



At Hamilton Photography, we want to make your experience relaxing and enjoyable. Our goal is to capture amazing photographs of your big day. Below are some tips to consider, these are just suggestions and we realize not all of these are always relevant or possible.

#### Before the big day!

Practice in your dress with a mirror. You want to feel comfortable in your dress and be able to walk, sit and dance! The more comfortable you are, the more natural your photos will be. (You can even practice bustling your dress too! Precious time is often lost while your bridal party tries to figure it out.)

Take a few pictures after your hair and make up trial to make sure you like how it looks in photos!

#### Pre-ceremony

- Free your room of clutter. The things you need to get ready with are fine (make up etc) but try and remove items such as food wrappers, dirty clothes etc... Of course, we will move things if needed but it is nice for candid photos not to have that stuff in the background
- When the photographer arrives, it is nice to have the bridesmaids dressed and ready to go ... Only the bride should still need to get ready. We realize this is not always possible but recommend it if it is.
- We love grabbing a few shots of the dress hanging in a window or somewhere with natural light. If you have time, get the dress out of the bag and remove any tags etc...
- Have jewelry & shoes ready for photographs. If you want a picture of your wedding invitation, have it with the jewelry and we will make sure to get some shots
- It is best to have the flowers delivered where you are getting ready. The flowers are great as a prop with detail photos as well as portraits and candid photos of you!
- When possible, mom and dad should be part of pre-bridal/getting ready shots

## Ceremony

- Overall, we can handle all rules and regulations at your Church. When we arrive to the Church, we confirm with the church coordinator.

## Formals

- Remind everyone who you want in photos, to go back to alter/ceremony spot right after the recessional. We want to get everyone to the reception as quickly as possible!
- When kissing your bride or groom, do so slowly and hold it for a few seconds. Some of the most romantic photos are the inch right before the kiss.

## Reception

- Dancing photos – We take all candids during the significant dances. Of course, be in the moment but if you are someone who tends to keep you head down the entire time, try and remember to lift up and look at your new bride and groom a few times! If you dance with your hands up and out, please try to keep them lower than your face to not block your expressions.
- Plan on cake cutting no less than 30 min before photographer is leaving
- Ask the caterer to plan on feeding the photographers while you and your wedding party of eating. This ensures full coverage of your reception and when you are ready to walk tables and dance, so are we!

## Overall

- We highly recommend no glitter / shimmer powder on anyone. It tends to look like dust specs in the photographs.
- Always keep blotting paper handy. This will keep the shine away. We try to always have it on hand as well.
- The smallest adjust in posture can make a huge difference! Always stand slightly sideways to the camera, with weight on your back foot and your chin slightly up and your shoulders back – don't worry, we will remind you ☺
- Don't be afraid to smile, laugh and be outwardly emotional around the camera. Capturing the joy and emotions of the day is what we want to do. Have fun ... It's your wedding day!