



## *Better Wedding Photos* - tips from Nu Image Photography

The following information is a guide to help you get the most from your wedding photography. Of course every wedding is different and one of the main variables is the amount of time your photographer spends with you on the day - this information is based on our most popular coverage's in which we spend 6-8 hours with our couples and their families, friends and attendants.

Ok, now for some tips **to help ensure great photos** on your day and we'll go in order of the way most coverage's flow - that is starting with the guys. (Allow 30-45 mins)  
The number one tip is for the guys to be on time and for that to happen ALL the guys need to be showered and shaved before the photographer arrives – ALL THE GUYS.

It's also important for all the groomsmen to have tried their suits on before the wedding day even if they have tried them previously and had any alterations done. This includes the shirt as well as all pieces of the suit. Many times the guys have had suit problems that could have been avoided by trying them on a day or two previously. Also, if you are having video coverage, check whether your videographer is arriving before your photographer or at the same time and whether you need to allow extra time for both professionals to get the shots they need and remember that these days all aspects of your preparation are covered from buttoning your shirt to putting on your cufflinks and button-hole flower. Make sure the rings are available to be photographed as well as any special items such as watches, jewellery and designer after shave etc.

Sometimes with clients from interstate or overseas it happens that we don't meet before the wedding day, but it's much easier if we do - especially for the groom, as they tend to be more nervous than the bride. **Breaking the ice at a pre-wedding meeting means that on the day everyone is more relaxed and the fun can start from the moment we arrive.** At Nu Image we would normally meet with our couples on 2-3 occasions before the wedding day and we are always contactable by phone or email if you have questions or need help in any way.





Once we arrive at the Bride's location, **timing is everything**. We like to allow 60-90 mins and time it so all the girls have their hair and make up completed when we arrive, which means we can get photographing in a relaxed and stress free way.

Once a time has been established for your photographer to arrive it's important to let your make up artist and hairdresser know that this is the time that you and all your bridesmaids must be ready by. Don't forget to let your florist know that the flowers will also be required at or before this time.

**The number one hold up on a wedding day is hair and make up** (sorry to generalise) and for this reason we advise ALL our brides to never go last with their hair or make up. If you are running behind time here you will be missing out on photos no matter what anyone says.

On the topic of make up, it is important to go with someone that you can trust and **it's a very good idea to have a trial** before the day. Wedding make up is usually different than what you may normally wear but is designed to stand up to a big day and look great in photos. If you are struggling to find someone we'll be able to recommend some experienced make up artists.

One thing that can throw a spanner in the works for us as the photographers and the make up artists alike is a "spray tan". My tip here is to only have a spray tan if you usually have one and by the same person or company that usually does your tan.

**Never have a spray tan for your wedding if you haven't had one before.**

We have had brides to ask us to "fix" their tan in Photoshop after the day and this is just not a practical option. The issue with a Photoshop fix is if we alter the colouring of the bride, the colouring of everyone else changes also – better to have the colour skin you are used to on the day.



If you are sun baking for a tan in the lead up to your wedding and you have chosen a strapless wedding dress, please wear a strapless swim suit. Sounds obvious but tan marks aren't always easy to remove from photos and if a lot of time has to be spent removing these marks there has to be charges applied.



As with the boys, the girls need to be ready to get dressed when the photographer arrives. **Your photographer will capture all**

**the finishing touches like buttoning or lacing up the dress, putting in your earrings and putting on the veil**, before getting all those special shots of the bride, the bridesmaids and the family in stylish magazine worthy images. Remember mum, dad & gran may also be needed and need to be ready also (yes dad, that means you need to get dressed as well).

At Nu Image we are happy to photograph you at your home, a hotel, on location or a combination of all and we can recommend great locations if you need help - just remember to tell us what you would like at the pre-wedding meeting so that we can allow enough time in the schedule and everything will run to plan.

**Lastly, don't forget to take some lippy and or gloss with you for touch-ups throughout the day.**



Most priests or celebrants don't like brides to arrive too late so **allow plenty of time to make the journey to the ceremony and arrive on time** and if you find you are early, it's easy to do a lap around the block once you are close.

During the ceremony enjoy the moment. This is what the day is all about and we'll capture the ceremony as it happens – laughter, tears, exchanging rings, the kiss ! - and it will all happen so quickly and before you know it, your married.

**Allow enough time after the ceremony to enjoy the moment** and not feel pressured to leave for photos. Our advice is to factor in a good half an hour after the ceremony as all your guests will want to congratulate and have a few words with you. These are great moments for candid shots and shouldn't have to be rushed. Once the greetings are done it's a perfect time for group and family photos so don't forget to allow time for these as well.

If you are having a church wedding, this is not always the ideal place to do your family photos and you may wish to arrange a nearby location where the immediate family can meet to get these shots, away from the crowds of guests and on-lookers at the church. Nu Image can help with recommending locations for your family group photos and how much time to allocate.



**For the location shoot we ask for at least 60-90 minutes** plus travel time between locations and it doesn't matter to us how many locations you want – if there's time that's fine as it means more variety and more fun. To get the most out of your location shoot we can recommend some great spots and we welcome your input as to favourite places or locations that have special meaning to you. **A professional photographer will make the most of every opportunity** no matter the light, weather or wind and it's important that you don't get concerned or upset if the weather isn't co-operative. No one can control the weather but with the experience and knowledge that we have available to us at Nu Image, you will get great images no matter what the day holds.

Another aspect that will make this part of the day more enjoyable is some canapés and drinks for you and your bridal party. **Our main aim for the shoot is that everyone has a great time** and since not everyone in the party will be in every photograph why not make it even more enjoyable to be at the shoot whether you are involved in a shot or not. Often the hire car companies will **include snacks and drinks** with their package but in my experience it's best to check exactly what they will be serving as it may not be enough or to your liking. If it's not suitable, organise a basket or esky of what you'd like and the drivers will happily take it in their car.

So, on to the reception and while your guests are having pre-dinner drinks **we will photograph table settings, decorations, the cake and details that you have put time and effort into** as well as some "mock" cutting the cake shots with the bride and groom. Usually after this part of the day, we'll say goodbye and leave the two of you to start the party and relax with your guests, however reception photos are a very personal thing and each couple has different ideas about what they'd like to include in their album so if you need us to stay longer we have a number of options to ensure your reception is covered the way you want it.



Lastly, we usually find that couples can't wait to see their photos and collect their preview book(s) after the wedding, so once you know your return date from your honeymoon, make sure you make an appointment to come in and see your photos. This way we can have everything ready for you both before you get back to work. **To view your photos and make your initial album selections takes most couples around 2-3 hours** and so it is very important that you are both available and can commit the time needed - we promise you won't be disappointed.

That's it for now on wedding day tips, and we hope they have been useful and you enjoyed the photos along the way. There are lots of other little things that we do and can suggest that will make your day run more smoothly, that we haven't covered here, as every wedding has its own unique differences, but **we are happy to discuss your day, in detail, when we see you at the studio.**

Remember, there are always little things that don't go to plan at EVERY wedding and these are nothing you should worry about on the day – in fact, these are the things that will make your day memorable and that you'll be laughing at in years to come. All the best.



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