone, and start photographing all your special items.

**WHAT TO  
HAVE READY**

**Dress and Shoes**  
**Jewellery, garter, veil  
& hairpiece**  
**Rings (Both yours & his)**  
**Something new, blue,  
old & borrowed**  
**Sentimentals & gift boxes**  
**All bouquets**  
**Wedding invitation**





Allocating at least 60 minutes for accessories is crucial to ensure ample time for capturing the perfect photo of the dress, rings, shoes, bouquets, and other day-of details. Sometimes, a hotel room may be too crowded or not aesthetically pleasing, necessitating a move of the dress to the lobby or even outside. While this may be time-consuming, the resulting photographs are well worth the effort.

The most frequently overlooked detail upon my arrival is the rings. It's common advice to entrust the wedding rings to the best man at the start of the day. However, it's preferable to keep them nearby so that I can capture some excellent shots of the rings in the morning.

Remember the bouquet. It's best to have the bouquets delivered to the bride's room in the morning for photo opportunities. If the weather is warm, don't worry; we'll ensure they stay in water as much as possible before the ceremony.





## GROOM *Getting Ready*

**Please allocate at least 90 minutes for me to document the groom's details, his dressing process, and to take his portraits.**

**A frequent query from the groom's party is, "Will you be present in the room to take photos while he is getting dressed?" The answer is affirmative. I ask that the groom and his groomsmen have their pants and socks on, and I will capture the moments from that point forward.**

**Remember to include whiskey and cigars. It's typical for groomsmen to indulge in scotch and cigars, enjoying the camaraderie on the wedding day. They want to look exceptionally suave in their pictures, so the whiskey and cigars are essential for those spirited, memorable shots.**



# The Venue & Decor

Please allocate a minimum of 30-40 minutes for me to photograph the ceremony and reception sites fully set up without any guests or vendors present. It's crucial to have this time before seating the guests to ensure we capture the entirety of your ceremony and reception setup at its finest. The shots we aim to capture include: the venue's interior and exterior, programs, decorations, aisle, unity candles, table centerpieces, the bride and groom's table, guest book, place cards, menus, gift table, hall pictures, cake or dessert table, food arrangements, musician or DJ, and favors.







## THE *Ceremony*

**Here it is, the moment everyone has been eagerly anticipating! The music swells and the guests are seated. The bride is poised to walk down the aisle towards the love of her life... and like many, she has likely envisioned this day for much of her life.**

**It's easy to become engulfed by the event's "prettiness." While details are significant and planning is essential, it's crucial to remember the true significance of this wondrous day.**



# THE Ceremony

These are photojournalistic-style shots of the wedding ceremony, capturing moments to the fullest extent allowed.

**\* Walking Down the Aisle:** There are some crucial tips here that greatly assist your photographer in capturing some outstanding shots.

**A. Ensure that your wedding party proceeds down the aisle at a leisurely pace, maintaining sufficient distance between each couple. This allows us to subtly step into the aisle and capture a photo of each individual. The spacing between each person or couple is vital for us to successfully take the photos. It's essential that everyone involved in the procession is aware of this strategy. Missing a few key photographs because the group walked too close together would be regrettable.**

**\* The Correct Way to Put the Rings on:** Capturing this moment can be challenging for wedding photographers. Often, couples inadvertently obstruct the view with their hands or bodies. To ensure a perfect shot, remember to place your fingers above and below the ring, not on the sides, as you slide it on. Another tip is to refrain from reaching out with your free hand to grasp your partner's wrist for better leverage. If necessary, place your hand beneath your partner's and support from below. This technique keeps your wrist from obscuring the view. With a bit of practice, you'll be able to put on the rings while maintaining visibility for your guests and the camera.







## LIGHTING

Ceremony lighting is really important. If you're getting married outdoors at 12pm the light will be extremely harsh and you'll be squinting.

I suggest you have your ceremony 3 hours before sunset to ensure that you have plenty of time afterwards for your portraits.

The lower the sun the more romantic the lighting.

## ORDER OF SERVICE

So many couples do amazing things during their ceremony.

I've seen couples share in communion and other light a unity candle. I've also seen my fair share of sand ceremonies! The possibilities are limitless.

You should design your ceremony to be exactly what the two of you envision it to be.

This is your day and if you have the freedom to be creative, then be creative!

## VENUE OR OFFICIANT RESTRICTIONS

Sometimes venues or churches set restrictions on how I may photograph the ceremony. This means that I may not be able to use flash during the ceremony or that I may not be allowed to photograph certain moments during the ceremony.

It's up to the couple to find out this information and relay to me any regulations put forth by the venue or church.

## COORDINATION

Hiring an event planner is so important, Brides realize quickly that if they do not have someone in charge of the coordination on the day that responsibility will automatically fall onto the mother-of-the-bride, the photographer or the BRIDE! When the photographer is in charge of coordination on the day, the images will suffer.

All of my most stressful weddings were caused by lack of coordination. It's so important to make this a priority.





# Church Ceremonies

**If you are getting married in a house of worship, rest assured I have plenty experience photographing church weddings.**

**I am familiar with photographing weddings in churches that have strict regulations. I follow the rules and still get amazing and up-close images using special lenses.**

**Just be sure to check with your church and inform me of any restrictions.**





## SAMPLE LIST FOR

# Family Formals



Family formals are normally my first interaction with the family and I love to have a game plan for the formal shots. Here is a sample family formals list to help you start preparing what shots you need.

- Big group photo**
- Bride + Groom + Bride's Parents**
- Bride + Bride's Parents**
- Bride + Groom + Groom's Parents**
- Bride + Groom + Bride's Siblings**
- Bride + Bride's Sister(s)**
- Bride + Bride's Brother(s)**
- Bride + Groom + Bride's Parents + Bride's Siblings**
- Bride + Bride's Mom + Bride's Sister(s)**
- Bride + Groom + Groom's Siblings**
- Bride + Groom + Groom's Parents + Groom's Siblings**
- Bride + Groom's Mom + Groom's Sister(s)**
- Bride + Groom + Bride's Parents & Siblings + Groom's Parents & Siblings**
- Bride + Groom + Bride's Grandparents**
- Bride + Bride's Grandma(s)**
- Bride + Bride's Grandpa(s)**
- Bride + Groom + Groom's Grandparents**
- Groom + Groom's Parents**
- Groom + Bride's Dad + Bride's Brother(s)**
- Groom + Groom's Sister(s)**
- Groom + Groom's Brother(s)**
- Groom + Groom's Dad + Groom's Brother(s)**
- Groom + Groom's Grandma(s)**
- Groom + Groom's Grandpa(s)**
- Groom + Bride's Dad + Bride's Brother(s) + Bride's Grandpa(s)**
- Groom + Groom's Dad + Groom's Brother(s) + Groom's Grandpa(s)**
- Bride + Groom + Bride's Grandparents + Groom's Grandparents**
- Bride + Groom + Bride's Parents + Bride's Siblings + Bride's Grandparents**
- Bride + Bride's Mom + Bride's Sister(s) + Bride's Grandma(s)**
- Bride + Groom's Mom + Groom's Sister(s) + Groom's Grandpa(s)**
- Bride + Groom + Groom's Parents + Groom's Siblings + Groom's Grandparents**
- Bride + Groom + Bride's Parents & Siblings & Grandparents + Groom's Parents & Siblings & Grandparents**



# FUN WITH THE *Bridal Party*

**LET'S TALK ABOUT YOUR BRIDAL PARTY – THE REAL FUN STARTS HERE! BRIDAL PARTY PORTRAITS SHOULD BE A BLAST. DEPENDING ON THE LOCATION AND TIME OF DAY, YOUR BRIDAL PARTY WILL LIKELY JOIN US FOR PORTRAITS. IF ALL GOES WELL, WE CAN TAKE MOST OF THE BRIDAL PARTY AND GROOMSMEN PORTRAITS BEFORE THE CEREMONY. THIS MEANS THEY'LL BE FREE TO ENJOY THE COCKTAIL HOUR IF THEY CHOOSE! FOR FLOWER GIRLS OR RING BEARERS, I SUGGEST THEY JOIN US FOR PRE-CEREMONY PORTRAITS. MAKE SURE YOUR GROOMSMEN HAVE THEIR BOUTONNIERES AND THE BRIDESMAIDS HAVE THEIR BOUQUETS.**





## SAMPLE LIST FOR

# Bridal Party Fun

**Bride with bridesmaids – formal**

**Bride with groomsmen - formal**

**Groom with groomsmen – formal**

**Groom with bridesmaids – formal**

**Bride and groom with groomsmen and bridesmaids – formal**

**Bride and groom with best man and maid of honor**

**Bridesmaids only group**

**Individual bridesmaids with bride**

**Groomsmen only**

**Individual groomsmen with groom**

**Bridesmaids and groomsmen group**

**Groom dipping Bride with wedding party in the back**

**Bride and groom with bridesmaids and groomsmen jumping or running**

**Bride and bridesmaids walking away holding hands**

**Bride & Bridesmaids – all bouquets covering faces except for brides face**

**Bride and bridesmaids pouting kisses**

**Bride and groom kissing with bridal party in the back**

**Bride and groom kissing with bridal party been silly in the back**

**Bridal party 'tugging' bride and groom 'apart'**

**Bridal party “Gangsta” pose**

**Bridal party peeping around corner at bride and groom kissing**

**Bride with bridesmaids flowers around her (silly)**

**Groom kissing bride while best man high fives groom**

**Maid of honour PhotoBomb**







# Romantic Portraits

Let's be candid, every wedding day photo is significant, but the true favorites come from the private moments with the bride and groom. These intimate portraits of just the two of you are the ones you'll cherish, displayed beside your bed or above your fireplace. They're the images that will populate your album, treasured by generations to come. During this fleeting part of the day, you and your groom will savor some "alone time" and connect before the whirlwind starts.





**SAMPLE LIST FOR**

# *Romantic Portraits*



- Full shot of bride and groom together, smiling, hugging, kissing**
- Bride sitting on groom's lap**
- Close-up of couples' faces as bride is lifted in the air**
- Bride and Groom holding ring out to camera**
- Bride looking back at camera over grooms shoulder**
- Bride in focus in front of groom /Groom in focus in front of bride**
- Groom dipping bride**
- Bride and groom walking toward the camera, holding hands**
- Bride and groom looking off in the same direction together**
- Pinkie promise with close up of rings**
- The wrap and kiss pose**
- Couple kisses with bride tugging on grooms tie**
- Bride leaning on grooms shoulder**
- Grooms hand on brides cheek**
- Cheek kiss / Forehead kiss / Nose to nose**
- Brides hand on the back of groom's neck**
- Brides hand on groom's chest**
- Arm in arm / Back to back**
- Dancing - Groom twirls bride**
- Portraits of Bride alone**
- Portraits of Groom alone**
- Bride and groom under the veil**



# IN CASE OF A Rainy Wedding Day

A common question is, "What happens if it rains?" Rest assured, your portraits will still be stunning, even in the rain. While rain may not be the ideal weather, and no bride hopes for it on her wedding day, if it does occur, everything will be perfectly fine.

Allow me to handle the photography concerns. You already have plenty on your mind. Should there be a possibility of rain, I will conduct additional scouting to locate a sheltered spot for your romantic portraits.

Approach the day one moment at a time. Worrying about the entire day and potential rain will only cause stress. It's wise to have a contingency plan for your venue, but trust your vendors to manage the day if rain is predicted.

And don't worry, I always carry umbrellas in my car, just in case!







# **THE** Reception

**The party is here! Receptions can be a blast!**

**However it is important to make sure that you have your event well thought out.**

**Your coordinator and DJ can help you set up the evening so that your guests don't leave early or experience long periods of waiting for the next thing to happen.**

**MUCH LIKE THE CEREMONY, YOU HAVE THE FREEDOM TO MAKE YOUR RECEPTION YOUR OWN. HERE IS A LIST OF SOME KEY EVENTS THAT THAT OFTEN HAPPEN AT RECEPTIONS:**

**Bridal party introductions**

**First dance**

**Daddy daughter dance**

**Mother son dance**

**Anniversary dance**

**Money dance**

**Traditional religious dances**

**Welcome speech**

**Blessing**

**Cake cutting**

**Toasts**

**Bouquet and Garter toss**

**Large group portraits**

**Games**



# Reception

## TIPS

Essential moments for the photographer to capture include the introduction of the wedding party, the first dances, toasts, cake cutting, and the bouquet and garter tosses, as well as the departure. Naturally, capturing your guests enjoying themselves, dining, and dancing is also important. However, it's not necessary to have the photographer present for every single moment.

Typically, I roam around the reception to capture any special moments. The duration of my stay at the reception will likely depend on your budget.

Coordinate the evening's layout with your DJ and photographer: Discuss the event schedule with your DJ to ensure a smooth reception. It's important that I'm also aware of the schedule to guarantee I'm positioned correctly for each significant moment. Please inform me of your positions and other details as needed.

**Throwing Flowers:** Take your time with this segment; engage with your audience. This allows me to capture a photo of you holding the bouquet and glancing back at your friends lining up. Before the toss, gently shoo away the little ones—they tend to reach the bouquet before your bridesmaids and friends do. Check above for low-hanging obstacles like lights or ceiling fans that could block the bouquet's path. And if the throw doesn't go smoothly, be prepared to try again.







# Reception

## NIGHT SHOOT

Just because the sun has set doesn't mean the opportunity for romantic portraits is over. Get ready to snuggle up, take a deep breath, and join me under the stars for some enchanting nighttime portraits.





# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **Where do you live and how far will you travel?**

I live in Riviera, Pretoria. Shoots in Gauteng have a traveling fee of R7.50 per km (to destination only). I am also very comfortable traveling for shoots. Travel is billed very simply - if airfare and hotel and rental car are needed, all you are responsible for is a direct reimbursement for the charges.

## **Have you shot at my venue / location before?**

I have shot at loads of venues and locations, so there is a good chance that we have. However, if I have not, I will get to the venue early on the day of and be sure to perform a thorough walk-through to scout out the best photography locations. I also do extensive online research prior to the shoot!

## **Do you also provide video services?**

Yes we do!

## **Can some of our photos be delivered in both black & white and colour?**

They most definitely can!

## **How long does it take before we receive our products and photographs?**

I edit your chosen photos - This takes 10-14 days for engagement shoots and wedding sneak peeks, and 6-8 weeks for full wedding collections from when I receive your list of favourites. Upon final approval of album designs, most albums are ready for delivery within three weeks.

## **Are our digital files watermarked?**

They are not. The high resolution files do not bear any watermarks. I do however ask that you use the low resolution watermarked files for Facebook, Instagram and other social media.



### **Do we get the copyright of the images?**

Many photographers include a "copyright release" in their contracts, which generally just means the same as a release to have your images printed by yourself, or any lab you choose. That's not the same as obtaining copyright! Copyright simply means that I am the creator of the images, and I "own" the copyright. Selling or obtaining "the copyright" is not possible, but you will have the ability to print and share your images as much as you'd like!

### **Do we receive the raw, unedited files?**

The raw, unedited files aren't available for viewing or purchase. This is very much like asking your caterer to give you the leftover ingredients used to make your dinner! The images selected for editing and final delivery reflect my very high standards and everything else isn't archived in the studio. Please rest assured that any images not delivered truly were not meant to be part of any collection! We do not cull to meet a certain number of delivered images, so every viable image is edited carefully and delivered.

### **Can we see the outtakes and all of the images that didn't make the "final cut"?**

The images delivered to you are very loosely sorted through, taking out only eyes-closed, flash-didn't-fire, person-walked-in-front-of-the-lens true outtakes. If there are a handful of images of you together with your mom laughing, for example, I'm going to include everything that isn't an absolute duplicate and so forth. The images not selected aren't archived and therefore aren't available.

### **What will my album look like once it's completed?**

With the fresh, modern books I design, the images are printed directly onto the pages, much like in a coffee table book you'd buy at the bookstore. I try to keep the designs clean and class

### **What is this "online gallery" you talk of?**

The online gallery is a private website where all of your photographs will be placed online for you and your family and friends to view. All you have to do is provide the link to anyone who you want to be able to view the images.

### **Do you offer engagement sessions?**

I love engagement sessions and offer them with most of my wedding packages! Please take note that most engagement sessions have to be done Tuesday-Thursday because of a heavy wedding schedule, but there's occasionally Friday, Saturday and Sunday availability. Sessions are photographed mostly in the Pretoria area. I'm available to travel elsewhere for your engagement session (and would love to!); certain travel rates may apply to areas outside my usual geographic location. The sessions are generally shot at 4pm during the winter months, and 5pm in the summer months. If you have any questions about your engagement session, please don't hesitate to contact me!



**How would you describe your style of photography?**

I shoot in a very natural, journalistic style. I'm very hands-off and unobtrusive in my coverage; I do believe that there is a time and place for gorgeous, casually posed images. So while I won't stop you and make you pose while tickling your kids, I'd like some time during the shoot to create some formal posed shots as well. I also believe strongly in preserving all of the details of events; from your cake to your shoes, so my work is very flush with detail images. My images of the guests at the event are almost 100% journalistic and I won't stop entire tables at the reception and make them pose for "table shots." I prefer instead to capture them laughing, smiling, dancing, drinking, and having a great time.

**Do you take posed family photos at events?**

Absolutely. I strongly believe in those family images, as they're records of your entire family at an important time in their history together.

**Can we provide you with a "shot list" or "must take pictures"?**

I don't mind at all. But please understand that I can't always guarantee that every shot on your list will be taken.

**How long have you been in business?**

I've been in business since 2007. I am always deeply honoured when I'm asked to document a wedding or capture some precious memories for a family; and I take that responsibility very seriously.

**Can you hold a date for me?**

I'm so sorry, but I can't hold the date or pencil you in. To be fair to everyone I can't "hold" a date without a deposit. I accept bookings on a first come/first serve basis.

**Can we pay you part of the amount after the photo shoot?**

I do require full payment before the event. If you have any concerns about the payment schedule, I'd love to chat with you about them!

**If I need to cancel my photo shoot, is the deposit / retainer fee refundable?**

The deposit fee/retainer fee is non-refundable. The deposit guarantees that I'll hold the date exclusively for you and once you've signed the contract I do turn down all other shoots for that time frame.

**Cancellation refunds as follows:**

50% of your invoice is non refundable under any circumstances.

### **What if you die?**

If I die I can guarantee I will not be at your event - which would be super sad. However, Pixie's Photography (to be honest, probably just my husband and my incredibly grief-stricken friends) will still supply you with coverage from one of my associate shooters.

### **Okay, maybe not DIE, per say, but what if you're super sick?**

Please know that I take the responsibility of shooting your event extremely seriously, and wouldn't just "call in sick" without a very grave, serious reason behind it. If that were to happen, we would find you a replacement photographer at the same skill level that I possess. If this is something that concerns you, please contact me and we can chat! I promise that this is a situation that we plan for carefully, and hope we never have to execute that plan!

### **When should we book you for our wedding, event, family shoot, etc?**

ASAP. Since I can't "hold" dates or "pencil you in" dates are booked when...well, when they're booked. It's easy to predict what will be popular weekends, but not always easy to predict when those weekends will book up!

### **We wish we could meet with you, but we don't live in Pretoria. Is there an alternative?**

The majority of our clients hire us without an in-person meeting. We are very quick, and very thorough, with emails and phone calls and are able to answer most questions in those ways.

### **My better half is uncomfortable having his picture taken. How can you help him on the day of the shoot?**

I am a very calm, mellow person who tends to blend into the scene rather than bring attention to myself and my cameras. That, combined with my documentary style, will have your better half used to me within the first few minutes of your shoot. Most families tell me it felt like I was just one of the gang, hanging out with everyone. The only time you'll really be aware of the camera is during the family group photo and the creative portraits, and during this time I will guide you through everything. You can just be yourselves, and I will take care of the rest.

### **What do you do if we have an outdoor venue and it rains on the day of our shoot?**

I easily adapt to any situation. My favorite photos have a lot more to do with your personalities and your chemistry as a couple or family, than what kind of background you're standing in front of. If you are happy and in love, that will show in your photos. We see rain as a fun, adventurous twist that usually brings laughter and spontaneity. The only time that we may need to keep in touch is if there's a thunder storm on the day of your shoot.. but even this I can work around!



**If our event is running late, will you stay later than you were scheduled?**

Surely! I do have an overtime rate and it goes into effect only with your permission and approval that I continue coverage. I'll bill you for those hours after the event.

**Do you offer discounts for off-season or non-Saturday events?**

Occasionally discounts are available but are based on time of year, my travel schedule, and availability. If you have concerns about your budgetary needs, please contact me and let me know.

**Do we need to feed you at the reception or event?**

It would be really kind if you did. Feeding me ensures I stay cheerful, mobile, and that I don't faint from starvation, or end up eating a stale chocolate bar that's been in my camera bag since 2007. I prefer to be fed when you are fed, not afterwards, because when you're eating you're not at your most photogenic. And when you're done, I want to be done as well to continue your coverage. We do bring our own food and water to weddings, but a hot meal is always a lovely treat during a long work day!

**Can our family and friends take pictures with their cameras?**

I do request they not swarm the family photographs with cameras and smartphones because I'd prefer all eyes facing me in your images.

**Can you just snap a few images and/or give us the RAW files?**

9 times out of 10, the answer will be no for both. If you are looking for a mini session, always ask if I have a mini event coming up.

RAW files. To explain why we say no, I'll explain what they are first. Most photographers use a setting that keeps the image at it's highest quality, called RAW files. They are essentially like undeveloped film. Unless you have a way to view them with special software (think dropping film off at a photo lab), they're useless to you. Plus, it's like going to order an amazing cake from a bakery...like the wicked intricate Pinterest cake with layers and flowers that is stunning...but you ask them to give you just the cake layers. You picked the bakery and the cake because of the finished product, that's what you should hope to get. Let us do all the work for you!