

5 tips
for creating perfect
WEDDING
Portraits

BY CLARE'S PHOTOGRAPHY

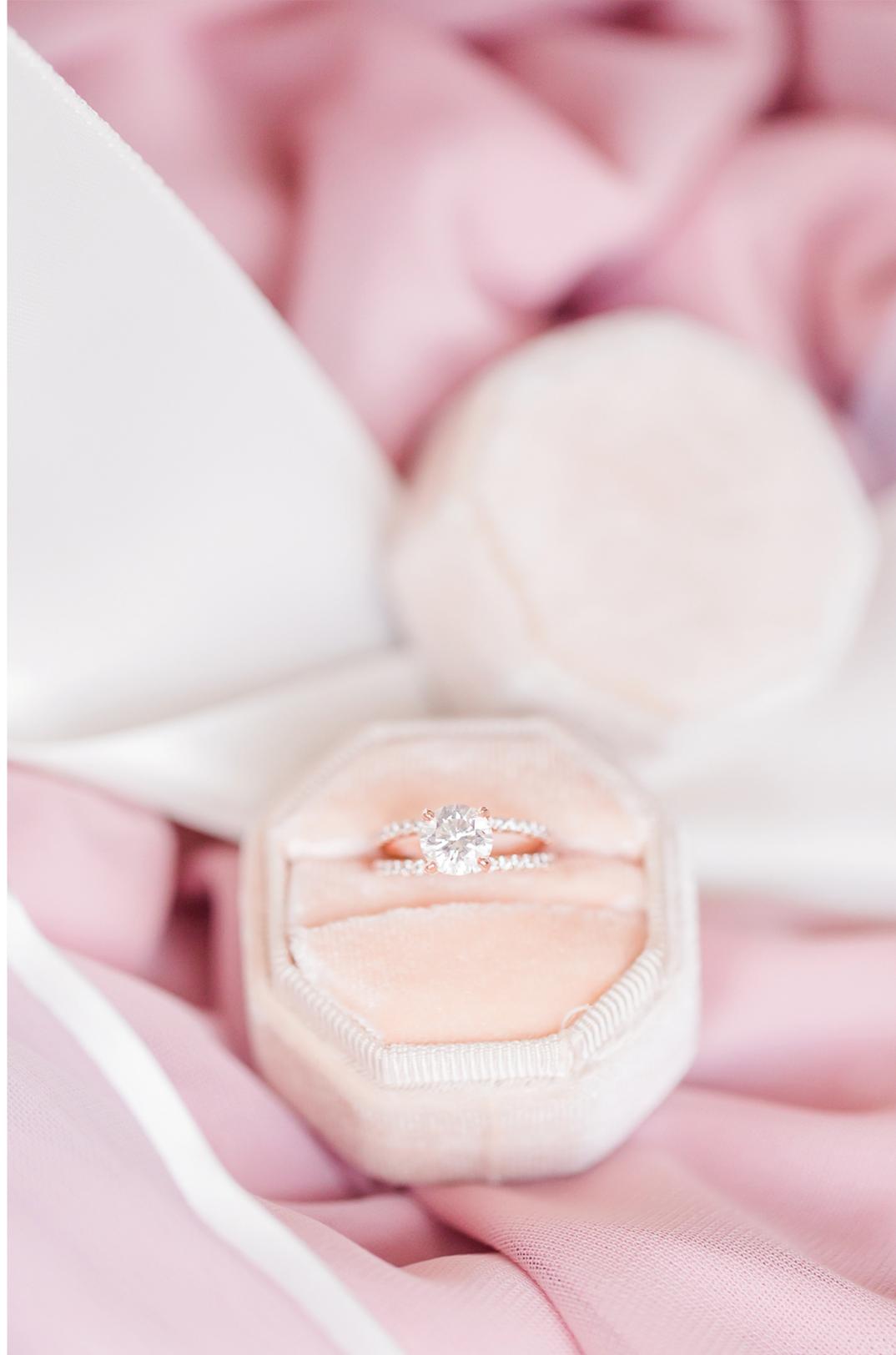


5 tips for creating perfect wedding portraits:

Let me start off by saying that wedding planning is stressful. There's tons of projects to do, phone calls to make and the to-do list seems endless! Spending extra time to make your wedding "photogenic" doesn't even enter the minds of most brides. The truth is that magical photo moments rarely happen unplanned. The most beautiful weddings are not the most expensive ones! They are the ones where the bride spends a little time on these 5 tips!

1. *Gather Unique Details for your Photographer*

This tip literally takes only a few extra minutes but makes a HUGE difference in your gallery. Some brides don't see the value in beautiful detail images. I understand you're not going to frame a ring shot but the value of detail images is for your album. Pairing a bridesmaid portrait with a delicate invitation shot makes your album spread so much more beautiful. Gathering extra ribbon, lace and loose florals help your details photograph beautifully. Making sure you have extra invitations and envelopes help tremendously. Consider buying a ringbox (super cheap on amazon!). Gathering pieces from your home or family heirlooms adds a special touch. Consider gathering old trays, perfume bottles, handkerchiefs, or tufted chairs to add a personal touch. All of these small things make a HUGE difference in your wedding gallery.





2. Set your portrait time in natural light

Most brides plan the time of their wedding and then realize it will be dark by the time the ceremony ends. This means every single one of your portraits will have to be in a dark church! The gorgeous bride and groom portraits with your veil blowing in the wind, fun wedding party shots with rose petals and creamy portraits will all not be possible.

Choosing to have your ceremony at 6 instead of 7 (in the summertime) would make a HUGE difference in your wedding gallery. Another option is skipping tradition to have a first look. This is a great option because almost all of your portraits can be taken before the ceremony and then you are DONE! Ready to enjoy this special day and have a great time with your family and friends! Most couples spend the first hour of married life taking pictures. This is a necessity if you want good pictures...but if you divide the cost of the reception by 4 hours it's a very expensive decision. Whatever choice you make just be sure you're happy with how it's going to effect your wedding gallery.

3. Have a Wow Bridal Bouquet

Everyone has a budget for their wedding. Fresh florals sometime seem too expensive when you're trying to be frugal. There is a way to make your wedding flowers look amazing without spending a fortune. Spend the bulk of your floral budget on your bridal bouquet and your bridesmaids bouquets. Skip the table arrangements, church flowers, pew markers and reception arrangements. Those things are easily missed by your guests and are the LEAST photographed part of your wedding day!! These things cost thousands of dollars and very few people notice. Use simple candles, lanterns or silk flowers for those items instead. Your bridal bouquet is literally in EVERY SINGLE photograph on the wedding day! Make sure it's your dream bouquet.

4. *Deliver Your Flowers to your Getting Ready Location*

This detail is often overlooked at weddings! The beautiful florals you designed, planned for and spent tons of money on, are usually delivered to the church or venue! This means that they are not with you and your bridesmaids during detail pictures or once your dresses are on. This is a huge drawback! Usually before the ceremony begins is a perfect time for bridesmaids photos and it's a shame to photograph those without the gorgeous bouquets! Having your florist deliver these bouquets early to your getting ready location is a huge addition to your wedding gallery.

5. *Have at Least One Window in your Getting Ready Space*

Some of the most precious and special moments on a wedding day is during getting ready portraits. Your mom buttoning up the back of your dress or your maid of honor putting your veil on are sweet moments you absolutely want captured. Having a window with natural light in your getting ready space will make a HUGE difference in your images. Soft beautiful window light flatters your dress and wedding details perfectly. Literally all of your getting ready portraits can happen if you have one good window!

