

Getting Romantic Wedding Photos



Five Tips For Your Big Day

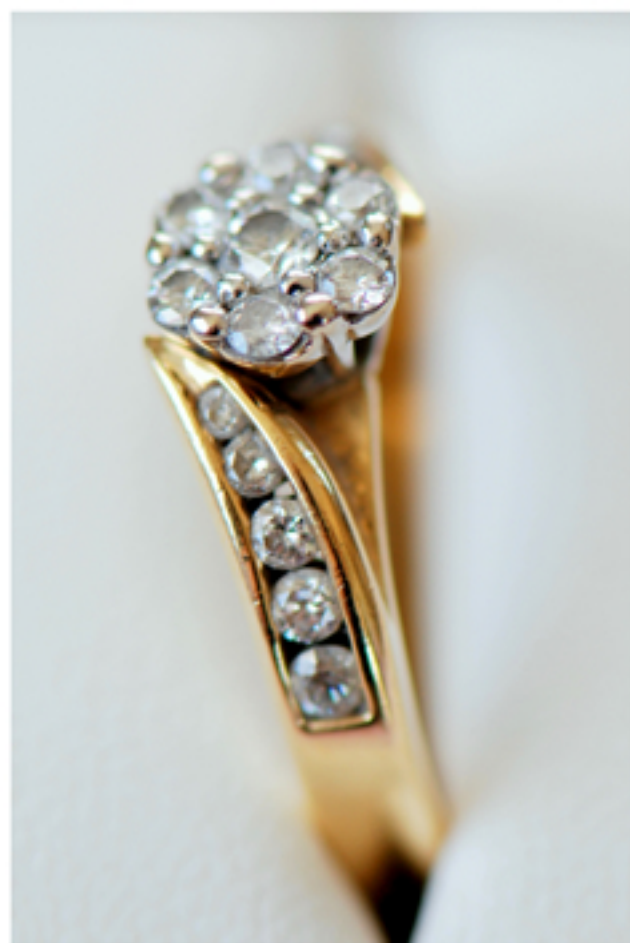
Getting Romantic Wedding Photos Five Tips For Your Big Day

By Rebecca Dawson

So your big day is coming up... congratulations!

It's time to start planning your photos. They'll be your best way of keeping memories from the big day. You want to make sure the photos are as lovely as possible.

The fact is it's up to your photographer to work their magic and get those romantic photos. They're the ones responsible for getting special pictures.



What you can do is prepare. This will help to make an environment where you can shine and those enchanting photos are easily made when you get in front of the camera.

So here are my top five tips for what you need to do to ensure you get the best photos...

1. Choose a Venue You Love

Venues are important. They form the backdrop for your precious memories. But more important than how the venue looks is how it makes you feel.

If your venue is somewhere special it will be much easier to get photos that capture your connection and relationship.

The venue needs to be a place where you are comfortable. It's great if it's a genuine part of your life. If you're always at the beach, then that could be a good place. Or out in the country with your horse and dogs, if that's who you are. Maybe somewhere with significant meaning to you – you met or got engaged there.

Think small, rather than big. The majority of your pictures will be close and personal. Most of the time you only need a couple of metres of background for the picture.



2. Know Your Photographer



Communication is the key here. Your photographer needs to know you. They need a good grip on your likes and dislikes.

The more they know about what you want, the more pleasing the results will be. If you're fussy about style (like me) then you'll need to be especially clear. The last thing you want is to end up with photos you're disappointed with.

If a photographer realises they're not a good fit for the style you're after then they should let you know, so you can find someone else.

You should meet your photographer well ahead of time. You also want to take them out to your venues so you can go over creative styles and ideas. They'll probably want to be there at a similar time to the wedding day so they can get a handle on the lighting.

3. Make a Plan

People can get stressed and time can race away on the day. A good plan means that everyone knows what is going to happen and they can get it done without tension.

The family formals can take a long time (and get really boring!) if not well managed. Make a list of exactly who you want in which photos and get it to your photographer before the day.

I like to get the family formals done quickly so we can get onto the more creative photos. The rest of the shoot should be a real fun time. It's a couple of hours away from it all with just your closest friends. Play around and have a ball.

Again, a plan really helps. You want to keep the time from blowing out, so you can get back to celebrating with your friends and family.

Your photographer should be able to help you come up with a plan and the lists of what photos you need.



4. Prepare the Bridal Party

The rest of the bridal party is usually the biggest challenge. Get them involved so they don't derail the photos.

It's great to get them in on the plan. They need to know how long the photos will go on for. Hopefully they will get the idea that it's for the bride and groom, and not about them. If possible it's good for them to meet with the photographer before the big day.



Children tend to have a two second attention span. The best idea is get all their photos done first and out of the way. It's an absolute must to have a person dedicated to looking after the children. You want to be focused on each other, not worrying about where the kids have run off to. With very little children they're happier if they've just slept and been fed. Give them a job (maybe blowing bubbles) and they'll feel important and behave better.

And avoid the alcohol. One or two beers might be okay, but more and people get harder to control and lose interest in the photos. It affects the skin and makes people look bloated. The whole effect is just not pretty. Save it till later.

5. Relax

So the preparation is all done and finally it's your wedding day.

Lots of people get in front of the camera and go all stiff and unnatural. If you don't spend a lot of time in front of the camera, then you'll probably be too conscious of it.

The key is to relax. This shows off the real you.

It's important not to worry about the photographer. Let them do the job they're there for. We have lots of ways to help you relax and get romantic feelings out of you! You just need to go with the flow. Don't focus on the camera.

Get comfortable in your head with being in front of the camera. When you're being natural your photographer can capture those enchanting moments.



Have a Good Time

Hopefully these tips help you get an album full of romantic photos with those adoring looks.

All the best with your wedding!

About Rebecca

I'm a photographer in Tauranga, New Zealand who focuses on enchanting wedding photography.

My method is all about finding a style that is magical for you. Usually that means we create an album that is a mix of traditional and photojournalistic styles, but it all depends on what you want.

You can find more details about how I work on my website. And if you want to get in touch and have a chat you can email info@rebeccadawson.co.nz or phone 07 544 9133.

My website is www.rebeccadawson.co.nz



© Copyright 2011 Rebecca Dawson Photography

All photos by Rebecca Dawson.