

### **Wedding Picture Guide**

NOTE: I have never carried a complete check list to any wedding, although I have, and still do, carry a list of the Bride's list of special pictures with me. When you learn to shoot in clusters, you'll find a check list is unnecessary and actually gets in the way. But to help you get started, here goes.....

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#### **I. If formal pictures are shot *before* the ceremony.**

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\*\*\*\* **camera A** \*\*\*\*

1. B<sup>1</sup> formal looking at bouquet
  2. B formal looking at camera
  3. B formal looking away
  4. B 3/4 looking at camera
  5. B holding flowers near face
  6. B holding flowers away (3/4 back)
  7. B cradling flowers looking down
  8. B holding flowers in right hand
  9. B looking at ring
  10. B silhouette/G doubled into head
  11. G standing portrait
  12. G leaning looking at camera
  13. G leaning looking away
  14. G looking at ring
  15. B&G formal
  16. B&G 3/4 sidelight
  17. B&G holding hands
  18. B&G heads together
  19. B&G looking at each other
  20. B&G kissing
  21. B&G facing each other
  22. Bs hand on Gs cheek
  23. B behind Gs profile
  24. B looking at bouquet / G looking at B
  25. G behind Bs profile
  26. G putting ring on B
- \*\*\*\* **camera B** \*\*\*\*
27. B&G lighting wedding candle
  28. B&G looking at candle flames
  29. B&G looking down (bottom half blocked for later dbl exposure)

\*\*\*\* **camera A** \*\*\*\*

30. B & MOH
31. B & bridesmaids
32. Wedding party
33. Wedding party
34. B&G & MOH & BM
35. G & ushers
36. G & BM
37. G & mother
38. G & father
39. G & parents
40. B&G & Gs parents
41. B&G & all parents
42. B&G & Bs parents
43. B & mother
44. B & parents
45. B & father
46. B&G & grandparents
47. Other special groups now
48. Invitation
49. MOH or mother fixing Bs veil
50. B looking in mirror
51. Garter being put on (rare)
52. Guestbook attendant
53. Minister signing license when possible
54. Vocalist
55. Organ player when requested
56. G getting ready
57. Gs mother aisle
58. Bs mother aisle
59. G entering
60. Bridesmaids aisle
61. Gs or Bs mother watching B
62. B & father aisle
63. B & father giving B to G

\*\*\*\* **camera B** \*\*\*\*

64. Ceremony w/ top half blocked from #29

65. Ceremony pictures

\*\*\*\* **camera A or camera B** \*\*\*\*

66. Kiss at end of ceremony

67. B&G aisle

68. B&G kissing

69. B&G being greeted by Bridal Party then family -- watch for emotion!

70. Several R line pictures

71. Rice ( this may come after R)

72. B&G in car (possibly after R)

73. Cake

74. Buffet

75. Cake cutting B&G looking at cake

76. Cake cutting B&G looking at me

77. Cake feeding

78. Feeding results

79. B&G toast

80. B&G drinking

81. Best man's toast

82. Bridal dance & band

83. B&G dancing with parents

84. Dollar dance (if any)

85. Hostesses

86. Candid reception pictures

87. Hands showing rings

88. B throwing bouquet

89. G removing garter WATCH for weird reactions

90. G throwing garter

91. Garter catch

92. B&G opening gifts (if they do)

93. B&G in going away clothes

94. B&G leaving reception

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## II. If formals shot *after* ceremony

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\*\*\*\* **camera A** \*\*\*\*

1. B & mother

2. mother fixing veil

3. B & father

4. father kissing B

5. B & parents

6. B & MOH

7. B looking at ring

8. B looking in mirror

9. G getting ready

10. G & BM

11. G portrait series

12. G looking at ring

13. G & mother | Not always possible

14. G & father | at this time

15. G & parents |

16. Series I 52-55

17. Series I 57-63

\*\*\*\* **camera B** \*\*\*\*

18. Ceremony pictures

19. Ceremony w/ top half blocked

\*\*\*\* **camera A** \*\*\*\*

20. Last ceremony picture

21. Kiss

22. Series I 67-70

23. Series I 31-35 edit for time

24. Series I 40-42

25. Other groups

26. Series I 1-8 with editing

27. B&G heads double exposure

28. Series I 15-22

29. Series I 24-25

\*\*\*\* **camera B** \*\*\*\*

30. B&G looking down w/ #19

31. Series I 27-28

\*\***camera A or B**\*\*

32. Rice | Unless after

33. Car | reception

34. Reception series

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## Some pictures to watch for

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1. B giving flowers to mothers

2. Car being decorated

3. B&G & minister

4. Gag gifts

5. Special people

6. Special or unusual situations

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### **III. Pictures to watch for in Jewish weddings**

#### **A. Before the ceremony**

1. Bodeken ceremony (G places veil on B) Orth. always, Cons. sometimes, Ref. never.
2. Rabbi signing marriage contract w/ B&G & all parents present. Usually in his office. These pictures are a must.

#### **B. Ceremony**

1. Bride circling G (Orth. always, Cons. sometimes, Ref. never)
2. G breaking glass with foot, then kiss (all sects)

#### **C. Reception**

1. B&G entering reception
2. Cutting of the Challah (traditional bread) before the meal - must get!
3. B&G & guests dancing the Hora (special circle dance usually done to music called Hava Nagila) - must get!
4. B&G in chairs raised aloft (you saw this in "Fiddler on the Roof") and "dancing" with a handkerchief held between them

Two important reminders about Jewish weddings:

1. Men, Jewish or not, are expected to wear a yarmulke ( the traditional skullcap) at all Orthodox and Conservative ceremonies and some Reformed ones.
2. The Jewish Sabbath is from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday and weddings NEVER take place then. So 90% of Jewish weddings take place after sundown Saturday and all day Sunday.

Finally, there is one Orthodox sect that refuses to be photographed. You'll never be hired by them, but you may be a guest at one of their weddings. Respect their wishes and don't try to sneak one of them.

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The above list was compiled by a working wedding photographer for his methods and equipment. Because he used medium format equipment that produced 16 exposures per roll of film, the numerical sequencing allowed double exposures to be done easily. If you use 35mm equipment you may want to rethink the order of the photos. This list is presented as a guide only, and should be modified for your

particular needs. Do not try to use this list as a guide without first doing some dry runs to see how it works for you.

The photographer that devised this list generally tried to persuade the bride and groom to do the formal pictures before the ceremony. He listed many reasons for wanting to do so. Even though the groom got to see the bride in dress before ceremony (a lingering superstition), the time that guests are kept waiting for the photographer is kept to a minimum, and less pressure is placed on the photographer. Fewer mistakes are then likely, and guests are definitely happier. You probably can think of other reasons for shooting the formally posed pictures beforehand. However, some couples will insist on formal pictures being made after ceremony. This list outlines both ways of shooting in case of this.

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1. B=Bride, G=Groom, BM=Best Man, MOH=Maid of Honor, R=Reception