

What is a Wedding Photojournalist & Why a Wedding Photojournalist?

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No matter how long a couple has been together and no matter how right the timing might be, getting engaged is one of the most exciting and hectic times of your life. First and foremost, you want to share your excitement with your family and friends, and then celebrate with the two most important people...yourselves! Nevertheless, before you receive the last few congratulations and happy engagement cards, you will have to quickly turn your attention to planning the "BIG" day.

In the coming months, you will spend a great deal of time envisioning and planning your big day. It will have its ups and downs with the headaches and the voicemails that you will leave potential vendors, but when it all comes together and the big day arrives, it will leave you with something to cherish and remember for a lifetime. After all the timeless hours of preparation, it will seem like your wedding will be over in a blink of an eye, but the memories that are made and captured by a professional photographer will last a lifetime and be cherished for generations to come. There are few things that rival a night of good wine, but your wedding photo album and reminiscing about your wedding day with your spouse is a strong contender. Times like these are cherished, and as a new couple, you will want to make sure they are not few and far between.

The question you and your soon to be spouse must ask each other is who you will entrust with the daunting task of capturing your wedding memories? There are a number of circumstances you as a couple must consider when making this decision. The photography trends are changing in both the traditional and contemporary genres without a moments notice, so it is important to do your homework and make the best selection that will compliment you as a couple.. Photography in general has encountered a lifetime of changes since your parents may have retained a photographer. In the earlier years, weddings were photographed in styles that captured the bride and groom in stuffy, overly formal poses. We have all seen these traditional wedding photographs on Mom and Dad's shelf, or possibly tucked away in their wedding album and in some cases, the perfect wedding photograph of them both in a very stagnant pose. The sixties and seventies wedding fashions as well as wedding photography have changed; creative forces have evolved on so many levels. Photographers are breaking common norms and imaginative forces are in full bloom. So how do you envision your special day?

Wedding photojournalism is the latest, in demand style that more and more couples are seeking. The truly gifted wedding photojournalist is a great observer. He or she sees and captures the fleeting moments that often go unrecorded. The photojournalist photographer has an acute sense of the timeline in order to be able to isolate moments from your wedding. It's about seeing with expression, observing the interactions, and capturing real life as it unfolds.

The wedding photojournalist captures your wedding in an unobtrusive style, while allowing the day's events to unfold, but also using their creative trained eye to help capture the perfect photograph. I don't know the last time I saw a bride walking in the park and just start twirling her dress or the bride and groom who knows exactly how to stand to emphasize there features in the most flattering way. Though a photojournalist does not disturb or interrupt the day's events, they do know how to make the small minor adjustments in order to capture the moment and produce the best possible image.

The traditional photographs that Mom and Dad have were a stitch in time, because the image stood alone. A photojournalist's images are a series of images that weave together to tell a story.

Not only can each image stand alone, but more importantly, each image carries forward to the next, to create a narrative story of your wedding day. It is unique because the photographer customized your wedding and captured your day to tell the story about your love, your life, your friends, your family, and the beauty of the day to tell “Your Wedding Story.” A photojournalist’s photographs allow the couples personality to shine through. Unlike years ago, your parent’s images we left stagnant and stiff, and they never told the story to take you through their day. So how do you get the photographs that will stand the test of time? It is important that you build a relationship with your photographer and that they know who you are and what is important to you, because your photographer is going to have the most access to you, the bride and groom during the most intimate moments of your wedding day than any other single person involved; your first kiss, the bride getting ready, your dance together as husband and wife.

The key to a successful relationship with you and your wedding photographer is keeping the lines of communication open. You need to start with letting the photographer get to know you and also you getting to know their photojournalist style. It is always a great suggestion to have an engagement session. There is a hidden value in engagement sessions. The connection between you and your photographer is a direct result of the amount of time you have taken to get to know each other, with the outcome resulting in complete trust and openness on both ends of the spectrum. Use an engagement session as a time to build these relationships and establish the trust. The ultimate goal is a free creative license on your wedding day.

Photographs are the best way to truly capture the special and tender moments of your day, and you want to make sure that your photographs reflects you and exceeds your desired expectations. Being a young, experienced photographer, who has been photographing weddings for the past seven years, I find that youthfulness is a disposition. It is not about age as much as it is about the ability to see things from my client’s perspective. It is about staying up to date with the trends and new technology of the ever-changing wedding photography world. It is about making the clients feel comfortable, but also allowing them to trust me to capture the moments that would normally be forgotten if they are not preserved to create a narrative memory for you to show your friends and family, your children, and your children’s children.

Choosing to have a photojournalist capture your wedding will allow you to have a complete narrative wedding story told through a series of images. Your photographs will not have the lifeless, overly formal poses of decades past. It is an unobtrusive style of photography, while *always using a creative trained eye* to capture the perfect image.

Get to know your photographer, have an engagement session, and trust your judgment and you will then trust your photographer. It will be one less thing to worry about in the process of creating “Your Wedding Story”.